

# Media Release

## Environment Protection Authority



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## Glenelg East groundwater assessment update

The latest groundwater and soil vapour environmental assessment results for Glenelg East to detect chemicals including trichloroethene (TCE), has revealed no detectable traces of any contamination for 90% of all 420 properties in the assessment area.

Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Operations Director Science, Assessment and Planning, Peter Dolan, said of the remaining 45 properties, none of them were predicted to exceed TCE levels indoors above 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

“This places all of the 420 properties in the assessment area at the 'safe' level within the indoor air level response range for TCE,” Mr Dolan said.

“The EPA has written to residents within the assessment area at Glenelg East advising them of these results and that no testing for TCE vapour intrusion will be required in their homes.”

The EPA began its environmental assessment at Glenelg East in 2012 by engaging an environmental consultant to undertake the latest stage of testing for chemicals in groundwater and soil vapour.

A historical presence of TCE in groundwater has previously been detected beneath a former dry cleaning business in Cliff Street but with liability for the contamination yet to be determined, the EPA stepped in to manage environmental assessment on behalf of the local community.

“The environmental consultant engaged for this work has considered the sampling data, the depth of groundwater, soil type and soil moisture content to inform the computer modelling for vapour intrusion which is set conservatively to predict higher levels of vapour indoors,” Mr Dolan said.

“I am pleased to advise of the 420 properties in the Glenelg East assessment area, there were 45 with very low concentrations of less than 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of TCE and the remainder of homes were predicted with no detection of TCE vapour indoors.”

Additional works will take place in the coming months to determine the extent of underground contamination to help guide the EPA where a Groundwater (bore water) Prohibition Area may be established in the area.

Glenelg East residents have previously been advised not to use groundwater for any purpose, which remains current.

Mains water and water from rainwater tanks are not affected and home-grown fruit and vegetables are safe to consume, provided they have not been irrigated by bore water.

Local residents who have any concerns or would like more information should contact the EPA on 1800 729 175 or by email [EPASiteContam@sa.gov.au](mailto:EPASiteContam@sa.gov.au)

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