

TO THE RESIDENT

Dear resident

**Re: Unley environmental assessments**

I am writing to advise that the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is undertaking environmental assessments to study the impact of historical industrial practices that are known to affect groundwater.

Commencing next month, the EPA will undertake soil vapour sampling in the area bounded by Charles Lane and Mary Street in Unley. This involves measuring the concentrations of chemicals found in the air spaces between soil particles. The EPA holds a number of current and historical reports for several sites in this area. Groundwater in this area is believed to be impacted by past land uses including refrigeration manufacturing, furniture manufacturing, cabinet making, boot making and a drapery.

The reports were completed at a time when the potential for soil vapour rising to the surface from chemicals in the groundwater was not widely considered or understood. When this happens near residential properties, they can potentially enter into homes in vapour form. The information provided historically is incomplete and a number of data gaps have been identified by the EPA.

The EPA has therefore developed a works programme to determine whether soil vapour intrusion exists. Environmental assessment works will involve the installation of 22 temporary soil vapour bores, which will be drilled on street verges and no driveways will be impacted. The bores are very small in size and will be covered with a temporary plastic lid. They will be installed with a hand auger, which takes around 45 minutes at each location and then after ten days the sampler is removed and the bore refilled with soil.

The data will then be provided to the EPA by July 2017. The EPA will write to you again to advise you of the results. This work will assist the EPA in understanding if there is any soil vapour intrusion is likely and whether any additional assessment works are required.

**Groundwater (bore water) in this area should not be used for any purpose.** However mains water (supplied by SA Water) is not affected by this issue. Home grown fruit and vegetables are safe to eat providing they are not watered with contaminated bore water.

Please find attached an invitation to a community information evening hosted by the EPA on Thursday 11 May 2017, to answer any questions you might have in regards to these works. Please 'drop in' from anytime during 6pm-9pm to speak with our staff. If this time does not suit you, or if you would like to know more about the EPA's environmental assessment programme please phone: 1800 729 175 or email [EPASiteContam@sa.gov.au](mailto:EPASiteContam@sa.gov.au).

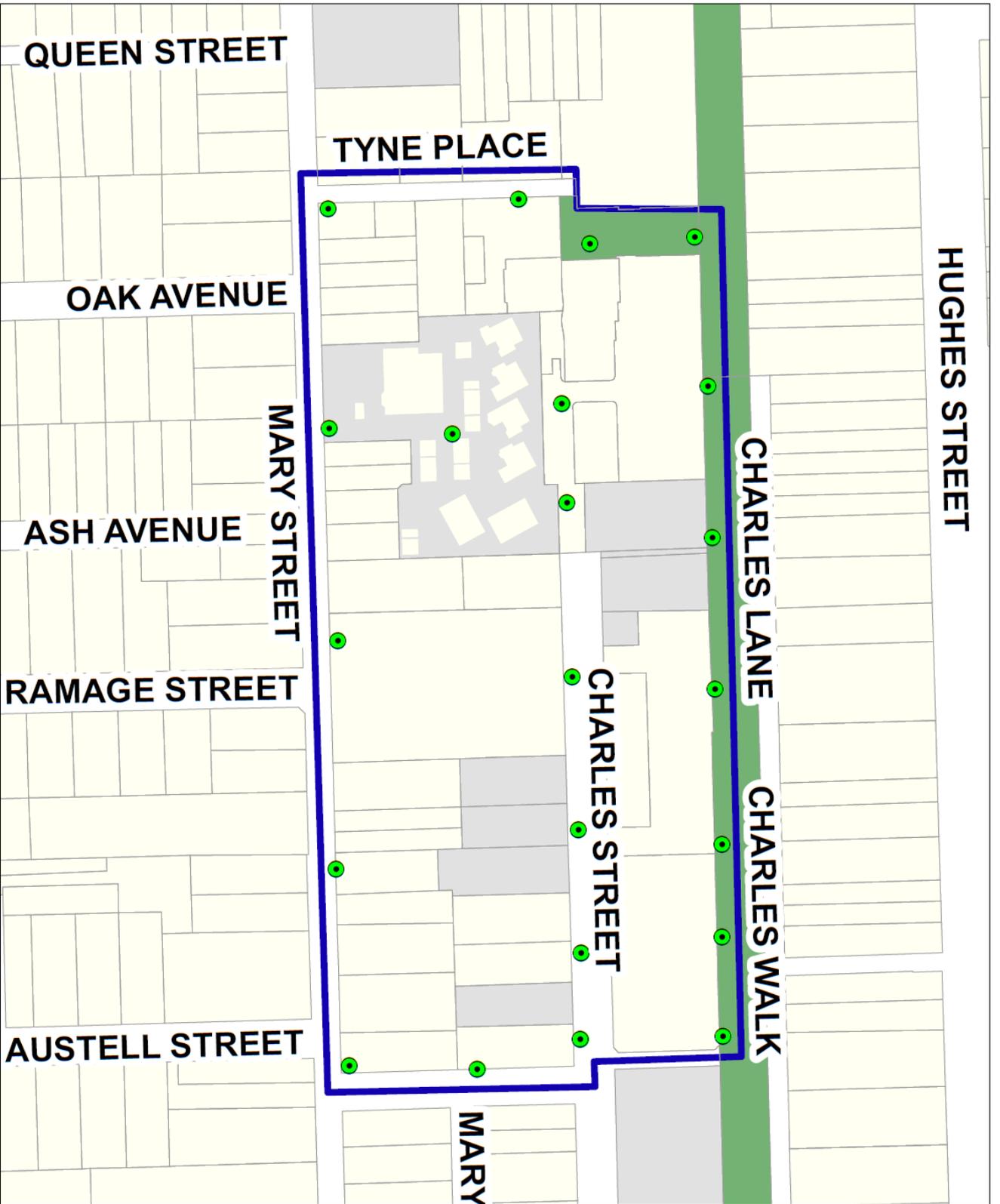
Yours sincerely



Andrew Pruszinski

**MANAGER SITE CONTAMINATION  
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

28 April 2017

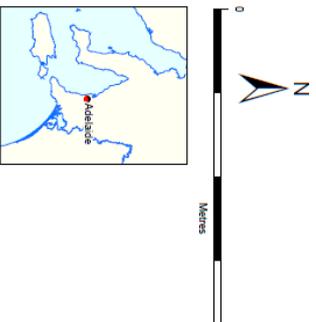


HUGHES STREET

## Unley Assessment Area

Proposed soil vapour sampling

- Residential
- Commercial/Industry/Vacant
- EPA Assessment area
- Sample Location



Produced by Knowledge, Information & Strategy

Environmental Protection Authority

City of Unley

Web: [www.epa.sa.gov.au](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au)

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Completed: 15 March, 2017

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic

Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1984

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