

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



GPO Box 2607 Adelaide SA 5001
250 Victoria Square Adelaide SA
T (08) 8204 2000 F (08) 8204 2020
Country areas 1800 623 445

12 May 2016

Beverley environmental assessment report findings

Since April 2015, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has been undertaking environmental assessment works in the Beverley area.

Groundwater and soil vapour tests have been undertaken to detect the presence of historically used chemicals including trichloroethene (TCE).

EPA Operations Director Science, Assessment & Planning Peter Dolan, said that site specific works in the area close to Pope Street are being undertaken to determine if there is a risk to human health from vapour intrusion into their homes.

The environmental assessment works are being undertaken by environmental consultant Golder Associates with the findings expected to be available next month.

“A second assessment program undertaken by environmental consultants JBS&G focussing on the broader Beverley area is being undertaken concurrently to the site specific works, to determine the extent of the contaminated groundwater plume and possible sources of TCE,” Mr Dolan said.

JBS&G has finalised its report from 150 properties around the fringes of the assessment area.

“Of these properties, 149 have very low predicted concentrations of less than 2µg of TCE per cubic metre and just one has a predicted concentration of between 2 and 20µg of TCE per cubic metre.” Mr Dolan said.

“Based on these results the EPA and SA Health consider that intervention is not required,” he said.

“These results will help guide the EPA where a Groundwater (bore water) Prohibition Area (GPA) may need to be established in the area.”

The EPA has written to local residents advising them of the results and informing them that it will soon undertake additional work to determine the boundaries for a GPA which will put a formal restriction on the extraction of groundwater in the area.

Beverley residents have previously been advised not to use groundwater (bore water) for any purpose, and this advice remains current.

“We have also established a Beverley Community Working Group which meets regularly to provide information with the community throughout the assessment program,” Mr Dolan said.

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 to join the Community Working Group should contact the EPA on 1800 729 175 or by email EPASiteContam@sa.gov.au

For further information please contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641