



SITE CONTAMINATION

Tonsley

Issued 6 March 2018

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) approved a voluntary site contamination assessment proposal in May 2015 prepared by Renewal SA, owner of the former Mitsubishi Motors site in Clovelly Park (now known as Tonsley).

Site contamination exists at the site and groundwater contamination exists off site in areas of Clovelly Park, Mitchell Park and Marion. The chemicals identified include petroleum hydrocarbons and chlorinated hydrocarbons – including [trichloroethene](#) (TCE). These chemicals were, historically, in widespread use for metal cleaning and car manufacturing. Such practices for the handling, use and disposal of solvents are no longer acceptable by today's environmental standards.

Site contamination audits

A site contamination audit is an independent review of the assessment and remediation work undertaken at a site, carried out by an accredited site contamination auditor (auditor). An auditor is a person with a high level of expertise and experience in site contamination, and is accredited by the EPA under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

Two auditors were engaged by Renewal SA to oversee the environmental assessment undertaken in relation to the approved voluntary site contamination assessment proposal. One auditor was engaged for the proposed residential area on the site, known as the 'Tonsley Village' which is situated in the north-western portion of the former Mitsubishi Motors site. In January 2018, the EPA accepted the completed site contamination audit report for the residential area.

To view a copy of this report, please contact the EPA on the details overleaf and ask to speak to the 'Public Register' team.



Audit findings and recommendations

Tonsley residential area: the opinion of the auditor is that the site is suitable for the proposed residential development, provided that numerous audit conditions are implemented.

Renewal SA will be required to undertake ongoing monitoring of soil vapour and groundwater. If concentrations increase to unacceptable levels in the Tonsley Village in the future, Renewal SA are responsible for remediating groundwater and soil vapour if necessary.

The auditor for the residential area has recommended that the EPA considers the establishment of a groundwater prohibition area (please see below for further information). The auditor has also conditioned that no habitable basements are to be constructed within the audit area.

Former Mitsubishi site: the second auditor was engaged in relation to designated source areas situated in the southern portion of the former Mitsubishi Motors site. Assessment in relation to these areas has identified soil vapour and groundwater contamination onsite and offsite in the suburbs of Clovelly Park, Mitchell Park and Marion. This assessment remains ongoing in relation to potential onsite source areas and contamination affecting soil vapour and groundwater on and offsite.

The interim audit advice prepared by this auditor is due to be submitted to the EPA in November 2018.

Please do not use bore water

Groundwater (bore water) in this area is contaminated and should not be used for any purpose. Soil, rainwater, and mains water are not affected.

Home grown vegetables safe to eat

Groundwater contamination generally does not affect the soil above it – unless it is a source site.

For further information please visit the www.renewalsa.gov.au and follow the links to 'Building our future', then 'Environmental Services' then 'Clovelly and Mitchell Park Phase 2'.

Prohibiting access to groundwater

If groundwater is affected by contamination and there is a likelihood that it may be used for domestic or irrigation purposes, the EPA has powers to establish a groundwater prohibition area to protect both future and current landholders.

The EPA established groundwater prohibition areas in [Allenby Gardens–Flinders Park](#) and [Edwardstown and surrounding suburbs](#) after community consultation. Groundwater use to certain depths is prohibited to be used for any purpose and a maximum penalty of \$8,000 applies. Councils and schools typically use much deeper groundwater from the Tertiary aquifer, which is not affected by the contamination. The EPA will consider the establishment of a groundwater prohibition area at the conclusion of the assessment work.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Site Contamination Branch
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For health related information please contact:

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