



Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

Our Ref: CTS 18516/21
Your Ref: A756304

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 2021 enclosing Parliamentary Petition No. 3483-21 requesting the installation of air monitoring network stations around the Swanbank Industrial Area at Ripley, Collingwood Park and Redbank Plains.

The Department of Environment and Science has an existing monitoring station in the vicinity of the Swanbank Industrial Area at Flinders View measuring ozone, nitrogen dioxide, visibility, particles and meteorology. Generally, the levels of these pollutants are well within accepted standards and goals and would not support the monitoring of these pollutants at any other site in the area.

This monitoring station forms part of a a state-wide network of 33 stations, operated by the department, that continuously monitor ambient air quality. The latest air quality monitoring data and historical trends can be viewed on the department's website at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/air-quality/>. The data on this page is updated every hour.

A number of industrial facilities are also required to monitor air quality as a condition of their Environmental Authority. Data from a further 21 industry-operated continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations is reported to the department.

The number and locations of monitoring stations in the state-wide monitoring network are constantly being reviewed, considering regional development patterns and the results of scientific studies.

The main air-related issues for the Swanbank Industrial Area are odour nuisance.

The department's Odour Abatement Taskforce has recently commenced the use of a novel air flow modelling technology called Envirosuite and have installed six weather stations measuring wind direction and speed to enable accurate and detailed modelling of wind and weather conditions in and around the Swanbank Industrial Area. Envirosuite provides real time weather data which assists with the identification of the potential source of odour or dust nuisance reported by the community, thus improving the Taskforce's ability to gather evidence and respond to reports.

The Taskforce is also undertaking a trial of 'e-nose' instrumentation that can detect the odourous components and their intensity in the air. Two instruments have been installed around the Swanbank Industrial Area.

I trust that this information has been of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Meaghan Scanlon', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Meaghan Scanlon MP

Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
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