

## New Chum flood remediation update



This is an important update on Cleanaway's flood clean-up efforts at the New Chum landfill facility. Thank you for your patience as we work hard to resolve this situation. We understand the impact it has had on the local community.

The Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Science (DES) and our own environmental experts are focused on the main task of removing contaminated water from the site, which will in turn alleviate the smell.

Cleanaway and contractor trucks are currently taking the water to an Urban Utilities sewerage treatment plant (STP) for treatment via tankers discharging into specific manholes in addition to Cleanaway's Yatala water treatment plant for treatment and proper disposal.

Trucking the water (estimated 24million liters) is a slow process. In the meantime, we have been working on site to:

- Install several large-scale deodorisers; and
- Aerate and douse the body of water with appropriate chemicals to reduce the odour.

New Chum landfill is currently closed and not accepting any new material.

Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback via the council and our website. We are determined to restore the New Chum facility so that it functions without impacting the wider community and that this issue doesn't happen again.

**Rhonda McSweeney**  
**GENERAL MANAGER - SOLID WASTE SERVICES QLD**



## **Flood recovery actions**

We are firmly focused on treating the issues on site and ultimately getting life back to normal for the local community.

Testing carried out by both Cleanaway and DES shows that the odour is not a health risk to our residential neighbours. However, this does not mean it is acceptable. We will continue to do everything possible to fix the situation as quickly as possible.

The site team will continue to work collaboratively with DES who are undertaking regular air quality monitoring and site visits to ensure the odour issues are resolved as quickly as possible while minimising community impacts.



## **Flood water disposal**

We are using our own trucks in addition to engaging third party contractor trucks to help expedite removal of excess water from the site. The water is being removed in accordance with a DES direction and under a contract with Urban Utilities using established procedures and protocols and prioritising safety and environmental protection.



## **Eliminating the gas**

The recent and significant flood event that inundated the facility meant the normal drainage system was overwhelmed and water pooled which led to the excess water coming into contact with waste on site. This mixture has become anaerobic through fermentation, leading to the strong odour in the area.

As water levels onsite continue to drop, sludge at the bottom of the pond is being exposed, releasing hydrogen sulphide (rotten egg gas). Water on site continues to be treated with chemicals to minimise odour. The sediment will be treated as it is uncovered and the waste mass is being covered with further soil material to reduce odour.

DES is actively monitoring the levels of hydrogen sulphide in the community, with the air monitoring results being updated regularly on their website: [www.qld.gov.au/environment/pollution/monitoring/air/air-programs/cleanaway-new-chum-odour-issues](http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/pollution/monitoring/air/air-programs/cleanaway-new-chum-odour-issues)

**We will continue to keep you up to date and informed with the flood remediation efforts on our website and through social media.  
For the latest information, or if you have questions for us, please visit:  
[www.cleanaway.com.au/new-chum-landfill-ipswich-qld](http://www.cleanaway.com.au/new-chum-landfill-ipswich-qld)**

