



Esperance Cleanup and Recovery Project Update

20 December 2011

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Issue 26

Project Snapshot

As anticipated, the bulk of the cleaning for the Project is now complete. The ECRP team would like to take this opportunity to wish our project partners, wider stakeholders and community members a happy and safe Christmas.

Key Project Outcomes

The key project outcomes to the end of November are as follows:

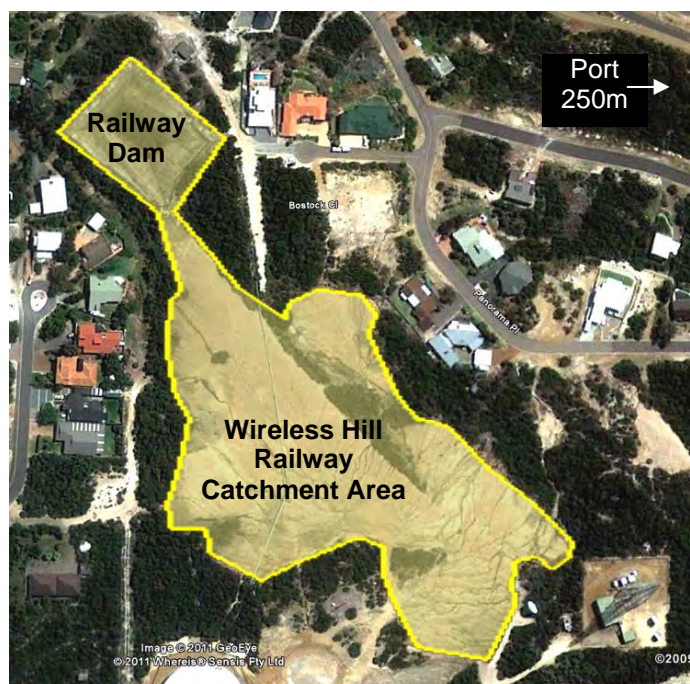
	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total number of premises sampled	77	78	2266
Total number of samples sent to ChemCentre for testing	3526	3883	108190
Total number of premises analysed against the ECRP guidelines	62	73	2083
Total number of premises requiring some form of cleaning	50	51	1771
Total number of premises cleaned, validated and closed	115	60	1281

Samplers

Sampling staff numbers have dropped significantly in the last two months from 25 to 10 personnel due to the corresponding drop in premises requiring initial sampling and validation sampling. Staff training and development continues to be a priority even as the project winds down, however, because the team must remain safe, motivated and focussed right up until the last premises is cleaned and validated. The ECRP management team is keeping in close contact with local employment agencies to assist the sampling staff as they progressively transition to other employment opportunities.

Railway Catchment Dam

The cleanup of contaminated soil from the Wireless Hill Catchment Area was completed on the 2nd December, 2011. The soil cleanup contractor, PRC Building Services, provided a small team who worked steadily in a variety of weather conditions to complete the task. In some instances this work necessitated the use of small hand tools, dust pans and hand brushes. Many tonnes of material were removed from a variety of locations including some very difficult to access areas. Soil was progressively removed and validated in 100mm layers until the field test results revealed that lead and nickel levels were below the established guidelines. PRC Building Services also sought the advice of a professional arborist to ensure minimal





disruption to living plant life in contaminated areas. The next task is to remove contaminated sludge and plant matter from the Railway Dam (see diagram above). The ECRP rainwater tank cleanup contractor, Bay of Isles Mini Excavators, has been allocated this task, which is due to commence in January 2012. As the water level in the Dam are currently very low, the process will involve the use of a high pressure wash to mulch the weeds in the Dam, and vacuum the water and residue into a licensed contaminated waste truck for transport to a waste facility in Albany. The work is expected to take several days.

Cleaning Summary

The bulk of the cleaning (over 90%) has been completed. Most work crews will have a short break over Christmas and return on 4th January 2012. The roof space cleaning crew, however, will have an extended break and return after the school holidays because the few remaining premises are located in the busy commercial district. This will minimise the impact to local businesses during their busy trading period. The overall performance of each contract to date is summarised in the table below:

NUMBER OF PREMISES CLEANED	REVISED TARGET*	ACTUAL			% COMPLETE
		OCT	NOV	TOTAL	
Roof Spaces and Replacement of Insulation	390	11	5	377	97%
Roof Surfaces, Gutters, Rainwater Tanks, etc	1090	0	27	1071	98%
External and Internal Surfaces and Carpets	1600	62	43	1427	89%

** Some targets have been revised upwards due to a late surge in sampling consents and others revised downwards due to some cleaning being declined.*

Sentinel Monitoring

The two year ECRP Sentinel Monitoring program continues but with a slight change in methodology. To avoid the Dust Deposition Bottles overflowing with heavy rainfall in the winter months, collections were increased from three-monthly to monthly. Petri Dishes, which are sheltered from the weather, will continue to be collected and replaced every three months. Results from Round 3 and Round 4 monitoring periods are currently being analysed.

Validation Audit

The ECRP is pleased to announce that GHD Pty. Ltd. has been appointed as an independent, external auditor to assess whether the ECRP is conducting a thorough and comprehensive cleanup and has met the objectives of the project. The auditor's first task will be to undertake a site visit to Esperance to establish whether the cleaning procedures and records are thorough, comprehensive and consistent with that outlined in the ECRP methodologies. During the site visit, the audit team will also take the opportunity to meet with community members and key stakeholders to assess whether they are satisfied with the thoroughness and completeness of the sampling and clean-up operations. The site visit is due to take place over a 5-day period in the week beginning 9th January 2012. The final Audit Report is due for completion at the end of April 2012.

Health, Safety and Environment

A lost-time injury occurred in the last period when a contractor was trimming branches with a bow-saw and, in a moment of inattention, forgot to apply appropriate personal protective equipment, slipped and cut his thumb. The contractor is making a full recovery and has returned to work on light duties. The ECRP takes this incident very seriously and has asked



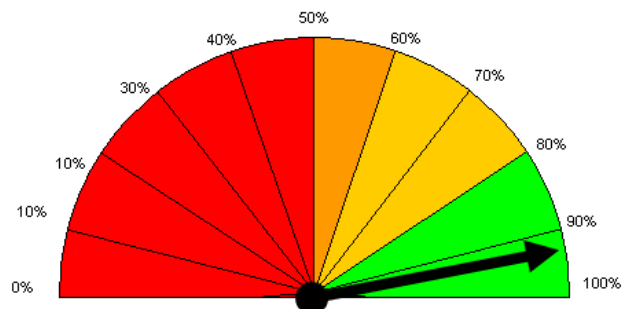
all contractors to implement more stringent controls on site. All work supervisors have been reminded not to become complacent as the Christmas break draws near.

Blood lead level tests

The ECRP continues to offer a free blood lead level test to any community member who was involved in the Project. If any cleaning was conducted at the premises, there needs to be at least a 3 month gap between the cleaning and any blood lead testing. If you have not previously taken up the offer but would like to, please feel free to call our office on 9072 3900 and we will organise the testing for you.

Community Feedback

The ECRP issues a client satisfaction survey to each client at the conclusion of sampling (if no cleaning was required) or when the cleaning is complete. Responses are sought on a range of issues including the client's impressions of the staff conducting the work, clarity of the results and suggestions for improvement. To date, owners and occupiers at **1330** premises have been surveyed and **26%** of those clients have responded. The chart opposite summarises all responses received to date.



Overall Client Satisfaction Rating



Map showing areas where cleaning has been conducted to date



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Visit the OnCue website to view previous Project Updates and other related ECRP information.

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