

## Swanbank and New Chum odour community update

Good afternoon,

We would like to share with you that today the Department of Environment and Science filed a restraint order application in the Planning and Environment Court seeking to bring relief to the local community from ongoing nuisance odour.

The application was filed against NuGrow Ipswich Pty, and seeks to limit certain aspects of NuGrow's composting operations in the Swanbank Industrial Area that have a high potential to generate odour and impact the community, including the receiving of highly odorous waste.

The odour issues being experienced by the Ipswich community are unacceptable.

This civil proceeding is the result of the department's enhanced compliance activities and meticulous investigation in the area, and demonstrates our strong commitment to holding non-compliant operators to account.

The restraint order, if granted by the court, will carry significant penalties if not complied with.

First-hand accounts gathered from more than 70 community members detailing their experiences with odour were lodged in support of the application.

Given the complexity of proving odour offences in court, the department also engaged an independent external firm to assist the department's odour investigations. Their report has also been provided to the court to support the application.

The department is committed to using all available legal options to ensure operators are complying with the law, and this restraint order is a significant step which aims to provide relief to Ipswich residents.

Increased compliance activity in the area is continuing, as is the department's ongoing investigation into alleged breaches of the Environmental Protection Act 1994, which could lead to further legal proceedings against any operator that is alleged to be non-compliant.

The department is also considering options to strengthen the regulations that govern composting facilities.

As the environmental regulator, the department will continue to take strong

enforcement action, including court action, against any operator found to be wilfully and unlawfully causing an odour nuisance in the community.



**Queensland  
Government**