



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DWER Odour Patrol Program

What is the main purpose of the Program?

We will be collecting information about how odours are impacting the community and identifying the odour source/s. Our main aim is to determine if further regulatory controls are required at any of the industrial premises we regulate.

How does the Odour Patrol Program work?

We will be collecting information about how odours are impacting the community and identifying the odour source/s. Our team of selected and trained odour officers will patrol the area under various wind conditions. When our experts recognise any odours while on patrol, they will report details such as wind direction and speed, intensity level, how often they detect the odour, and what it smells like.

How often will the odour patrols occur?

Our patrols will be regular and guided by weather conditions.

Is there any special equipment involved?

The measurement is undertaken by human noses. No other measurements are taken. The purpose of the assessment is to provide information about odour similar to that experienced by community members.

How are your experts selected?

Our odour officers are selected following a process described in the *Australian Standard AS 4323.3:2001* and the *European Standard EN 16841 Part 2*. The selection process aims to engage a panel of assessors who have 'average' odour sensitivity. To avoid bias in the results, any potential panellist who is either hyper-sensitive or suffers from anosmia (limited odour sensitivity) is excluded.

Do weather conditions come into consideration? What effect may they have?

Odours are transported by the wind so weather conditions (mainly wind direction and wind speed) must be considered. Monitoring areas are located where the community is living and they are spread in all directions from various possible sources, in order to cover various wind directions. Surveys cannot occur when it is raining, as rain may wash the atmosphere and conditions become complicated for the assessors. Early morning and late afternoon are some specific periods of the day (due to atmospheric stability) that can experience stronger odour impacts.