
Monday, 31 May 2021

SE gas plant meets EPO requirements

Adelaide Energy's Katnook Gas Processing Facility in the state's South East has met the requirements of an Environment Protection Order (EPO) which was issued last year.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) issued the EPO in October 2020 after becoming aware of a potential leak in the liner of a stormwater lagoon at the facility.

EPA Director of Science and Information Keith Baldry said Beach Energy, which owns Adelaide Energy, repaired the leak in the lagoon liner by mid-November, as required under the EPO.

"The EPO also required the company to undertake six months of enhanced groundwater monitoring. This involved monthly monitoring in the three groundwater wells closest to the lagoon.

"The final round of monthly groundwater monitoring results were submitted to the EPA earlier this month for review, effectively meeting all requirements of the EPO.

"An EPA inspection was also carried out at the facility in April 2021.

"The EPA is presently reviewing the final monitoring results to determine if any follow up action is required, however at this time, it appears no hydrocarbons have migrated into groundwater as a result of the potential leak, which is pleasing.

"The integrity of lagoons is part of Adelaide Energy's environmental licence, and it is important that groundwater is protected."

The Katnook Gas Plant was initially constructed by Origin Energy Resources Limited and commenced production in 1991. Production at the gas plant stopped in 2011, but the plant was refurbished and recommissioned in early 2020 to supply gas to industry in the state's South East.

In April, the company announced that operations at the Katnook Gas Plant would be suspended during the next financial year due to declines in gas volumes.