

Update on clean-up underway at Ampol fuel terminal at Kurnell

April 29, 2022

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Dear Resident,

We would like to give you an update on the clean-up progress and offer you testing of soil and bores on a voluntary basis.

The clean-up of grass and soil impacted with an oily (diesel) residue from the incident is continuing to be treated as a priority. EPA Officers are closely overseeing the work with regular site inspections to ensure the clean-up is thorough and meets the measures required by a legally binding Clean-Up Notice issued to Ampol. The clean-up commenced on 21 April and is expected to be completed in early May.

We have required Ampol to prioritise this clean-up to protect the community and environment. We understand these works and truck movements in the area are an inconvenience, but it is important to ensure the clean-up can occur as quickly as possible. Further information and contact details are available on Ampol's website <https://www.ampol.com.au/about-ampol/news-and-media/kurnell-update>.

We are also conducting a thorough investigation into the cause of the incident. The investigation will take time as we gather, assess and consider the evidence required to complete the investigation. We will consider regulatory action if breaches of the environment protection legislation are found.

Voluntary soil and bore testing

The EPA is offering voluntary residential soil and bore testing for residents.

If you would like your soil and/or bore to be sampled, please contact the EPA Environment Line on 131 555 or by email at info@epa.nsw.gov.au. Results will be provided directly to the resident.

Sampling data results

Samples have been taken at key areas in Kurnell to inform the clean-up, including at Silver Beach, Marton Park and the wetlands at Marton Park and Quibray Bay.

EPA Officers took soil samples on 19 April at Marton Park Oval in the area closest to the overflow and in low-lying areas, when the areas were free of standing water. These were analysed by an independent, NATA accredited, laboratory. The samples did not contain any detectable levels of oil or fuels and the Sutherland Shire Council has since opened the oval for use.

We also took water sampling on 19 April at the Kurnell wharf stormwater drain which detected low level fuel residues above water quality guidelines. Further investigation by Ampol of this drain will be required following the incident clean-up process.

Sampling was undertaken at multiple locations along Silver Beach on 22 April which did not detect fuel related pollutants.

Samples from waterways on Marton Park on 19 April detected fuel residues above water quality guidelines. These water quality guidelines are long term objectives. The ongoing removal of fuel from waterways in Marton Park and other areas should result in an improvement in water quality.

The EPA's sampling results, and map are available on our website <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/news/2022/clean-up-underway-at-ampol-fuel-terminal-at-kurnell>.

Further samples after clean-up will also be taken.

Ampol also took water samples immediately after the incident before clean-up commenced and those results are available on Ampol's website <https://www.ampol.com.au/about-ampol/news-and-media/kurnell-update>.

Health advice

NSW Health has provided the following advice to residents to help limit their potential exposure to the oil while the clean-up is underway:

- The most likely route of exposure is breathing in the associated fumes, so where possible avoid being in areas where fumes are high. Brief exposures (minutes to hours) are unlikely to have a health impact. Continuous exposure to fumes should be avoided. Headaches, eye or airway irritation may follow exposure. However, once the exposure stops, it is expected that these acute health effects will resolve.
- If the smell is outside, keep windows and doors closed to limit exposure indoors.
- If the oil contacts skin or clothing and remains there for several hours it may absorb into the skin and cause inflammation, cracking or peeling skin. If you get oily water on yourself, promptly wash it off with soap and water and change clothes.
- It is important not to swim in water impacted by an oil spill due to the health risks of ingestion and skin contact. Do not swim if there is any visible oil in the water.

If you have any health concerns, please contact your GP or the South Eastern Sydney Public Health Unit on 9382 8333.

Further Updates

If you have any questions, please contact the **EPA's Environment Line 131 555**. We respond to all enquiries to the Environment Line, and you will receive a case number for easy follow up.

The EPA will keep the community informed.

We will continue to keep our website up to date with responses to common questions and sampling data as it becomes available, you can access our dedicated webpage via the QR code here or visit <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/news/2022/clean-up-underway-at-ampol-fuel-terminal-at-kurnell>.

