

Report

Date	10 August 2020
To	Paul Hulse
CC	Helen Beaumont, Ross Trotter, Rob Wilson
From	Marty Mortiaux

Permitted Activity Assessment- EcoCentral/EcoDrop

1. Purpose of this report

As part of the Bromley Odour Project, it was determined that 70% of the offensive odours noted in the Bromley area were attributable to the Organic Processing Plant (Living Earth) and the Transfer Station (EcoDrop). An Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) approach has been agreed with the parties and Christchurch City Council for a period of three months, ending September 2020. Because EcoDrop is operating under the authority of a permitted activity rule, the main condition of which relates to no offensive or objectionable odour discharging beyond the boundary, an assessment against the rule is required on a fortnightly basis throughout this three-month period as remediation measures are trialled and implemented.

The reporting period for this report is 18 July-31 July 2020

Assessment Result

For the period 18 July- 31 July 2020 there has been no substantiated offensive and objectionable odour beyond the boundary. I am satisfied that EcoDrop has not breached the permitted activity for this period.

2. Rationale and Mitigation

Prior to the AMP approach being agreed, there were two substantiated instances of offensive odour from EcoDrop in June 2020. This has provided the baseline for ongoing assessments against the permitted activity rule.

Through the Aronga Whanoke process we have agreed to provide as much information as possible to the sites to better enable them to correlate odour complaints with activities occurring onsite. To assist with that we have differentiated between “detected” offensive odour” and “substantiated” offensive odour. The difference between these is explained in the table below.

DETECTED OFFENSIVE ODOUR	SUBSTANTIATED OFFENSIVE ODOUR
Able to identify odour characteristics meeting offensive level but of very short duration.	Able to identify odour characteristics meeting offensive level and of a lingering nature.
10-minute odour assessment and/or 360 assessment unable to be carried out	10-minute odour assessment and/or 360 assessment carried out
Does not meet the threshold of being offensive and objectionable	Meets the threshold of being offensive and objectionable

In this reporting period there have not been any detected or substantiated instances of offensive odour attributable to EcoDrop.

The main mitigation measures implemented as part of the AMP has been frequent clearance of material from the pit floor during the day and ensuring no material is left in the pit overnight. The success of this measure has been reflected in a 40% drop in odour level since 19 June, as recorded by an electronic nose situated above the pit area.

EcoDrop has also received a report from consultant PDP on other potential mitigation measures. PDP have made several recommendations including:

- Prepare a standalone odour management plan
- Continue field odour assessments
- Review electronic odour nose technology, data and calibration
- Thoroughly clean the pit at least weekly

EcoDrop intend to adopt all these recommendations.

Notifications of offensive odour reported by the community (through use of the Smelt-it app) continue to report “rubbish” as an odour source. Environment Canterbury has two staff dedicated to following up notifications from the community as well as conducting pro-active monitoring in the Bromley area. In this reporting period an Independent Odour Assessor commissioned by Environment Canterbury also provided an assessment. This monitoring has resulted in offensive and objectionable odour being substantiated on 6 occasions in this period originating from sites other than EcoDrop.

3. Next steps

The next assessment is due on Tuesday 18 August.

In the interim, Environment Canterbury will continue with its monitoring and triangulation approach, notifying EcoDrop by way of an AMP notification if there is a detected or substantiated instance of offensive/objectable odour attributable to that site.