

Rail site is 'toxic'

By BRENT MELVILLE

CLAIMS that housing will be built on a 'toxic waste' tip at the planned Varsity Station Village have been rejected by the State Government.

The claims were made in an email distributed by long-time Reedy Creek resident and quantity surveyor John Bainbrigge.

He said the station site was 'a well-known past toxic tip, which is presently being excavated by Thiess Contractors'.

"Thiess were the original tip owners or lessee," he said.

In an earlier, angrily worded email to Queensland Transport

representatives, Mr Bainbrigge accused the State Government of keeping people in the dark 'like mushrooms'.

But a spokesman for Transport Minister John Mickel said the tip was formerly used for building waste.

"His (Mr Bainbridge's) information is totally off track and there's nothing toxic there," said senior media adviser Chris Brown.

"It's broken bricks, cement, plastic piping and so on," he said.

But he did not know if there was any asbestos on the site.

"I couldn't tell you that - but it's all being done under the

right parameters," he said.

"All the waste is being excavated and taken to another site."

Asked if any studies or reports had been done on the Varsity tip site, Mr Brown said they had been.

"That's why we know what's there and that's why a (disposal) site was put aside for this sort of stuff."

Mr Brown said the material was being taken to a licensed waste disposal site near Ipswich under an 'approved management plan'.

He said it was expected to take until the middle of next year to remove all the material.



CLEAN UP ... a grader at work on the uncovered tip site on Saturday.