

Cargill Community Update - Brooklyn

September 2012

History

Cargill operates a vegetable oil processing plant located at 425 Somerville Rd, Brooklyn (formerly West Footscray) on the corner of Holmwood Rd. Oilseed processing began on the site in the 1950's originally by Meggitts, before being purchased by Cargill in 1982. The facility primarily processes canola seed to produce crude degummed oil and protein meal.

There was an increase in odour complaints in early 2010 as well as a spot site visit from the EPA in June 2010 which found other environmental issues. Cargill engaged consultants *The Odour Unit* to review the installed system and make recommendations for improvement. *The Odour Unit* is Australia's leading consultant in the prevention of odour from industrial facilities and biofilters in particular

Cargill entered into an Enforceable Undertaking with the EPA in April 2011 as an alternative to court action to deliver environmental benefits beyond compliance. The enforceable undertaking will be in place until December 2014.

Odour Control System Audit

The Odour Unit have completed an initial system review of all installed odour control equipment and, as part of the requirements of the Enforceable Undertaking, will complete quarterly an odour control system audits. The first of these audits was conducted in March

this year. The results of all audits are forwarded to the EPA and acted upon by Cargill.

The last odour audit was conducted in August 2012. The findings from this audit were as follows:

- Prep building odour collection and biofilter system was found to be working well and endorses the decision by Cargill to completely refurbish the biofilter and rebalance the collection system earlier this year.
- The solvent plant biofilter was found to be working well, achieving better than 99% odour removal efficiency. Odour testing by *Emissions Testing Consultants* returned results which showed that the outlet air stream met EPA target odour level and had no process related odour character. The airflow distribution was found to be satisfactory.



Extraction Plant Biofilter

Odour Control System Changes Since September 2011

Further improvements and changes made to the existing odour control system include:

- Replaced tarpaulin roof on biofilter in preparation building with a fixed structure. This has improved accessibility of the biofilter for inspection and maintenance.
- The water drip system on biofilter in preparation building has been updated to improve coverage at the walls.
- The west cell of the biofilter in extraction has been refurbished. The internal support structure has been replaced with a crates supplied by the odour unit. The organic medium was also refreshed. Technical assistance was provided by *The Odour Unit* with regard to the rebuild of the biofilter.
- The east and west cell of the biofilter in the preparation building have also been refurbished in the same manner as the west cell of the biofilter in extraction. *The Odour Unit* also provided technical assistance for this biofilter.
- Gaps in the roof structure of the preparation building have been sealed up.
- Extraction biofilter doors have been re-sealed. This was previously a minor source of odour.
- Repairs have been made to ducting to the extraction biofilter to stop leaks.



Roof structure above biofilter in preparation building.

Greening Yarraville West Donation Update

As part of the enforceable undertaking and our commitment to working with the local community Cargill contributed \$50,000 to the Yarraville Community Group to assist with a local environment project - West Yarraville Accelerated Street Avenue Development. The Council has commenced planting up to 300 trees in the Yarraville West area.

Cargill has worked closely with the Yarraville Community Group over a number years to improve odour emissions from the plant and the project is designed to transform the streets with trees to deliver improved air quality for better health outcomes, shade, habitat and food for birds and insects.

For further information please contact Joe Coleiro by phone on 9316 0323 or by email via joe_coleiro@cargill.com