

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority

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Beverley environmental results prompts more tests

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has released the latest results from an ongoing environmental assessment of the Beverley area which had previously identified properties that required further testing.

The work took place near Pope Street to validate initial testing for trichloroethene (TCE) vapour that was undertaken last year.

EPA Operations Director Science, Assessment and Planning, Peter Dolan, said the assessment area included 181 residences with 48 properties among them, identified as needing further testing to verify the preliminary results.

“Based on computer modelling to predict indoor air levels of TCE vapour intrusion, the EPA offered residents from 48 properties an opportunity for site-specific testing but only 20 accepted the offer,” Mr Dolan said.

The test results from these properties revealed:

- Two properties that fell within the ‘no action’ response range with concentrations less than detection limits, and therefore considered ‘safe’.
- Five properties that fell within the ‘validation’ response range with concentrations between detection limits and 2 µg/m³, and therefore considered ‘safe’.
- Eight properties that fell within the ‘investigation’ response range with concentrations between 2 and 20 µg/m³ and further indoor testing is therefore likely.
- Five properties that fell within the ‘intervention’ response range with concentrations between 20 and 200 µg/m³ and actual indoor testing is likely.

The EPA has informed property owners of the results and the next steps that will be required for further testing.

“The report has identified the potential for a contamination source to exist in the vicinity of Pope Street,” Mr Dolan said.

“Further sampling will be offered to property owners where required, including a pilot trial for the installation of a vapour mitigation system which will be organised in the coming months.”

The EPA is also continuing its work to determine the scope for a potential future groundwater prohibition area to apply a formal ban on the extraction of groundwater in the area through a bore.

Residents have been reminded not to use groundwater for any purpose until further notice.

Further information on the Beverley environmental assessment work is available on the [EPA website](#) or by contacting the Site Contamination Team on 1800 729 175.

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