

# ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

## Update on odour issues

### **Cleanaway New Chum site update**

Department officers continue to conduct regular inspections and meet with Cleanaway representatives to discuss water levels, water removal, pond dosing progress and to conduct observations of the affected landfill area.

On Friday 17 June, the department deployed drones to conduct aerial observations of the site. This imagery contributes to the current operational response and to the broader investigation into Cleanaway.

Air monitoring results up until 17 June showed hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S or rotten egg gas) continues to be below the Environmental Protection (Air) Policy health and wellbeing objectives. However, there have been some limited instances where hydrogen sulfide has exceeded odour nuisance levels. These were predominantly recorded in the early hours of the morning in Riverview, Collingwood Park and Dinmore. The department has received less odour complaints in the last few weeks compared to earlier in the year after the rainfall event.

Cleanaway continue to reduce the volume of water in the landfill cell by removing between 2.5 – 3.3 ML of water per day. However, groundwater is also entering the water body at an estimated rate of over 2.0 ML per day, meaning that progress is slow in reducing the water level.

Cleanaway is investigating options to intercept the groundwater to prevent it from entering the cell however the majority of the water in the cell must be removed to do this.

In the meantime, the water body is being treated with sodium hypochlorite to minimise odour generation.

Cleanaway provides more detailed site updates and activities on their [website](#).



One  
of the

*drones on site at Cleanaway on 17 June.*

## **Environmental Protection Order issued**

On 21 June 2022, the department issued Cleanaway with a second environmental protection order (EPO), in relation to the current odour issues.

The EPO (Enforcement number [100256441](#)) directs Cleanaway to assess gas management on site and develop a plan to reduce gas emissions. The EPO is available on the [Public Register Portal](#).

The Public Register Portal is a public register of records related to the regulation of environmentally relevant activities. It includes enforcement actions such as EPOs, direction, clean up and cost recovery notices and temporary emissions licences (TEs).

You can also visit [Odour Abatement Taskforce](#) to view the list of enforcement actions for the Swanbank area.

## **Air quality monitoring**

The 'static' [air quality monitoring](#) web page has been updated to include hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) data from 10 departmental air monitoring sites in the local area up until 17 June.

Results from a further eight community air quality canisters have been provided to residents and are also available on the website. The latest results are from canisters in Carlyle St and Mitchell St in Riverview, Currawong St and Cooneana St in Bundamba, Cothill Rd in Booval, Banks Court and Perry St in Redbank Plains and Botanic Crescent in Brookwater.

When community members receive their results, they are accompanied by a [fact sheet](#) to help explain the results. When these are published to the website, a traffic light system is used to indicate where the results for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) sit against the relevant health guidelines.

The canister results (and results from the department's H<sub>2</sub>S monitors) are reviewed and monitored

by Queensland Health and the department against guidelines which are based on minimising risks to human health.

### **Stay up-to-date**

The dedicated [Cleanaway New Chum odour issues](#) web page features updates 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](#).



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