



MELROSE PARK ASSESSMENT AREA

Community update #1

Issued 22 March 2021

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is commencing environmental assessment work in Melrose Park (please see enclosed map).

In February 2021 the EPA was notified by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport of groundwater contamination, during routine work for the South Road upgrade.

Groundwater testing showed contamination from chlorinated hydrocarbons including [trichloroethene \(TCE\)](#) at high levels, exceeding drinking water criteria. TCE is a volatile chemical that can be transported in groundwater and also as vapour in the air spaces between soil particles.



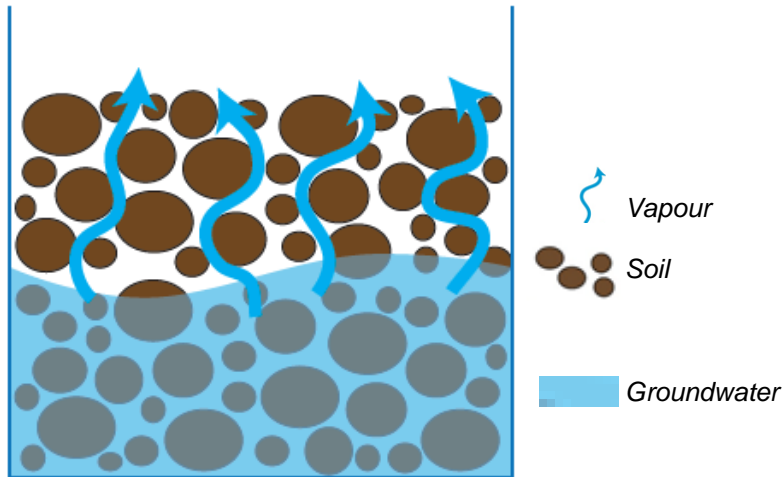
Please do not use groundwater (bore water) in this area for any purpose.

EPA to commence soil vapour testing

In the coming weeks, environmental consultants engaged by the EPA will drill a series of soil vapour bores within streets and publicly accessible areas. The vapour will be sampled and sent to a laboratory for analysis, and the results used to inform a computer model that can predict whether TCE has the potential to enter the indoor air of buildings at unsafe levels. If indoor air contamination is predicted, the EPA may approach landowners to seek permission to test on privately owned properties.

When the report from this work is available the community will be notified of the results, and before the report is finalised the EPA will work with any people that may be impacted directly. Further stages of work are likely to involve the addition of a groundwater monitoring well network to determine whether a [groundwater prohibition area](#) should be established in this area, subject to community consultation.

Soil vapour intrusion



Soil vapour intrusion occurs when chemicals found in the groundwater travel upwards through the soil and enter the indoor air of an enclosed building. Many areas with groundwater contamination pose no or very low risk of soil vapour intrusion and are considered to be safe.

In the rare instance that a property is affected by soil vapour intrusion, the EPA works with landowners and tenants to assist them with managing any risk, for example increasing the airflow. Where there is significant vapour intrusion, a ventilation system can be installed.

Community engagement

The EPA has a community engagement team available to talk with you at any time. Please contact us on the details below if you have any queries or concerns, or would like us to provide further information.

Please do not use groundwater (bore water)

Groundwater (bore water) in this area is contaminated and should not be used for any purpose.

Not all properties have access to groundwater. It is typically accessed via an outdoor pump.

Tap water provided by SA Water is not affected. Rain water is also not affected. Please call the EPA if you are unsure whether you have access to bore water.

Basements

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

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

FURTHER INFO

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 link 'Environmental Info' then to 'Assessment Areas')






For **health-related** information please contact:

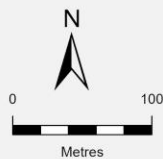
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MELROSE PARK EPA ASSESSMENT AREA



-  Proposed Soil Vapour Bores
-  Existing Groundwater Well
-  Existing Groundwater Prohibition Area Boundary
-  Assessment Area Boundary
-  Suburb



Produced by Knowledge, Information & Strategy
 Environment Protection Authority
 GPO Box 2607 Adelaide SA 5001
 Web: www.epa.sa.gov.au

Data Source
 Compiled 4/03/2021
 Projection
 Datum Lambert Conformal Conic
 Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1994

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GIS21_0016

