



Esperance Cleanup and Recovery Project Update

19th October 2009

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Vol 1. Issue 07

Esperance Cleaning Services has been awarded the tender for Stage One of the cleaning project, which covers an area to the south west of the Port and is bounded by Twilight Beach Road and Smith Street. Detailed sampling of individual premises is well underway and cleaning work plans are being developed for the first round of homes to be cleaned in this area.

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

Stage One Sampling

The ECRP team has engaged four samplers through a local hire firm to undertake the detailed sampling required for Stage One of the cleaning project. Two sampling teams have been established, with each team comprising a male and a female sampler. The average time required to undertake the sampling for each premise is 3-4 hours, depending on the size of the home and complexity of access. To date, 15 of approximately 50 homes in the Stage One area have been sampled.

Stage One Cleaning

Initial discussions have been completed with Esperance Cleaning Services and cleaning work packs for the first round of homes are currently being prepared. Allowing time for the cleaners to gear up for the project, it is anticipated that the first house will be cleaned in early November 2009.

Data Management

The purchase and installation of computer hardware, software and associated licenses for the ECRP database is currently underway. Discussions have also been held with ESRI Australia to commence development of customised reports to assist the sampling and cleaning projects.

Plume Dispersion modelling

A Simple Gaussian Plume Dispersion Model based on 10 of the lead shiploading activities at the Esperance Port has been completed. Further analysis of spikes in readings from dust monitoring stations is also currently being assessed for inclusion into the dispersion model. A full report and presentation will be provided at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Sampling Protocols

The final response from the Sampling Working Group to Golder Associates draft of the "Data Gap Analysis and Sampling and Analysis Plan" has been provided to Golders. It is anticipated that a finalised report will be available before the end of October 2009.

Soil sample preparation and analysis

Agreement has been reached with Department of Agriculture and Food WA for the use of its soil research laboratory on the outskirts of Esperance. Equipment has been ordered by the project team to do the fit out of the laboratory to meet the specific requirements of the ECRP.



Community Presentations – Esperance Agricultural Show

The ECRP booth at the Esperance Agricultural Show, which ran from 16th – 17th October 2009, attracted a good deal of attention from interested local residents and visitors to Esperance. The booth was manned for the duration of the Show by the project team members and several of the community representatives from the Steering Committee.

Minister's visit to the ECRP Esperance offices

A letter of thanks has been received from the Minister for Transport, Simon O'Brien, following his recent visit to the ECRP offices, where he met with the project team and community representatives on the Steering Committee. The Minister passed on his sincere thanks for the "informative and comprehensive discussion". He also expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to discuss the project in such detail and for the positive exchange with the community members on the Steering Committee.

ECRP staff matters

Given that Samantha Parkyn was originally employed on a short term basis, the position has now been advertised to fill it on a 12 month basis. The closing date for applications is 21st October 2009.



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