

Minister for Environment
Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Arts and Heritage

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Mr Craig Garland MP
Independent Member for Braddon
C/o- Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Garland

Thank you for your constituency question on behalf of community members in Wynyard about the monitoring and investigations of respirable crystalline silica dust.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) regulates Tasmanian Advanced Minerals (TAM) and undertakes ongoing monitoring of stack emissions, including respirable crystalline silica and total particulate matter.

TAM is subject to a strict in stack limit of 10 mg/m³ for particulate emissions, and compliance with this limit is regularly reviewed by the EPA. Air dispersion modelling completed in 2023 confirms that emissions comply with EPA criteria for environmental protection and human health.

There is no evidence of exceedances, and investigations into visible plumes indicate these are most likely water vapour rather than silica dust. Monitoring to date has focused on stack emissions rather than fixed community monitoring stations.

The EPA is currently investigating options to install dust deposition gauges in the Wynyard area to better understand background dust levels.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Ogilvie".

Hon. Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Environment