

# Media Release

## Environment Protection Authority



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### EPA investigation in southern Edwardstown

Thursday 7 July, 2011

The Environment Protection Authority is investigating additional groundwater contamination in southern Edwardstown.

This is likely to be associated with known contamination arising from the former Bridgestone facility at Edwardstown, first identified in the late 1990's.

Recent tests undertaken by Bridgestone and provided to the EPA indicate TCE (Trichloroethene) on the border of the existing investigation area and so the EPA is working with Bridgestone establish the full extent of the contamination.

The latest report provided to the EPA indicates that the remediation to date of groundwater has been effective in reducing the levels of some chemicals (MEK, TPH, and BTEX), to suitably low concentrations. However the most recent results indicate that TCE still exists at levels of concern. These chemicals are industrial solvents, which were used widely in the past for metal cleaning and degreasing. Such chemicals have been disposed of to the ground or have leaked from storage tanks in the past. Once in the soil, these chemicals can move down to the water table and contaminate groundwater.

The EPA has identified an area in southern Edwardstown for investigation, to examine whether the TCE in groundwater may be moving into that area. The general movement of groundwater in the area is to the north-west. The area to be investigated is bounded by Robert Street to the east, Oval Avenue and Flinders Street to the north, Lindsay Way and Calstock Avenue to the east and Furness Avenue and Weaver Street to the south.

As a precaution the EPA is advising residents in the area not to use groundwater for any purpose until further notice.

The attached map (*on following page*) shows that the area to be investigated adjoins a section where the issuing of new groundwater well permits has been restricted since 2007.

The EPA has written to 755 residents in southern Edwardstown to ensure that residents are aware of the health advice associated with the groundwater contamination.

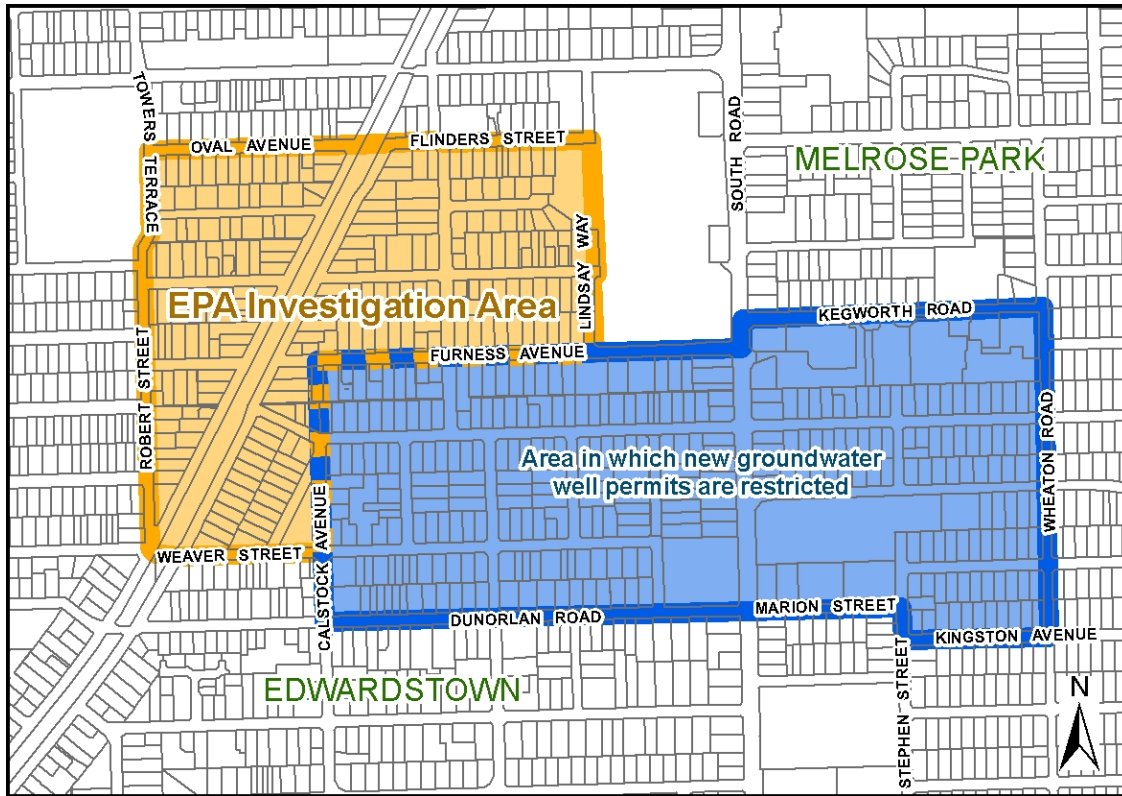
(This investigation is unrelated to the Edwardstown-South Plympton investigation area.)

For more information residents can contact the EPA on 1800 729 175.

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## Southern Edwardstown Investigation area



*News Editor to note: a high resolution version (jpg file) can be emailed to you upon request.*