



# Orica Former ChlorAlkali Plant Mercury Investigations Update

Presentation for Community Liaison Committee

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# Investigations to Date

## Soil Washing Trials Conducted in August 2008

- Encouraging results
- Technical assessment being prepared
- Mid 2009 – laboratory trials to better understand how low density material would be treated
- Reports will be issued to Botany Council, DECC and made available to the community

## Human Health and Environmental Risk Assessment (HHERA)

- Undertaken 2008, submitted to DECC, results:
  - Health risks on-site: unacceptable in former plant areas
  - Health risks off-site: acceptable
  - No environmental risks identified - mercury in groundwater is not discharging to surface waters or accessed by bores
  - DECC has requested more specific air monitoring

## Air Monitoring

- Orica undertakes ambient air monitoring for worker safety
- Time Weighted Average (TWA) for mercury has not been exceeded in occupied and operating areas around the former ChlorAlkali Plant
- Orica requested URS to develop a proposal for ambient air monitoring
- Orica is reconsidering the initial scope of work outlined in the CLC Briefing Paper
- Need to focus on monitoring that will help develop the remediation proposal
- To be discussed with DECC
- A review of the HHERA will be undertaken once monitoring scope agreed, monitoring completed and results are available

# Moving Forward

- A Remedial Action Plan (RAP) will be prepared after more air monitoring is undertaken
- The RAP will cover cleanup of soils in areas where mercury concentrations exceed Risk-Based Concentrations
- Orica is aiming to commence soil remediation in winter 2010
- Orica is discussing the regulatory approach to guide the remediation
- Community/worker communication continues
  - Project webpage released February 2009

