

Cargill Community Update - Brooklyn

March 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.

An odour abatement strategy was formulated and submitted to the EPA in 2005, with recommendations to install two biofilters to treat process air streams. One was completed in August 2006 and the second completed in October 2007, at a total cost of \$1.1 million.

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 are 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 til 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 February 2012. Audit indicated a vast improvement in the air quality in the preparation building. At the time of the audit the west cell of the biofilter in extraction and prep had been refurbished and were operating to expectations.

As part of the enforceable undertaking a smoke test of the preparation building was conducted in July 2011. Smoke test confirmed that the odour emissions into the prep building are adequately captured by the odour collection system.

Odour Control System Changes Since March 2011

- Further improvements and changes made to the existing odour control system include:
- A new fan was installed for the biofilter in preparation. This has improved the point source collection of odour in the preparation building.
- Installed an air atomisation Spray on ventilation duct for biofilter in preparation building. This humidifies captured building air to retain moisture in the biofilter.
- Installed wet scrubber on process air to biofilter in preparation building. The purpose of the wet scrubber is to knock out any oils/solids entrained in the process air as well as provide humidification.
- 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.

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 environmental project will plant up to 300 trees in streets in Yarraville. This project was selected following consultation with the local community members, the EPA and local council.

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.

The project is expected to be start by Council in April/May 2012.

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