



▶ BEVERLEY ASSESSMENT AREA Community update

Issued 4 February 2019

Since 2015, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has been assessing groundwater and soil vapour in Beverley for historically used chemicals including [trichloroethene \(TCE\)](#). Beverley has a proud manufacturing history and some past chemical handling practices have contaminated the groundwater in this assessment area.

The EPA has advised residents not to use groundwater for any purpose. Indoor air sampling has also been undertaken to determine whether the vapour coming from the groundwater through soil particles is entering residential indoor air, and causing 'vapour intrusion'. Several homes have had high levels of TCE measured in indoor air. In what is believed to be an Australian first, the EPA has installed active mitigation systems to these homes to make them safe from vapour intrusion.

The EPA last wrote to residents in October 2017 providing results of the testing completed at that time. Previous correspondence, maps and reports are available from www.epa.sa.gov.au (follow the links to Site Contamination, Assessment Areas, then [Beverley](#)).

Further testing is being undertaken in 2019 to understand the status of the contamination within the assessment area. Where vapour intrusion is affecting residential properties and subject to owner agreement, work will be undertaken to make indoor air at residential properties safe.



Work commencing in 2019

The EPA is now commencing work in Beverley where indoor air sampling has been measured in the 'Investigation' category of the [Indoor air level response range \(TCE\)](#).

These are homes where no immediate health risk is present, but on advice from SA Health the EPA recommends the installation of a ventilation system to remove the indoor air contamination.

The EPA will be contacting residents who have previously had indoor air sampling results reported in this range.

Work will also commence in 2019 to undertake seasonal soil vapour monitoring to update the previous computer modelled predictions for indoor air contamination.

Beverley community group

The EPA established a community group for residents interested in being kept informed while the assessment and mitigation work is underway.

We will be meeting again in early 2019 and you are invited to attend to have your questions answered by the EPA.

**The next meeting will be held at the Maltese Centre
6 Jeanes Street, Beverley
Tuesday, 19 February 2019
6.30 pm–8 pm**

The EPA is child-friendly, and a kids' activity table will be provided if you need to bring your children with you. You are welcome to contact us to attend, or to arrange private meetings to discuss your individual circumstances. Please contact us via any of the means below.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For **further information** please contact:

Environment Protection Authority
GPO Box 2607, Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8124 4216
Email: engage.epa@sa.gov.au
Website: www.epa.sa.gov.au

(Follow the links to 'Site Contamination' then to 'Assessment Areas' to find the Beverley page.)

For **health** related information please contact:

Scientific Services Branch
Public Health Services, SA Health
11 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: (08) 8226 7100
Email: public.health@health.sa.gov.au
Website: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Bore water is contaminated

The EPA reminds residents that groundwater (bore water) in this area is contaminated and should not be used for any purpose.

Home grown vegetables are safe to eat

Contaminated groundwater generally does not contaminate the soil above it, unless it is a source site.

Soil, rainwater, and mains water are not affected.

Home grown vegetables are safe to consume, provided you are not watering them with bore water.

Basements

Soil vapour is more likely to enter a home when a room is close to groundwater, such as a basement.

If your home has a basement, please contact the EPA.

