

Q1 Health impacts of natural gas

You are a public health physician working in a state/territory health department/ Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui | The Public Health Agency. An NGO has recently published a report about the health harms of natural gas used for cooking, heating and other forms of energy in homes and workplaces. There is a lot of interest from your jurisdiction on this report and the health harms from gas, particularly from groups pushing for electrification. Your Director has tasked you with undertaking an assessment of the health harms of indoor gas exposure in your jurisdiction.

Outline how you will undertake this task.

Q2 Lithium fire

You are a Public Health Physician working in your State/Territory's Health Department/Ministry, supporting the Environmental Health team in your jurisdiction. You are alerted to a fire at a major battery recycling facility near the city, which has resulted in a HAZMAT emergency warning due to potentially hazardous smoke in the area. The incident is being overseen by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The incident had been reported the previous evening and the blaze has not yet been contained, however fire fighters are actively working on the blaze at the scene. There is known to be about 80 tonnes of lithium-ion solid-state batteries inside the facility. The facility is adjacent to a commuter train line which has been closed, and there is a risk the dense smoke plume will extend over nearby suburbs in the next 24 hours with an expected wind change. You have been requested to attend an incident management team (IMT) meeting later in the day, where you will need to provide advice on related health hazards and risk to surrounding communities. You are also made aware of a request for your attendance at a community town-hall meeting the next morning with residents of the surrounding areas.

- a) Outline your response to this situation including your preparation for the IMT meeting. **(70%)**
- b) Outline your planned approach for the community town-hall meeting. **(30%)**