

# FACT SHEET

## Hampton Park Resource Recovery Precinct

Since early 2011, SITA Australia (SITA) has been refining and upgrading all the processes essential to manage community waste deposited at its Hampton Park Resource Recovery Precinct. Lengthy rain periods experienced during 2011 triggered anaerobic activity within the waste, causing early generation of landfill gas that is not usually experienced until the landfill cell is completely filled and capped.

To respond to this substantial change, SITA implemented a range of initiatives including reducing the size of the active waste cell, altering established waste filling and capping practices, installing additional gas collection wells and gas fired generators and installing Australia's first landfill odour neutraliser system of its kind. These changes in operational practice not only provide innovative solutions to current facility issues, they also provide a committed response to the changing urban environment in which the Hampton Park Resource Recovery Precinct is located.

Further, on 21 September 2012, EPA Victoria accepted an offer of an Enforceable Undertaking (EU) from SITA to address odour offences asserted by neighbours of the Precinct. The EU clearly establishes actions that SITA must undertake for the next three years to address operational improvements at the facility and to better manage increased landfill gas generation, which has been the source of the odour. For further information, visit the EPA Victoria website at <http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/en/our-work/compliance-and-enforcement/enforceable-undertakings>.

During the year, while undertaking works to close Cell 8, SITA has advised community members in response to calls to the SITA Environmental Report Hotline and members of the Hampton Park Community Reference Group that it was expected that the capping of Cell 8 would be complete by 30 September 2012, leading to a significant reduction in odour impacts. This was the date SITA projected to have completed all the necessary works.

While SITA management and staff have endeavoured to meet this deadline, including increasing the hours of operation, weather has again impacted planned works.

In particular, high winds experienced during September have caused delays in the installation of the 1mm linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE) membrane that is laid across the filled cell prior to final capping soil being put in place.



*High winds created pockets of air to travel under the liner.*



*SITA staff were required to sandbag the edges of the liner during the installation process.*

SITA is a **NO HARM** organisation and it's core belief is that all injuries, incidents, and accidents are preventable. To ensure all SITA staff and contractors are working safely, progress on the capping works has been postponed on several days throughout September. These delays have pushed the projected completion date out by a few weeks.

At this stage, it is expected that the plastic lining that provides the permanent cap on Cell 8 will be completed by mid October 2012. Again, this projected date is subject to good weather conditions that allows operational staff to work safely.

The final requirement to complete the closure and capping of Cell 8 is the installation and commissioning of the landfill gas extraction system. The system will extract gas from the cell, process it through on site generators and convert it to green power contributing to the state's electricity network. As long as the weather does not provide any further significant delays, It is expected that this work will be complete and the system operational by the end of October 2012.



*Landfill Gas Extraction system works on Cell 8 have commenced*

### Stay in touch

As a leader in the provision of resource recovery, recycling and waste management solutions, SITA's approach is based on acting locally and understanding local challenges.

We encourage you to learn more about us.

If you want to report an environmental issue, contact the **SITA Environmental Hotline**, a FREECALL 24/7 service

**1800 ENV REP**

**1800 368 737**

If you want us to visit your group or organisation, or you would like your question answered, send an email to

**[vic.communityenquiries@sita.com.au](mailto:vic.communityenquiries@sita.com.au)**

If you want to learn more about how SITA Australia is developing sustainable waste management practices, log on to

**[sita.com.au](http://sita.com.au)**

***Our natural resources are not infinite and we must work together to protect and nurture them while helping to solve one of the major environmental problems that threaten the planet - the sustainable and ethical management of our waste.***