



KANGAROO ISLAND – CHRISTMAS COVE Community Update #1

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is commencing an investigation into the cause of recurring petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated water seeping out of the embankment near the picnic facilities located at Christmas Cove.

Petroleum hydrocarbons are a group of chemicals typically found in fuels such as kerosene, petrol, diesel and motor oil.

The EPA has received complaints about the issue, and work undertaken by others to date has not identified the source or sources of the contamination.



The geological environment at Penneshaw is complex. The relandscaping of the cove, along with the underground infrastructure, complicates how the contamination is moving to the point of discharge.

The sheen often seen on the water discharged at the cove appears to be from a fuel origin. In some cases, this may affect human health and/or the environment.

The EPA is working with the Kangaroo Island Council on the management of this issue.

What does an EPA investigation mean?

The EPA will test the existing monitoring wells near the cove, review the results, and drill a series of new soil vapour and groundwater wells. The locations of these are yet to be determined.

This work is expected to **commence on 19 June 2023**.

Some traffic management may be in place to protect the safety of workers and the public.



Estimated timeline

- **STAGE 1 – Mid-late June:** Sampling of the six existing wells and drainage mapping
- **STAGE 2 – Late June – Mid July:** A review of the stage 1 information
- **STAGE 3 – Mid-late July:** The drilling of new wells and soil vapour bores – locations to be determined
- **STAGE 4 – Late July:** The testing of all new wells and soil vapour bores
- **STAGE 5 – Late August – Late October:** A review of the assessment findings and reporting
- **STAGE 6 – Early November (or as soon as possible):** EPA communicates results with residents

NOTE: This is a proposed timeline and may be impacted by the results of each stage of work, contractor availability and weather conditions.



Groundwater (bore water)

Groundwater (bore water) in this area may be contaminated. Please contact the EPA if you are accessing bore water at your property.

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 groundwater.

Home grown fruit and vegetables are safe if watered with tap or rainwater

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

Basements

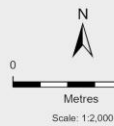
Soil vapour is more likely to enter a home when a room is close to groundwater.

If your home has a basement or other below ground structure, please contact the EPA.

**Site Location Plan
Christmas Cove Reserve
Penneshaw**



- Groundwater Investigation Wells
- Christmas Cove Reserve



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FURTHER INFO

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