



SOUTHERN QUARRIES Selicks Community Update

Issued 9 February 2018

The dolomite and bluestone quarry on Main South Road at Selicks Hill is owned by Adelaide Brighton Ltd and operated by Southern Quarries. It has been mined since the early 1970s, producing aggregate for concrete production and road base. Activities undertaken at this site include the blasting of rock faces, crushing of material, generation of stockpiles and movement of material throughout the site. All of these activities inherently generate dust to varying degrees.

Southern Quarries is required to take all reasonable and practicable measures to minimise dust from leaving its premises. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has responsibility for issuing and overseeing licence 2052, regulating activities of environmental significance. Licence conditions include dust management, stormwater management, waste management and operational management. Section 45(5) of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* states the holder of an Environmental Authorisation must not contravene a condition of the Authorisation.



In March 2016 the EPA revised Southern Quarries' licence conditions, requiring it to develop a *Dust Management Plan*. This plan, implemented in June 2016, requires Southern Quarries to identify likely sources of dust from its activities and provide for all reasonable and practicable measures for minimising dust emissions.

Updated EPA licence conditions then resulted in Southern Quarries undertaking the following improvements:

- commissioning three air quality monitoring units
- an additional 375kL water tank with pumps and pipework
- additional new water-cart and water cannon
- covering and enclosing conveyor belts
- upgrading sprinkler systems; and
- the development of a community engagement plan.

Southern Quarries is required to monitor the effectiveness of the control measures, to undertake continuous improvement as necessary, and provide regular reports to the EPA.

Air quality monitoring in Sellicks Beach

Following notifications from the community about dust coming from the Southern Quarries site, an extensive monitoring program was conducted from January 2016 to February 2017.

A dust monitor was situated in the local community to enable the EPA to carefully examine particulate matter in conjunction with wind speed, direction measurements, and other available information to understand sources of dust in the area.

A [final report](#) was released in June 2017 and indicated that air quality was consistently within the *Air Quality Environment Protection Policy (EPP)* criteria. Air quality measured in the Sellicks Beach community is typical of that found around other South Australian coastal communities.

The EPA continues to review Southern Quarries' activities to ensure dust is managed on an ongoing basis and that all reasonable and practicable measures are being taken, in line with licence conditions and the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

However, the EPA acknowledges that short term dust events have the potential to create nuisance for the local community, and this is defined under Section 3 of the Act. When assessing nuisance, the EPA takes into account the level, nature and extent of the pollutant, and whether all possible actions have been undertaken to mitigate the impact on the amenity of the community.

As part of its licence conditions, Southern Quarries is required to respond to community complaints and report quarterly on actions taken to the EPA.

To report a dust incident to Southern Quarries please see the contact details below right. A dust incident may also be reported to the EPA on the details below. When reporting an incident please follow the guidance to the right of this page.

How to report a dust incident

To make a report to the EPA regarding dust which may be associated with the operations of Southern Quarries at Sellicks Hill, please write down everything that you can remember about the event including: date and time, your exact location, and other observations such as weather conditions.

Please do not leave out any details, but do not guess about details that you cannot remember.

Where possible, photographic and video evidence can be provided and are valuable especially from different angles. Please ensure date and times are accurate on your device.

Dust and your health

Research from across the world shows that even in cities with comparatively good air, people experience health problems associated with dust. If you are experiencing any symptoms please seek medical advice from your GP.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further **EPA information** please contact:

Mining and Radiation Branch
Environment Protection Authority
GPO Box 2607, Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8204 2004
Email: epainfo@sa.gov.au
Website: www.epa.sa.gov.au

For **Southern Quarries** please contact:

Head Office
16 Phillips Street Thebarton
Head office will take complaints and will follow up with the Manager on site at Sellicks Hill.
Telephone: (08) 8556 3007
E: communityfeedback@southernquarries.com.au
Website: www.southernquarries.com.au

