

Ground battle brewing

HOBSONS Bay Residents' Association committee members will meet next week to map out the start of a campaign against a company looking to clean a contaminated site in Altona.

Innova Soil has briefed the Altona Complex Neighbourhood Consultative Group, Hobsons Bay councillors and officers, local industries, the EPA and various community groups about its intentions with the DOW site, but some

groups have been concerned that Hobsons Bay could turn into a contaminated waste dumping ground.

Hobsons Bay Residents Association convenor Colin Palmer said he didn't know anyone happy with the company's plans.

"Where we are up to is holding a meeting with our committee members to throw around ideas on how to get a campaign going," he said.

"We don't know a lot about

what is happening, but if the intention is that the company will clean the site then everyone is happy, but if there is intentions to bring waste in from the outside, we're not happy about it."

Hobsons Bay City Council has asked Innova Soil to provide information about its plans.

Mr Palmer said he didn't want to see the West become a dumping ground.

"We might even look at getting

independent expert assessment," he said.

Mr Palmer said he was hoping more people would come on board to support a campaign and that an open forum would be held soon with the company.

The company has expressed an intention to host a public meeting.

The residents' association's committee meeting will be held on Thursday 27 August, at 7.30pm.