

ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

Update on odour issues

Site update

As Queensland's environment regulator, the Department of Environment and Science is continuing to liaise with Cleanaway to ensure they are fully prepared for the rainfall this week and they are taking appropriate steps to manage stormwater and minimise the likelihood of odour issues being exacerbated.

With heavier rainfall in the region this week, Cleanaway has had to temporarily pause its trucks transporting water offsite at the request of sewage treatment plant operators to ensure the plant can continue to operate effectively.

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

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.

The department has seen a reduction in the total number of community complaints received over the past week as a result of the treatment of the water body. However, we still encourage community members to report odours as they arise so we can track the effectiveness of actions being taken.

Air quality monitoring

The 'static' [air quality monitoring](#) data has been updated to include data from 15 April to 10 May. This includes an additional 3 canister results from members of the community, along with daily hydrogen sulfide monitoring.

There are no significant changes to the key findings. Results to date have not identified the presence of air pollutants that could impact human health. Some results show pollutants at levels that cause nuisance with most spikes recorded in the late evening or early morning.

As temperatures drop in autumn and winter, temperature inversions can occur at night and in the early morning which prevents pollutants dispersing. This coincides with the timing of odour reports from the community. [Learn more about temperature inversions](#).

How you can get involved with community air monitoring

There have been 21 air monitoring canisters delivered as part of the community air monitoring program.

[Air quality data](#) from three more community monitoring sites have been published from canisters located at one home in Riverview and two in Collingwood Park.

Seven more canisters are currently being tested at the Queensland Health lab. Once results are finalised, they are sent to participating residents and then uploaded to the website.

Air quality monitoring in the community is an important part of the department's regulatory response to the odour issues at the Cleanaway New Chum site. Read the [FAQs](#) to find out more about the data.

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. It's easy—simply make a phone call and a canister will be delivered to your door.

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](#).