# Visy's Recycled Paper Mill – Reservoir

## Community Update - June 2023

### Upcoming Community Meeting - 18 July 2023

A Community Meeting has been organised for face-to-face discussion with VISY, the EPA, and odour experts regarding the Reservoir Mill Odour Management Plan (OMP) and recent works on site. This meeting will cover feedback from the community, recently completed projects, odour surveys and future actions by the Reservoir Mill to reduce odour emissions. Time will be allocated to open the floor to any questions from the community and open discussion between these groups.

**Location:** Merrilands Community Centre
35 Sturdee St, Reservoir VIC, 3073
**Date:** Tuesday, 18 July 2023
**Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

If you would like to attend the meeting, in-person or online via Microsoft Teams, please register your interest at the VISY Reservoir Webpage https://www.visy.com.au/vp2reservoir. While all individuals are welcome to attend, your registration will allow for appropriate arrangements and catering for the evening event.

### Odour Field Survey

Odour field surveys were carried out in March 2023 by independent odour expert, Jim Demetriou of AOC Specialist, to assess the effectiveness of odour control actions so far. The survey confirmed a reduction in the extent of the odour plume, a reduction in the impact area, and a decrease in the odour intensity. The characteristics of the odour has also changed from anaerobic/sulphur to a wet paper characteristic.

The AOC Specialist also conducted an updated odour risk assessment. Further odour management actions arising from that risk assessment are set out below under 'Further Odour Management Actions'. Further odour field surveys are to be scheduled following the implementation of the further actions.

### EPA Notices

Visy continues to comply with requirements under notices issued by the EPA. The EPA's most recent notice was complied with by Visy and revoked by the EPA on 21 April 2023.

### Further Odour Management Actions

***Roof Fan Stack Extension***

The installation and commissioning of the new stacks on the four roof fans is scheduled to be completed by 23 June. The roof fans extract the air from inside the main processing building. The new stacks will improve the air dispersion of odour to reduce the impact at ground level.

***Southern Roller Shutter Door***

During the odour risk assessment conducted by the AOC Specialist, a southern roller shutter door which remains mostly open for operational reasons was identified as a moderate risk of causing odour due to cross flow across the building. The AOC Specialist recommended that its default position be closed and that it operates automatically to open and then close. Visy is undertaking a risk assessment of the area and developing a design solution that will involve replacement of the door with a custom-engineered and built fast-acting automated roller door.

***Reject Pit Management Plan***

A by-product of the paper recycling process is "reject material". This material is largely made up of wet paper, plastic and other non-fibrous materials stored in an open area of the site. During the recent odour risk assessment, the AOC Specialist identified a moderate odour generated from the reject material and recommended a management plan be developed and implemented to reduce holding times prior to disposal. A 'Reject Pit Management Plan' has been developed and is currently being implemented. A follow up odour assessment will be conducted to confirm the effectiveness of the 'Reject Pit Management Plan' for the control of odour.

***Steam Box Exhaust Stack***

The steam box exhaust stack was identified in the AOC Specialist's odour risk assessment as a medium risk of offsite odour. The recommendation was to extend the stack and ensure the flow is vertical. The engineering for the proposed stack extension is currently underway and the engineering design will be completed by 31 July 2023.

***Odour Risk Assessment***

A further odour risk assessment after the implementation of current controls will be undertaken by the AOC Specialist in July 2023. The report will be submitted to the EPA.

## Other Odour Mitigation Actions

***Exhaust Fan over Winder/Dry End Area***

The exhaust fan in the eastern wall that discharges horizontally was identified in the odour risk assessment as a medium to high risk of off-site odour. The recommendation was to remove the fan or reverse the fan to push air inside the building.

The exhaust fan has been turned off while an investigation is underway to assess whether the flow can be reversed to bring air into the building.

***Northern roller shutter door***

The northern roller shutter door while in an open position was identified as a moderate risk of off-site odour due to a potential cross flow with the southern roller shutter door. The recommendation was to operate the door in the default closed position.

The northern roller shutter door was reverted to a default closed position and to automatically open/close as recommended.

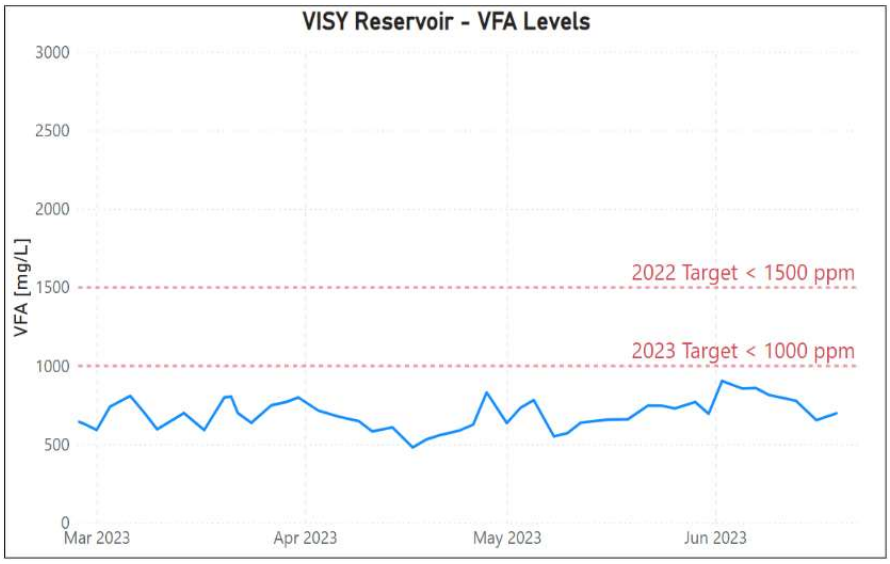
***Internal Water System Survey***

The internal drains and water system was identified during the odour assessment as a low risk of off-site odour. The odour was found to be localised and not detected outside the building. Visy engaged 'Solenis' who has completed a survey of the key indicators in the various locations identified during the assessment. A risk-based management plan will be adopted for these areas as an extension to the current ongoing sanitisation program (a status update on sanitisation program is below).

## Sanitisation Program – Treatment and Measurement

The sanitisation program continues to operate in full effect, comprising of a system that automatically doses chemical biocides into the process at various locations to control odour causing bacteria. Online and manual tests monitoring the presence of known odour-related compounds and other key indicators in the process providing instant feedback on the systems effectiveness.

Volatile Fatty Acids (VFAs), a known contributor to bacteria-related odour, and a key measure of the system effectiveness, have remained between 500 – 800ppm, well below the revised target of 1000 ppm




## Contacting Visy

If you require further information, please contact Visy by emailing to CommunityFeedback@visy.com.au.
Inquiries for a mill visit can made via the Visy Website, https://www.visy.com.au/vp2reservoir.