

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



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Further testing at Clovelly Park

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has been advised by Monroe Australia Pty Ltd (Monroe) that it will commence soil vapour testing within the Chestnut Court area at Clovelly Park this week.

The work will be undertaken by Monroe's environmental consultant URS Australia and will involve testing existing vapour bores located on council property and road verges. The results of this testing will be received by Monroe's consultant in late September/October and provided to the site contamination auditor. The EPA will also be given a copy.

Yesterday approximately 50 homes in the area were letterbox dropped to advise residents of the proposed work by Monroe.

According to EPA Director of Science and Assessment Peter Dolan the EPA will continue to have an active involvement in the assessment and remediation of the chlorinated hydrocarbon plume that extends off both the Mitsubishi Motors and Monroe properties.

"This is an historic site and yesterday's door knocking by Monroe's consultants was advising residents of the next round of testing.

"An independent auditor was first appointed by Monroe for this site in 2009. During this time considerable effort has been put into reviewing the environmental assessment work undertaken by the consultant at on and off site areas.

"Monroe is cooperating fully with the EPA and undertaking all necessary steps to deal with the situation and keep residents and the EPA fully informed," said Mr Dolan.

In November 2008 Department of Health and Ageing and the EPA advised residents not to use bore water for any purpose after traces of the chemicals trichloroethylene (TCE) and vinyl chloride were found in groundwater off the former Mitsubishi and Monroe properties.

At that time soil vapour sampling was undertaken at 60 locations across Clovelly Park, Mitchell Park, Bedford Park and St Marys. Indoor and outdoor air sampling was also carried at approximately 30 residences.

"This current work is a result of a review of recent groundwater and soil vapour testing undertaken by Monroe and the Department of Health and Ageing.

"This also provides an opportunity for the EPA to further confirm previous advice that bore owners should regularly test their bores to ensure they are fit for purpose," said Mr Dolan.

For further information Frequently Asked Questions are available on the EPA website or the EPA can be contacted on 1800 729 175 on weekdays between 8 am to 8 pm.

For further information please contact Ros Agate: 0434 609 394