

# ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

## Update on odour issues

The Department of Environment and Science (department) is taking strong regulatory action against Cleanaway to ensure the company addresses odour issues from its New Chum waste facility near Ipswich.

The department issued an [Environmental Protection Order](#) (EPO) on 12 April 2022. This requires Cleanaway to conduct its own additional air monitoring onsite and report regularly to the department.

Cleanaway has stopped receiving all wastes onsite and continues to remove the excess water from the site. This disposal is being managed appropriately and is not being transferred to composting facilities in the Ipswich area.

Cleanaway has significantly reduced the excess water onsite and is chemically treating the remaining water to reduce odours.

The formal investigation by the department remains ongoing. We will take all necessary steps to ensure Cleanaway addresses their odour issues as soon as possible.



*Departmental officers conducting air quality monitoring at the Cleanaway site.*

## 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.

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

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

Preliminary results from the air monitoring in the community up to 18 April 2022 showed minor levels of hydrogen sulfide. The Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2019 sets out the levels at which hydrogen sulfide becomes a concern to health and wellbeing. The levels detected from the community air monitoring were substantially below these levels.

If you are interested in being involved in community air quality monitoring, contact the Pollution Hotline on 1300 130 372 (option 3) for more information.

Air monitoring results will be published on the [website](#) with the first results anticipated to be available from Friday 22 April 2022.

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

A dedicated web page for the [Cleanaway New Chum odour issues](#) is now available, providing the latest information and updates, including a number of [frequently asked questions](#).

To receive regular email updates, 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>



