Media Release Environment Protection Authority



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Dust emissions monitoring near quarry site

The EPA will step up its air quality monitoring near the Sellicks Hill Quarry in Adelaide's southern suburbs ahead of the summer season when dry conditions could result in higher levels of dust.

The EPA has been working closely with the company that operates the site - Southern Quarries - over the past two years to monitor and manage dust emissions.

For more than four decades, the quarry has been a significant supplier of dolomite aggregates and crushed rock suitable for use in concrete as well as asphalt grade aggregates and road base materials.

It is licensed by the EPA with conditions requiring Southern Quarries to minimise dust emissions from its operations.

The company's licence conditions also requires it to use enclosures and water sprays at transfer stations, a water cart and sprinklers to wet down areas of the site, place covers and lids on conveyors and other equipment and provide a shed for a sand plant hopper.

EPA Director, Mining, Radiation and Regulatory Support, Keith Baldry said a temporary air monitoring unit will soon be placed near the quarry to gather dust data.

"Southern Quarries has been proactive by implementing a number of measures to minimise dust emissions," Mr Baldry said.

"The EPA's independent monitoring program is valuable to all parties that helps us work closely together as part of an environmental management strategy to implement further improvements if required."

Southern Quarries has also committed to developing a community engagement strategy to inform local residents of its monitoring locations and timeframes.

The EPA will also deploy an air-monitoring caravan in the area to assess dust over the coming months during drier seasonal conditions when nuisance dust can be more prevalent.

"This data will be crucial in assisting Southern Quarries to take preventative measures or respond immediately when emissions spike suddenly and may be heading towards unacceptable levels," Mr Baldry said.

More information on air quality monitoring is available on the EPA website through this <u>link</u>.

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The EPA will use this portable unit to monitor dust levels near Sellicks Beach