



Esperance Cleanup and Recovery Project Update

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Home owners and occupiers in the Stage One cleaning area have been contacted, seeking consent to conduct detailed sampling in and around their premises. The responses so far have been very positive and bookings are filling fast for the month of October. Actual cleaning will follow analysis of the sample results.

The following items highlight the progress against the various project activities currently underway:

Stage One Cleaning

Award of the Stage One cleaning contract is expected within the next few weeks. In the meantime, engagement of home owners and occupiers in the Stage One area has commenced. Consent has been sought for detailed sampling in and around premises, including dust swabs, roof and ceiling dust samples plus soil and rainwater tank samples. The Stage One sampling program will start in October and is likely to continue until the end of the year. To assist with the workload, two extra samplers will be engaged through a local labour hire company.

Data Management

Department of Health has commenced the purchase and installation of computer hardware, licenses and software for the ECRP database. Data from Stage One sampling will be stored in the existing Health database until the new ECRP database is operational.

Plume Dispersion modelling

Weather data from the Bureau of Meteorology has been used to assist in the development of a Simple Gaussian Plume Dispersion Model. The initial model is based on the three shiploading activities identified by the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Cause and Extent of lead pollution in the Esperance Area, 2007 as being significant contributors to the lead contamination over the townsite. A further model is also being developed, based on all 22 shiploading events involving lead carbonate between July 2005 and March 2007. Results of the models are being incorporated into a data set to assist in the determination of an area of interest to undertake detailed sampling.

Sampling Protocols

A response to Golder Associates draft of the "Data Gap Analysis and Sampling and Analysis Plan" has been prepared by the Sampling Working Group. Once the final report is received from Golder, the Working Group will be making a recommendation to the ECRP Steering Committee for endorsement of the Plan. Work can then commence on the first stage of broad sampling across the townsite.



Soil sample preparation and analysis

A License Agreement between the Department of Transport and the Department of Agriculture and Food is being finalised to allow the use of the DAFWA soil research laboratory in Esperance. It is anticipated that the ECRP will be utilising the research facilities within the next few weeks.

Community Presentations

Portable display panels are being purchased for use at community information opportunities that arise during the course of the project. Information panels are currently being designed and the appropriate wording being developed for the Esperance Agricultural Show, which runs from 16th – 17th October 2009. A static display using these panels will also be used at a presentation to the Kalgoorlie Chamber of Commerce and Industry in early November 2009.

Minister's visit to the ECRP Esperance offices

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Simon O'Brien, visited the Esperance offices of the Cleanup project on Friday 25th September 2009. Local community and business members of the Steering Committee, along with the ECRP project team, met with the Minister to provide an update on the project and expressed their views on how the project is tracking.

ECRP staff matters

Samantha Parkyn will be on leave from Friday 25th September to 5th October 2009. We welcome aboard Elizabeth Beukes, who will be relieving for Sam during this period.

Wayne Winchester will also be taking three days leave from 29th September to 1st October 2009.



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