

MAY 2022

Maitland City Council owns the former Anambah landfill site, located on Anambah Road, Rutherford. It is an historical landfill site which operated between 1976 and 1993.

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 and 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.

While Council believes the risk of landfill gas entering nearby residential properties is low, we would like to confirm that this is the case. As such, we are continuing to monitor landfill gas migration to prepare baseline studies to support a remediation action plan for the site.

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 upon 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

Signature Gardens Information Afternoon

Residents are invited to a drop-in session in the Main Hall CFB to ask questions of the project team.

Call in at any time between 2.30 and 5.00pm on Monday 6th June.

There are no presentations, so come whenever suits you.

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 using the following channels.

Phone freecall: 1800 066 243

Email: contact@ghd.com



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