



Government
of South Australia

Department of
State Development

2 December 2014

Dear Resident / Landowner

December 2014: TAFE SA Marleston Campus - site contamination update

In July 2014 the Department of State Development (DSD) provided you with an update on environmental testing that is being undertaken in relation to the Marleston TAFE campus, the area being tested includes parts of Marleston, Netley, Richmond and West Richmond (please refer to attached map).

This precautionary testing is being undertaken as a part of the Departments ongoing operations to assess groundwater contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE), perchloroethene (PCE) and dichloroethene (DCE). This contamination was identified in 2010 as originating from the TAFE SA Marleston Campus.

Neither TAFE SA, nor the current site owner, the Government of South Australia, was the original polluters. These substances are typically associated with a widely used and common industrial cleaning solvent. It is suspected that these substances entered the groundwater many years ago through historical practices involving waste handling, storage and disposal.

As advised by the South Australia Environment Protection Authority (EPA), residents should continue to not use bore water for any purpose. Mains water (from SA Water pipes) and rainwater tanks are not affected.

In September this year, the site contamination consultants engaged by DSD undertook further groundwater and soil vapour sampling in the residential areas. This testing was undertaken to confirm the results of the initial soil vapour sampling undertaken in February 2014. The results of the September 2014 sampling have been provided to the site contamination auditor for review and the auditor has advised that **'based on the most recent soil vapour monitoring event undertaken in September 2014, there are no unacceptable risks to residential properties in this area'**.

Further testing will be undertaken in your area in the New Year to again confirm that there is no unacceptable risk, these results will be communicated to you when they are available. Ongoing assessment is also being undertaken in the commercial areas adjacent the TAFE campus.

Office of the Chief Executive

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The preliminary assessment reports and auditor's advice have been noted by both the EPA and SA Health.

The Department of State Development will continue to work with the EPA in regard to this matter. We take these findings seriously and will continue to undertake regular testing of groundwater and soil vapour to ensure potential risks to human health are managed appropriately.

Please refer to the enclosed fact sheet from SA Health for further information.

Should you have any further enquiries please contact Peter Klar, Executive Director, Skills and Employment on 8226 3292 or the Environment Protection Authority on 08 8204 2004 or epasitecontam@epa.sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Don Russell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Department of State Development

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Area of Interest - Figure 1

- Area of Interest
- Approximate extent of groundwater contamination based on groundwater sampling
- TAFE SA Marlestone Campus
- Approximate groundwater flow direction

