



17 September 2008

## CRANBOURNE GAS LEAK CLASS ACTION

Slater & Gordon has been instructed by over 260 residents to investigate the possibility of a class action on behalf of residents of the Brookland Greens Estate.

Residents have been evacuated and advised that there is a long term risk of explosion as a result of gas leaks from a disused local municipal tip. The site has not been used as a tip since 2005.

Prior to purchasing their properties residents were told by the developer that the land would be rehabilitated and turned into a recreational area

The Brookland Greens Estate is a relatively new estate and residents who have contacted Slater & Gordon have expressed absolute shock at the serious nature of the news and are angered that action was not taken earlier.

Residents who had purchased new homes were not told of this significant risk and face the potential of serious dislocation in terms of their current housing arrangements or potentially the need for permanent relocation.

Already many have expressed concern that the risk will substantially devalue their homes and cause serious financial hardship to local residents.

Slater & Gordon lawyer Ben Hardwick said that "*obviously the local Council, the EPA and the property developer in question have significant questions to answer concerning how this could have happened.*"

Residents who have been evacuated should carefully keep details of expenses including receipts of any costs associated with the relocation including temporary accommodation.

Slater & Gordon is acting in a similar case on behalf of residents in Mt Isa whose properties have been devalued by lead contamination.

Slater & Gordon is investigating the Brookland Greens Estate case on a No Win - No Fee <sup>TM</sup> basis and concerned residents should contact Slater & Gordon on **1800 555 777**.

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