



23 January 2012

Water users advised to cease pumping at South Creek, St Marys

The NSW Office of Water today advised water users to cease pumping water from South Creek at St Marys in Sydney's western suburbs due to contamination.

NSW Commissioner for Water, David Harriss, said following an overnight fire in an adjacent factory, liquid waste has entered South Creek and contaminated the water.

"All licensed and riparian water users are advised to cease pumping from South Creek at St Marys, located downstream from Dunheved Golf Club to the Hawkesbury River," said Mr Harriss.

The NSW Office of Water is taking a precautionary approach to inform approximately 50 surface water licence holders. In addition, all people who utilise water from South Creek downstream of the golf club are advised to cease pumping until further notice.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has been on site today assisting Fire and Rescue NSW to contain the runoff from the site. This contained runoff has been extracted from the bunded area and taken away for treatment.

"Investigations are currently being conducted by the EPA to determine the level and extent of the contamination."

Mr Harriss said water users are advised not to take or use water from South Creek until investigations indicate the pollution has dispersed.

"The NSW Office of Water will work collectively with the EPA to advise water users when the creek is safe for use," Mr Harriss said.

For further information, licence water holders can contact the NSW Office of Water on 1800 353 104.

For information regarding any types of pollution please phone the EPA Environment Line on 131 555.

For health concerns please contact the Centre for Population Health on 02 9840 3603.

ENDS

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