



MEDIA RELEASE

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

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EPA soil sampling at Novar Gardens

The EPA has completed additional targeted soil sampling of the former Lightburn factory site at Novar Gardens.

In response to community concern, initial soil sampling was undertaken on public reserves and footpaths at 13 locations throughout the area in August 2006. Samples were tested for waste sludge and solvents produced during the company's operations.

Results identified perchlorethylene (PCE) in one sample and hydrocarbons in another sample. The nature and locations of the identified substances suggest that their presence is not related to the waste sludge and solvents historically produced by Lightburn at the site.

Following a review of the results by the EPA and Department of Health, a further seven boreholes targeting the area of the PCE detection and six boreholes targeting the area of the hydrocarbon detection were drilled on public land for the purpose of providing an additional level of certainty to the community.

No further PCE was detected and though hydrocarbon was again detected in a very confined area at 0.7m below the surface of a road verge, the Department of Health considers that there is no unacceptable risk to residents.

Residents have been notified of the results by letter. A report of the sampling will be available shortly on the EPA website at www.epa.sa.gov.au