

PORT AUGUSTA Community Update #11

Issued 24 January 2018

27 December 2017 – dust samples analysed

If you were anywhere along the upper Spencer Gulf, Port Augusta, Port Pirie or Whyalla on 27 December 2017, you would have noticed very strong winds generating dust from open areas across the region. The EPA received 9 calls to our 24 hour incident reporting line from the Port Augusta region on this day.

As advised in [Community Update #10](#), the EPA took samples of dust collected from the filters in our air quality monitoring stations in Port Augusta, and sent them to an independent laboratory for assessment. The lab report indicates that the majority of the dust contained soil and minerals, with some plant fragments and traces of dark particles. The report indicates that few of the dark particles (1-2%) can be identified as coal.

This analysis is unable however, to determine whether any coal particles may be *new* (for example from the coal stockpile areas), or from a historical presence in the soil after so many decades of coal handling in the region.

A copy of the [lab report](#) is available on the EPA website.



6 December 2017 - Vegetation growth on the coal stockpile areas

EPA issues Flinders Power with an expiation notice

In accordance with condition section 9 of their license, Flinders Power is required to take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent dust from leaving its premises. Section 45(5) of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* states the holder of an Environmental Authorisation must not contravene a condition of the Authorisation.

On 27 December 2017 Flinders Power advised the EPA that there was dust leaving its premises. The EPA viewed the real time dust monitoring data, which confirmed that high levels of dust were being generated.

The EPA has today issued Flinders Power with an expiation notice.

Flinders Power stack felling – EPA monitoring

As part of the ongoing decommissioning of the site, an 80m high concrete and brick chimney at the Augusta Power stations site will be demolished on 25 January 2018 using explosive charges. The explosive charges are designed to weaken the base of the stack, enabling a controlled fall to take place in a designated zone.

Flinders Power has advised the EPA that its staff and contractors have been in contact with the CFS regarding the use of explosives.

The EPA will have two officers in attendance at Port Augusta, as well as real-time air quality monitoring being undertaken from the Adelaide office.

For further information on the stack felling, please see the Flinders Power media release or for queries on the decommissioning of Augusta Power Stations please use the Flinders Power information line:

M: **0419 252 760** (leave a message with your query and contact details and your call will be returned)
E: enquiries@flinderspower.com.au.

For all other enquiries please don't hesitate to get in contact with us via any of the details below.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Telephone:

(08) 8204 2004

Email: portaugustadust@epa.sa.gov.au

Website: www.epa.sa.gov.au

(Click hyperlink if viewing this publication online) or follow the link at the bottom left hand corner to Port Augusta Power Station Site.

To request any of this information in the post, please call us on the above number.

For health related information please contact:

Telephone: (08) 8226 7100

Website: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

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