

ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

Update on odour issues

Site update

The Cleanaway New Chum site remains closed while the company addresses the odour issues.

The department continues to conduct regular site visits and receive daily progress reports.

On 29 April, the department issued Cleanaway an information notice under Section 451 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* requesting information about the ongoing methods being used to address the odour issues.

Excess water continues to be transferred from the site and is being managed appropriately. Cleanaway has been provided with the relevant state and local government approvals to dispose of some of the water into the sewer system via designated points (manholes). This water is being treated at sewage treatment plants and is not used for drinking water.

An increased number of water transport trucks have been in the area recently after Cleanaway received permission for 24/7 transportation to remove odorous water offsite.

Aerators and deodorisers continue to operate across the site and the exposed pond area continues to be dosed with chemicals to improve the water quality and reduce the odour.

Air quality monitoring

New, live hydrogen sulfide air quality monitoring data is now available for locations in Collingwood Park, Redbank and Riverview.

Please note there are different guideline values that the monitoring results are assessed against:

1. Nuisance or aesthetic values – those levels that create a nuisance and impact wellbeing.
2. Health values – those levels that could impact human health.

Results to date have not identified the presence of air pollutants that could impact human health. The department continues to liaise with Queensland Health to review the new air quality on a weekly basis to assess any potential health impacts.

We have seen a number of exceedances of the nuisance or aesthetic values which align with when we have received community complaints about odour.

The new hydrogen sulfide sensors were part of an expansion of the Queensland Government's extensive, statewide live air quality monitoring network to help monitor the current Cleanaway New Chum odour issue.

View the [live data](#), or if arriving from the live data landing page, make sure to scroll down the page and click the 'hydrogen sulfide' tab (just above the map).

This new live data is in addition to the recently released 'static' air quality monitoring data [web page](#) which shows:

- monitoring undertaken by the department at the Cleanaway New Chum site
- monitoring undertaken by the department within the community
- monitoring undertaken by community members.

This 'static' air quality data is updated weekly and provides a snapshot of air quality monitoring results and key findings from multiple sites in the area.

The weekly results for period ending 3 May are now available.

Community air monitoring

There are now 21 air monitoring canisters that have been delivered as part of the community air monitoring program. Thank you to those who have volunteered to be part of this important program.

Air monitoring results from more of the canisters will become available in the next few weeks and will be shared on the [Cleanaway New Chum odour issues - air quality monitoring results](#) web page.

If you live locally and would like to participate in the air quality monitoring, contact the Pollution Hotline on 1300 130 372 for more information.

Independent powers and penalties review

The [Terms of Reference](#) for the independent review of the Queensland Government's powers and penalties under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* are now available.

The review will examine different elements of the act, with a particular focus on nuisance provisions. [Read more.](#)

Stay up-to-date

The dedicated [Cleanaway New Chum odour issues](#) web page features daily updates from Monday to Friday and previous editions of this newsletter. It also includes [frequently asked questions](#), the links to [air quality monitoring results](#) and [live hydrogen sulfide air data](#)

If someone you know is interested in receiving regular email updates, you can forward them this email and they can subscribe to the [OAT Update newsletter](#).

Report odour

While we are working to address the current situation, we encourage all community members to continue to report odour issues to assist us with our ongoing response efforts.

Phone: 1300 130 372 (option 3) or [report online](#).



Queensland
Government