

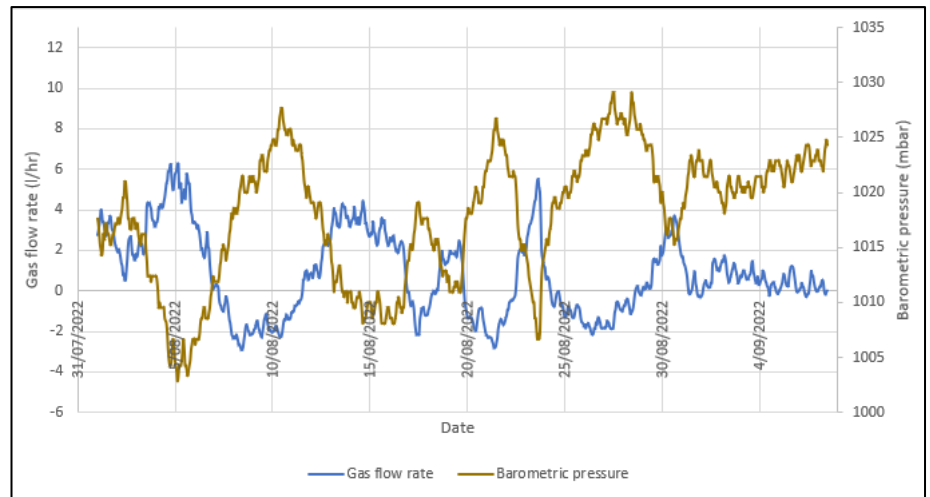
UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2022

This Fact Sheet is to update you about the former Anambah landfill site, located on Anambah Road, Rutherford. Owned by Maitland City Council, it is a historical landfill site that operated from 1976 to 1993.

KEY UPDATE POINTS

1. Regular site monitoring has given no unexpected results. Gas has continued to flow underground at a higher rate (with higher methane concentrations) during occasions of low barometric pressure, and lower rates during higher barometric pressure, as illustrated in the sample chart to the right.

Air has been monitored in two buildings closest to the landfill site and many sub-surface service pits nearby with no results above usual background levels. No gas has been detected at the ground surface beyond the site boundaries.



3. Council is in the late stages of engaging a contaminated land consultant to prepare a remediation action plan for the site. The engagement is expected to be completed within a few weeks.

4. Council is continuing to work with the EPA and an accredited contaminated site auditor to ensure all appropriate actions are being undertaken.

BACKGROUND

Landfill sites usually generate landfill gases, such as methane, in a natural process as the waste inside breaks down. This can occur for some decades after the landfill is closed. The site is under routine onsite and offsite monitoring of landfill gas levels to understand the extent of any gas migration from the site.

During routine monitoring of the former Anambah landfill site, experienced professionals have identified that landfill gas is migrating underground and beyond the site boundaries. There has been no gas detected at the surface beyond the site boundaries.

Council's priority is to understand the extent of the issue and undertake remediation actions to manage this naturally produced gas and ensure that the safety of neighbours is maintained.

AM I OR IS MY FAMILY AT RISK?

The well-being of our community is our top priority. Gas can build up in enclosed spaces. Because the former landfill site and adjoining vacant land is an open space, the risk of landfill gas impacting people using the land is extremely low. Recent landfill gas monitoring of buildings and underground service pits on land adjoining the site showed that levels of methane were well below EPA guidance values.

WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO TO LIMIT POSSIBLE RISKS TO RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Council will continue to investigate and develop a remediation strategy, with an EPA accredited auditor appointed to oversee the process. If remediation is required, remedial options will be identified and implemented. Council will consult with the local community if this is required.

ARE USERS OF THE FORMER LANDFILL SITE, ADJACENT VACANT LAND AND BACKYARDS AT RISK?

No, they are not at risk. As these areas are open spaces there is no risk of gas building up. The former landfill site is closed and fenced off. It is only accessible to Council staff and consultants.

Regular monitoring activities will continue on the site and adjacent land as investigations continue.

Additional information on landfill sites can be found on the NSW EPA website at www.epa.nsw.gov.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

We will continue to engage with local residents and community members to discuss any concerns. Further information is available on our website at www.maitland.nsw.gov.au/anambah-landfill If you wish to speak with a project team member about this work, you can contact us:

Phone freecall: 1800 066 243. Email: contact@ghd.com



Above: The former landfill site and surrounds, showing monitoring locations.