

The Blotter

Crews working to extinguish compost fire

Monday, March 4, 2013, 12:35 PM

From Austin Water:

Austin Water crews are in the process of extinguishing the smoldering compost pile fires at the Hornsby Biosolids Bend Plant. The Austin Fire Department successfully contained the fires to the plant and now the priority is clearing the smoke while cooling down the remaining piles that continue to smolder.



Wind direction will change throughout this process and may affect multiple areas around the plant at different times. Austin Water is working diligently to reduce the amount of smoke while we complete the task of extinguishing the fires completely.

The Austin Fire Department has conducted basic air quality monitoring of the area around the plant and has not recorded any levels surpassing threshold concerns for public health. Austin Water crews have also set up special air quality monitoring devices to track how the smoke is affecting the area.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation and understanding during this time. We will continue to update neighborhoods affected by the smoke until we have completed our objectives.