

## **Community update - lead testing in Tarago NSW**

This is an update about current activities to manage lead contamination at the Tarago rail yard and upcoming community engagement.

### **Lead test results and monitoring**

All test sampling has been completed in the rail corridor and public spaces.

The results from the public spaces will be discussed with Goulburn Mulwaree Council and associated community groups who manage those public facilities.

The results from groundwater testing in the rail corridor and public spaces have been assessed against the Australian drinking water guidelines and, in terms of lead levels, is safe to drink. The Australian drinking water guidelines advise that groundwater should be tested for all risks prior to using it for household and drinking purposes.

We are currently interpreting data from the test pits in the former haulage load-out complex at the rail yard, which involved digging 20 test pits greater than one metre and taking 60 samples of soil.

Continuous dust monitoring is occurring at four locations within the community through established monitoring stations. Regular surface water monitoring will also occur as required.

We will keep the community updated as results are interpreted.

### **Private property testing**

We are currently analysing and interpreting results from private properties and gathering this data into reports for property owners. As they are completed these reports will be progressively provided to property owners over the next two weeks and followed up with a phone call to explain the results.

We have also contacted self-nominated private properties to carry out internal dust sampling. Ramboll, the environmental specialists carrying out the testing, has put in place precautions to ensure the safety of residents and workers while this internal property testing is carried out.

If you would like testing to occur on your property please contact the project team as soon as possible.

### **Stockpile site in the rail corridor**

The timber sleepers were removed from site in April. The removal of the stockpile of contaminated material is being investigated as part of the Voluntary Management Proposal (see below). The stockpile is secured temporarily with a sand and cement cover that prevents any dust or runoff being generated.

### **Polymer spray**

In order to reduce dust and silt run off within the rail corridor, the project has been trialling the use of a soil stabiliser called polymer spray to a small section of the rail corridor site. This trial has been successful in

binding exposed soil and we have completed a wider application along the rail corridor. The polymer spray will be monitored and reapplied as required.

## Management plan

We are currently drafting a Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) for submission to the NSW EPA by 25 May.

The VMP will outline the steps required to fully assess and manage identified contamination and the timeframes to complete those actions. It will be a publically available document.

The draft VMP will be available on our website before it is submitted to the EPA. We expect this to occur the week of 11 May.

After this stakeholder and community engagement we will seek EPA approval of the VMP, which may include specific conditions. The VMP is required under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997.

Transport for NSW and the EPA will continue to work together and keep the community informed of progress and next steps.

## Livestream information session

On Thursday 14 May from 4pm to 6pm, we will hold a recorded online livestream event to provide information on the following:

- Understanding the history of the site and how it relates to the source of lead contamination
- Analysis of testing in the rail corridor and in the township
- Investigations into pathways of contamination
- Objectives of the Voluntary Management Proposal and upcoming Remediation Action Plan
- Short term and long term initiatives
- Health and safety information about lead in the environment and rainwater tank maintenance
- Next steps and timeframes, including a longer term management plan

The community will have the opportunity to ask questions through a moderated Q&A function on the livestream platform. Questions will be answered during the session and later put on our website.

To register for the event go to: [www.ivvy.com.au/event/CMWN8X/](http://www.ivvy.com.au/event/CMWN8X/)

Alternatively if you cannot access the event booking system you can phone the project team on 4907 7525 during office hours or email [JHRcorres@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:JHRcorres@transport.nsw.gov.au).

This is an open event for all community members. There will not be information about results of private property testing or discussion about the Rail Loop extension projects. Anyone wishing to discuss these matters are advised to make an appointment with the project team on the number above.

## Individual information sessions

If you would like to book an appointment with our project team to discuss the information on our website and answer your questions, please call the project team on 4907 7525 during office hours or email [JHRcorres@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:JHRcorres@transport.nsw.gov.au).

We are happy to discuss any concerns you may have, explain the work we have been carrying out and advise what is happening next, at a time that is convenient to you.

## For more information, please contact us:



02 4907 7525 (office hours,  
Monday to Friday)



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[www.transport.nsw.gov.au/tarago](http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/tarago)