

Foxglove Oval Environmental Works Community Update

Dec 2022

Northern Batter Remediation

Activities since September

Civil works across the northern batter of Foxglove Oval during the past few months have been focussed on preparing the site for the installation of the passive gas venting system – a remediation system designed to stop the landfill gases moving off site.

During September, a number of unexpected and challenging sub-surface ground conditions meant the original bore drilling method required changes. The original method caused the bore holes to collapse, directly impacting the well construction. Neither the contractors nor the EPA had experienced this previously. Council was advised of a number of contributing causes including:

- The volume of water present in the sub-surface (more than expected)
- The unconsolidated nature of the landfill materials
- The nature of the drilling method used.

These circumstances meant that an alternative drilling method was needed. A successful trial using a Hollow Stem Auger (HSA) proved that the system integrity and effectiveness could be maintained. Using this HSA has curtailed subsequent well collapse during construction. This is due to the HSA having a cavity within which each perforated gas collection pipes can be inserted inside along with aggregate poured around it to stabilise the pipe prior to removing the HSA.

Project status

The construction project is expected to be completed by end of March 2023.

Key activities that will be completed by 23 December include:

- Excavating the top cover soils from the northern batter and relocating them to the paddock west of Gloria Close (open space area)

- Completing the land-stabilisation of this open space area, including compacting the soils and cutting in level access benches for the large equipment
- Installing the below ground bores (39).

Key activities planned for completion in Jan/Feb/March:

- Excavating the trenches for the feeder pipes from underground bores to the respective vent locations.
- Installing the feeder pipes and junctions
- Forming the vent and bore foundations
- Installing the above ground vents (14) at top of the batter
- Excavation in the access track location, materials transferred to the western paddock to complete that landform
- Constructing the access track; installation of Geosynthetic Clay Liner (GCL), when required, and placement of trafficable layer
- Installing storm water infrastructure
- Constructing boulder sandstone retaining wall beside the access track
- Re-installing fencing for impacted resident homes and Oval ball fence, creating an exclusion zone around the vents from the public.



Figure 1: Installation of the below ground bores along the northern batter

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Figure 2: Capped underground bores which will be connected to the underground gas feeder pipes.

Council is liaising with the EPA to ensure the project meets the intent and conditions of the Clean-up Notice.

Landscaping will commence post construction in March 2023. Council's landscaping team has updated the plans to reflect surface water management adjacent to Lancelot Street and the western paddock, the area west of Gloria Close. These plans have been developed in collaboration with neighbouring residents.

Western paddock land forming

The cover soils from the northern batter are being sustainably reused in the western paddock. Reusing the soil has enabled Council to keep it on Council land adjacent to the oval, avoiding offsite disposal costs. The shape of the western paddock is being modified slightly to a more defined terraced landscape. Once all of the cover soils from the northern batter have been moved to the western paddock, grasses will be established.



Figure 3: The cover soils from the northern batter are being sustainably reused in the western paddock.

Changes at the southern end of the Oval

Public access has been restricted at a portion of the southern end of the oval (adjacent to Foxglove Road) after gas monitoring indicated an increase in methane levels in the area. Although these levels are low risk to oval users and local residents, Council is continuing to monitor gas levels. The area affected has star pickets, bunting and signage installed.



Figure 4: Restricted public access at a portion of Foxglove Oval at the southern end

Site closure over Christmas and New Year

Construction works will cease at 5pm Friday 23 December 2022 and recommence Monday 9 January 2023. During this time, the site will continue being monitored for gas levels, however no construction work will be undertaken.

Ongoing engagement with residents and oval users

Council continues to liaise closely with nearby residents regarding the northern batter and western paddock. If you would like to attend an online information session, please let Council know and an invitation can be sent to you via email to join the next session.

If you have any questions, we encourage you to contact Council via the project 1800 number or email. Details are below.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience as we continue with the remediation along the northern boundary at Foxglove Oval. May we extend our best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season to you and your families in Mount Colah.

For more information or to provide feedback:

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