

EPA 05/19639; 60624

Monday 27 April 2015

Dear Resident,

RE: Environmental assessment update – results and further works

Following on from correspondence dated 3 March 2015, I am writing to advise you of the further results of the environmental testing undertaken directly to the north of the Hendon industrial area in December 2014 as part of ongoing investigations into historic site contamination. The testing was commissioned by a third party which previously conducted activities which may have caused contamination in the area.

Results summary (north of the industrial area)

A Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) was completed by consultants representing the third party. This has now been presented to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and builds on the information received earlier this year as part of the factual report. Some of the key findings include:

- A number of industrial chemicals are present in groundwater and soil vapour to the north east of the industrial site, including trichloroethene (TCE). Soil vapours are the gases that form when chemicals in the soil evaporate and can potentially migrate into homes.
- The HHRA concludes from the information collected in December 2014 that there is no health risk to any occupants living in above ground buildings. A copy of the HHRA is available on the EPA website.
- Further work is required to better understand how soil vapour may affect homes with basements or cellars. This is because below ground areas are closer to potential sources of TCE (such as groundwater) and may change the predicted indoor air levels.

What do I need to do?

Based on EPA assessment results to date, some properties have been removed from the current assessment area. These properties are shaded in grey on the enclosed map and will no longer receive direct communications from the EPA regarding the Hendon industrial site. Information regarding all future assessment works and reports can be accessed via the EPA website.

To help inform the next stage of work, the EPA would like to hear from all residents in the revised assessment area who have a basement or cellar. We would like to work more closely with these residents to understand how they use this space and discuss the possible movement of TCE vapour.

If your home has a basement or cellar, please contact the EPA Stakeholder Engagement Team on 1800 770 174 or email EPASiteContam@epa.sa.gov.au. We would appreciate hearing from you by Friday 8 May 2015 to assist with planning the next phase of works.

As per previous advice provided by the EPA, residents and commercial/industrial property owners should not use bore water (groundwater) for any purpose until further notice. Mains water provided by SA Water and water from rainwater tanks are not affected by this issue.

Further EPA works (south and west of the industrial area)

A further stage of groundwater and soil vapour monitoring is required within the assessment area to develop our understanding of the nature and extent of possible contamination, with a focus on the southern and western sections of the assessment area.

The next stage of works will include the installation of eight new soil vapour bores and the sampling of a number of existing soil vapour bores and groundwater wells across the revised assessment area. These works will be undertaken by environmental consultant URS and are expected to commence in May 2015.

In addition, URS will be conducting property surveys in specific parts of the revised assessment area to determine house construction type and to speak with residents who have a basement or cellar about how it is constructed and how they use the space. This information will support the groundwater and soil vapour data and help provide a comprehensive environmental assessment of the area.

Residents within the revised area will be provided with a written summary of the URS assessment results in July 2015 and the full reports will be available via the EPA website.

More information

If you have any further questions about the results of the HHRA or factual report or the upcoming assessment works, please contact the Stakeholder Engagement team as above. Copies of all reports and correspondence are currently available online at www.epa.sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Tim Saul
MANAGER STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT