Media Release Environment Protection Authority



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Help sought to find asbestos dumper

The EPA is appealing to anyone with more information about the illegal dumping of asbestos waste outside a North Plympton business premises to come forward.

EPA Acting Executive Director Operations, Stephen Barry said asbestos material wrapped in orange plastic builder's sheet, was dumped outside the Blue Bins Waste site in Starr Avenue on Monday, 8 August.

"The asbestos was wrapped in a large package that measured approximately two-and-half by one-metre in size," Mr Barry said.

"We've obtained video footage of the incident but still require more information for our investigation."

The EPA is advising anyone contemplating removing asbestos for a building project or renovations, to first seek advice from a professional in this field.

Asbestos materials were commonly used in buildings constructed before the 1980s that can crumble into fine material or dust with light pressure, known as friable, or are made from a bonding compound with a small proportion of asbestos, known as non-friable.

"Friable material should only be removed by a Class- A licensed asbestos remover," Mr Barry said.

Mr Barry said the EPA has a zero tolerance for the incorrect removal of asbestos, as well as its transport, storage or illegal disposal.

"During the removal, transport and disposal of asbestos material, the protection of the public and the environment is paramount," he said.

"In some cases the best solution may be to abandon the project or alternatively get a professional tradesperson to do the job and reduce the risks to health and safety."

In South Australia, the EPA and SafeWork SA work together to ensure that when a home renovation requires the removal of asbestos, it is done properly and safely.

More information is available on a useful asbestos website, through the following link: http://asbestos.sa.gov.au/remove_homes.html

Anyone with information about the illegal dumping incident at North Plympton should contact the EPA on (08) 8204 2004.

For further information please contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641



Asbestos wrapped in a plastic sheet illegally dumped in North Plympton