

OCTOBER 2022

Community newsletter

CLEANAWAY
Making a sustainable future possible together

New Chum Landfill prepared for wet season

The images overleaf show how Cleanaway has successfully removed all stormwater from the New Chum Landfill cell that was inundated several times earlier this year.

While our people have been focused on removing the water and the odour caused by the flooding, we have also been working hard to prevent any recurrence.

Significant stormwater diversion works have been carried out to minimise further pooling of water in the cell, which is at the low point of the site. To ensure we can efficiently remove and appropriately manage any water that does gather in the cell, we have constructed temporary holding ponds as a contingency.

In addition, we are preparing to install an engineered protective layer of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic on the walls of the cell to prevent any stormwater that gathers from coming into contact with waste in adjacent cells.

The entire site remains closed to new material while these remediation activities are under way.

Landfill gas management

Cleanaway has drilled and installed 28 landfill gas wells since beginning a program in August to extend our network of landfill gas (LFG) management wells at New Chum. The program is on track to have more than 35 more wells drilled by mid-December, adding to the 63 already in operation.

Landfill gas is produced in all landfill sites by decomposition of organic matter and is composed mostly of methane and carbon dioxide. While these gases do not smell, other landfill gases may cause an odour if not captured. Cleanaway seeks to safely collect and burn the landfill gas.



Community reference group updates

Cleanaway is committed to working with the local community, where many of our employees live. Monthly meetings of a Community Reference Group (CRG) are enabling Cleanaway to respond to queries as well as inform community members, who nominated to join the committee, of flood remediation progress and site operations. Committee minutes are available at: cleanaway.com.au/location/new-chum

Transformation of the cell flooded earlier this year

March 2022



October 2022



Cleanaway's progress in removing stormwater from Cell 3B, which was inundated by the February floods and subsequent severe wet weather events in March and April 2022, is shown above. The images at the top show the cell at the height of the stormwater in March and, earlier this month, following removal of that water and remediation of the cell. The main image shows the entire landfill site. Significant works have been carried out to divert stormwater away from the cell, which is at the lowest point of the site. Any water that does gather in the cell can be removed to the temporary holding ponds highlighted.