

ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

Update on odour issues

On Saturday 23 April, a new web page went live featuring [air quality monitoring results](#) conducted by the Department of Environment and Science (department) at both the Cleanaway New Chum waste facility site and at locations within the local community.

The monitoring is designed to assess whether there are any contaminants from the current odour issues that would pose any potential health impacts.

Preliminary hydrogen sulfide results measured in the community between April 15 to 27 April 2022 are below the Environmental Protection (Air) Policy health and wellbeing objectives. However, the Environmental Protection (Air) Policy odour nuisance objective has been exceeded which explains why community members are reporting odour issues.

The results show elevated levels of hydrogen sulfide late evening and early morning, which coincides with community reports received through the pollution hotline.

The web page will be updated weekly with new results.

Get involved with community air quality monitoring

The department recognises the community is concerned about potential health impacts and is undertaking additional monitoring in the community.

This includes air monitoring by departmental officers within the community and provision of air quality monitoring devices to a number of households in the area.

Community monitoring includes hydrogen sulfide monitoring and the deployment of air sampling canisters that sample up to 74 different types of chemical compounds.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to participate in the community monitoring.

Some canisters have already been despatched to the community with more canisters being despatched this week. As results are received these will be made available on the website as well.

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

Last week, an independent review of the Queensland Government's powers and penalties under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* was announced.

The review will examine different elements of the act, with a particular focus on nuisance provisions.

It aims to identify whether the tools available to Queensland's environmental regulator (the department) are sufficiently contemporary to deal with the challenges of the future. The review will make recommendations for improvement of the regulation of Queensland's environment.

Read more about the review on our [website](#).

Stay up-to-date

The dedicated [Cleanaway New Chum odour issues](#) web page now features daily updates from Monday to Friday. It also includes [frequently asked questions](#) and the link to [air quality monitoring results](#).

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 use the online form at: <https://odourreporting.des.qld.gov.au>



Queensland
Government