

# Foxglove Oval Environmental Works Community Update

March 2023

## Northern Batter Remediation

### Construction update

The construction program, since our last newsletter in December 2022, has included successfully installing ground gas collection bores and the placement of most of the feeder pipes connecting these bores. The vents are expected to be erected by mid-March, with the reinstatement of the ball fence to be completed by mid-April. Landscaping of the Northern Batter will then occur.

Other recent works have included removing the cover materials at the base of the batter, which have been a pathway for gases. Construction of an access track in this same location has also commenced. The remaining validation wells for monitoring beyond construction will be located on this access track. As a precaution, nearby residents have had vibration monitors installed on their property prior to and during construction of the access track.

### How the remediation system works

The remediation system is designed to minimise landfill gases moving off-site. It is a passive gas venting system whereby the landfill gases are collected in ground gas collection bores then travel through the underground feeder pipes and are released via the aboveground gas vents located along the Northern Batter. As the gas reaches the top of the vent, it is assisted by a rotating cowl (a similar mechanism to a rooftop whirly bird) and dissipates into the atmosphere. At no time will there be a flame or flare as the gas is released.

The project's Landfill Gas Management Strategy sets out a staged contingency plan for increasing the vent extractive power if required, which includes adding solar power to convert the system to an active venting system. The current installation has been designed to allow this to happen with minimal additional disturbance.

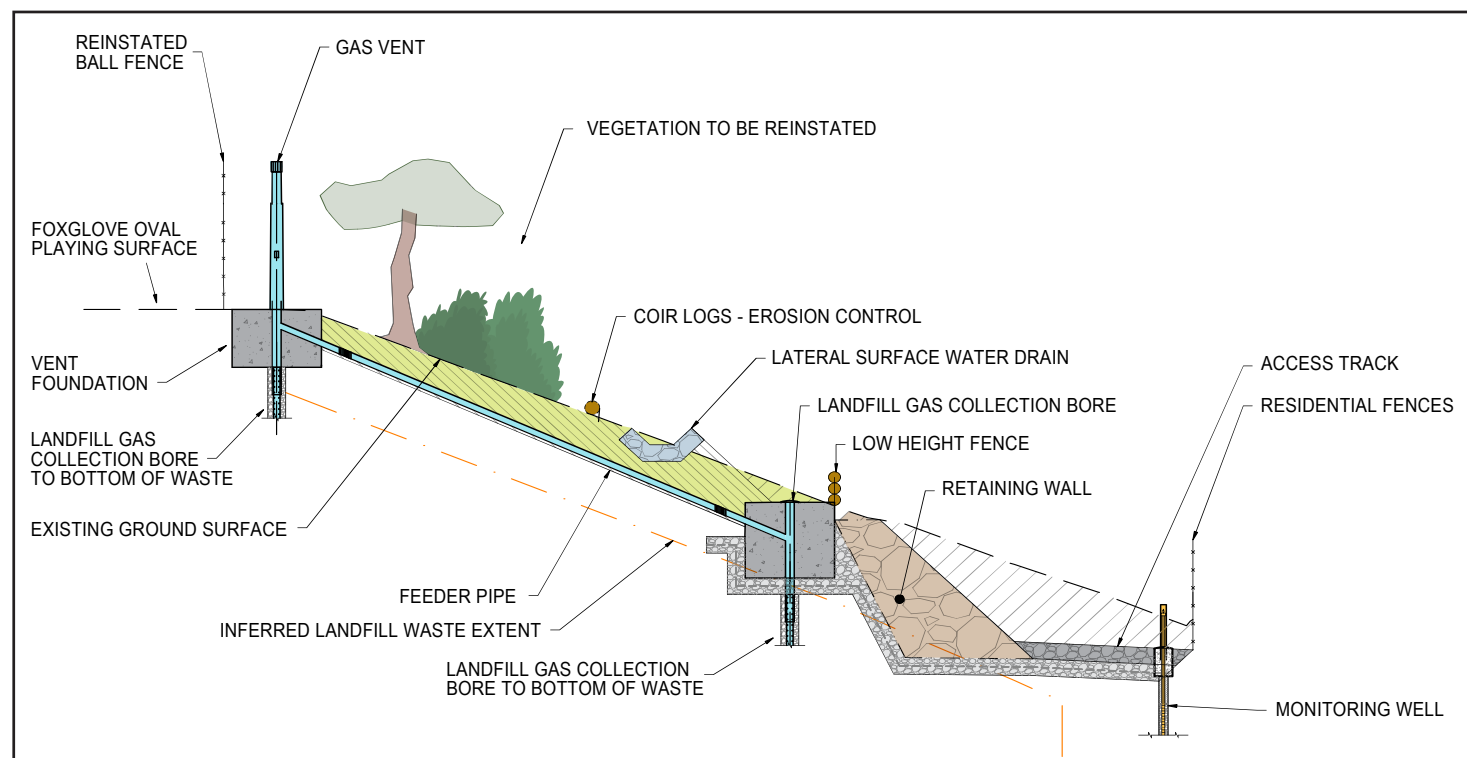


Figure 1 - Elements of the remediation system

# Foxglove Oval Environmental Works – Community Update (continued)

## Validation monitoring and reporting

Initial monitoring of the validation wells along the residential boundary of the batter has commenced, with early indicators showing promising results. However, at least 12 months of validation monitoring is required to demonstrate that the landfill gas readings are consistently at an acceptable level to satisfy the requirements of both the Contaminated Lands Auditor and the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

The EPA determines the guidance values for assessing concentrations of gas. They are described in the Solid Waste Landfill Guidelines (2016) (<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/-/media/epa/corporate-site/resources/waste/solid-waste-landfill-guidelines-160259.pdf>).

Council is continuing to liaise with the EPA and the Auditor to ensure that the project meets the intent and conditions of the Clean-up Notice. The EPA recently visited the project site to view the remediation system and validation monitoring wells installed.

## What happens next?

The remediation civil works will be finalised once the access track and sandstone boulder retaining wall are completed and fencing has been reinstated.

The 3.6m high black chain mesh ball fence at the north side of the Oval will be re-installed at the project completion. It will be extended to the east and west (at 1.8m in height) to create a secure exclusion zone around the gas vents, preventing public access.

Fencing for impacted resident homes located at the bottom of the batter will also be reinstated in consultation with each family.

Landscaping on the Northern Batter will commence once all civil works are completed at the end of March. The landscape plans have been developed in collaboration with neighbouring residents and include revegetation of the batter with native species, and consideration for access and stormwater management through the site.



Figure 2 - Predicted vegetation growth over time.

## Online information session: Project update and close out

We invite all interested community members to register to attend the final online session to be held on **Tuesday 21 March 2023 from 4.30pm to 5.30pm**. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you at this meeting.

Register your interest via the project email address so that we can send you a calendar invite with a link to join the meeting.

## Ongoing engagement with residents and oval users

During the next 12 months, Council will continue to liaise closely with nearby residents regarding the monitoring results from the validation wells along the Northern Batter and will keep the local community and park users informed of any planned activity on other areas surrounding the Oval.

If you have any questions, please contact Council via the project's 1800 number or email. Details are below.

For more information or to provide feedback:

Phone: 1800 413 700 (free call)  
Email: [foxglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:foxglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)  
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