

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



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Site contamination update for Allenby Gardens

Householders living near the proposed Riverside Park development at Allenby Gardens were yesterday advised that further groundwater and soil vapour testing will commence later this month.

Letters have been delivered to 200 residents in the vicinity where new groundwater and soil vapour wells will be installed and have been endorsed by the EPA-accredited site contamination auditor.

The auditor engaged in August 2014 has recommended that further sampling be undertaken as a result of the proposed change in the intended use of the land at Moorfield Terrace by the developer which has triggered the requirement for further investigation. The previous Audit report was signed off in 2009.

The additional groundwater and soil vapour sampling will also ensure the testing program meets the requirements of the *National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure* (NEPM).

The NEPM was amended in 2013 and includes standards for the testing of volatile chemicals such as the industrial solvent, trichloroethene (TCE).

The proposed development is within a groundwater prohibition area established by the EPA in June 2013 that does not permit the use of groundwater from the top two (2) aquifers (0-30 metres below the ground) due to contamination including TCE.

EPA Operations Director Science, Assessment and Planning Peter Dolan said the EPA had been informed of the proposal to install and sample new groundwater wells and soil vapour wells.

“Riverside Park is working cooperatively with the auditor and the EPA to ensure appropriate standards are met and that the site is suitable for its intended use.” he said.

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