

Hillside Community Voice

Rex Minerals Rainwater Tank Testing Program – an Update May 2015

Those of you who reside within 4 kilometres of the outer boundary of the Hillside Mining Lease should, by now, have received a letter from Rex Minerals Pty Ltd (map and letter attached), inviting you to register your interest with the Company if you wish to have your rainwater tanks tested prior to the commencement of any mining operations at Hillside. A closing date of 29th May 2015 is cited.

However, do not be concerned if you are not able or are not willing to respond by that date. The Register of Interest letter which you may have received is only an initial call for responses. There will be further opportunities for you to register to be part of the program as Rex's planning for Hillside progresses and as the details of the testing program are worked out between Rex and the community through HCV.

This initial letter sent out by Rex was simply to allow it to meet one of the conditions set by the Government when it granted Rex the Hillside Mining Tenement. Having met this minimum requirement, there is now ample time for the community to have its say about what, when and how the Rainwater Testing Program should occur.

Issues raised by the HCV

Members of the Hillside Community Voice have identified a number of requirements which they believe the rainwater testing program should meet. These include the following:

- The actual collection of the water samples should be done by an independent third party, not a Rex employee. The testing of the sample to also be carried out by an independent laboratory.
- Limiting testing to a four kilometre radius around the mine lease is too restrictive. Testing should include a representative sample of tanks from Black Point and Ardrossan, as well as from a wider belt of farmland.
- The testing period should be long enough to allow for all persons within the target area to participate (e.g. at least a 6 week testing period, including 3 weekends with one of these a long weekend to accommodate owners of holiday residences).
- Testing should be done prior to the commencement of any work at the mine site, and then be repeated at regular/scheduled intervals thereafter (eg twice per year/at nominated times throughout the mining program).

Next steps for HCV

The HCV is preparing a draft Testing Program and discussion paper. When completed, it will be circulated to the community for your feedback. A final draft program and recommendations will then be negotiated with the company (Rex Minerals).

The HCV will keep you fully informed of all developments.