



ISSUE 10 | February 2023

Welcome from Tony Morris

General Manager Hunter Valley Operations



Just before Christmas some of the HVO team and I went to flood effected Central West NSW to distribute gifts, billy carts and toy kitchenettes with local Salvation Army officers. Our staff made the toys as well as wildlife nesting boxes as a team building exercise at our last training days. Local kids in need also received toys and the nesting boxes will be used by groups in the Hunter.

Hearing of the impacts of the flooding on farmers and the community was devastating. The resilience of local people and sense of community was heart-warming and inspiring.

Teamwork and partnerships are vital. Making the toys was a practical way of reinforcing HVO's values - think sharp, dig in and care.

Speaking of partnerships, we have launched our charity mining trucks - part of the expansion of our community partnership programs. The trucks are part of our 5-year \$500 million capital equipment investment. Modern equipment improves efficiency and reduces our impacts in relation to noise and fuel use. That's good news for the operation, our people, the broader community and the environment.

Our other big news is that our Development Applications on our proposal to continue mining until 2050 have been submitted to the NSW Government. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is on public exhibition until February 27. Details on how to have your say are in this newsletter and on our website. The investment in equipment and our Continuation Project reflects HVO's long term commitment to the region, jobs, and local communities.

Last year was challenging for everyone. I want to thank our great team and their families, our suppliers and the local community for their ongoing support.

I would like to welcome Dave Foster, who will be taking the reigns as HVO's new General Manager. I am moving to another exciting role at another mine. I have really enjoyed my time at HVO especially the involvement, support and direct interaction with our broader community. Thank you and goodbye.

Warm regards
Tony Morris

Have your say on our proposal to continue mining to 2050

The EIS on our proposal to continue mining until 2050 is on public exhibition until February 27.

We've carefully developed the proposal using many technical, environmental and social studies and ongoing feedback from stakeholders and the community.

The NSW and Federal governments will use feedback from the community as part of their assessments.

Read more about the proposal and how to have your say on page 3.



New trucks start work for HVO & charities

Five new partnership mining trucks have started work for the mine and for local charities.

The trays of the trucks have been painted in the colours of Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, Hunter Prostate Cancer Alliance, Type 1 Foundation, Singleton Family Support and Hunter Breast Cancer Foundation. The charities will get an agreed donation for every load the trucks haul plus other fundraising support throughout the year.



Read More - See The Pictures

We chose the charities because they make a positive difference to the health and welfare of HVO employees, their families and the local community.

We want to build meaningful partnerships that includes creating community awareness about the organisations and sharing information about their services with our workforce.

Supporting people, jobs & local businesses

Supporting Paul to be a future leader

One of our Step Up supervisors Paul Bajzath was featured in the latest edition of @theCoalFace Magazine. The former Police and Fire and Rescue Officer has been mining for 12 years.

He says his job is about helping the people he works with to achieve their goals. We're supporting Paul to study to be an Open Cut Examiner - a future leader in our industry.



New videos feature local businesses

We've produced new videos showcasing three of the more than 700 suppliers that HVO supports to create additional indirect jobs in our community.

Programmed provides supplementary labour to HVO and has placed more than 1,200 trainees with us. One trainee is 44 year old Richard who says the traineeship is the best thing he's ever done. General Manager, Joel Cribb, says with HVO's help the business has grown dramatically and as a result hired more staff in Singleton.

ProMine Contracting has grown from three to 57 employees. Three quarters of its staff work and live in Singleton and Muswellbrook and the rest come from Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. Watch the videos at hvo.com.au/videos

Protecting the environment

2022 rehabilitation

Despite the big wet we continue to make good progress in our ongoing rehabilitation. Land no longer needed for mining is progressively seeded and managed to achieve the final land use of grazing or as woodland for local flora and fauna.

Last year we shaped and seeded 65 ha of land. We also temporarily seeded 320 ha of overburden to reduce dust prior to rehabilitation.

Watch our new video on HVO's ongoing approach to rehabilitation at hvo.com.au/videos



Watch our new video



2022 Pest and Weed Management

Together with Hunter Local Land Services and other corporate landholders HVO manage pests, weeds and kangaroo populations on an ongoing basis.

- Baiting of wild dogs and foxes- 166
- Pigs - 139
- Kangaroos - 584

Four weed management contractors have worked year round to contain the increase in weeds due to unusually high rainfall in 2022.

HVO Continuation Project on exhibition - Have your say

The HVO Continuation Project will support local jobs, the local economy and community by extending the life of Hunter Valley Operations up to 2050.

The NSW Government has placed our Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on public exhibition. It will use community feedback to help it decide whether to approve the proposal. Your feedback is important, including if you support the Project.

Details on how to make a submission are at hvo.com.au/continuation

What are we proposing?

HVO North to continue to 2050 and HVO South to 2045. Little change to the scale or intensity of mining. No increase in approved annual production rates. At HVO North, the disturbance boundaries between Mitchell and Carrington pits will extend. At HVO South, the annual extraction rate will reduce, and some areas approved for mining will remain undisturbed.

Relocate some electricity and telecommunication infrastructure and upgrade and extend some mine processing and train loading facilities. Realign Lemington Road with a new bridge to replace the flood prone Moses Crossing.

Improvements to water management infrastructure with upgrades to Parnells Dam, Lake James, and new flood protection levies and clean water drainage systems.

Key facts

- This is not a new mine. Coal has been mined onsite for more than 70 years.
- Our high-quality coal is in demand by other countries to meet short to medium term energy needs.
- In 2021, HVO's direct economic contribution was \$862 million.
- The proposal is in line with the NSW Government's Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining in NSW which recognises the importance of coal production to NSW and its regional communities.

New equipment at HVO in 2022/23 includes:



- 14 mining trucks
- 8 excavators
- 4 motor graders
- 11 dozers

Benefits

- Ongoing employment for around 1500 people plus 600 temporary construction jobs during infrastructure upgrades.
- Continued support to businesses. HVO spends \$500 million a year with more than 700 suppliers, many of them local.
- Continued support for communities and infrastructure through taxes, royalties, and other government payments that help build schools, roads and hospitals and fund the wages of teachers, nurses and Police.
- Continued community support through HVO community grants, Workplace Giving, sponsorships and charity funding.
- An \$82 million realignment of Lemington Road and a new bridge to replace the flood prone Moses Cross will give residents and workers a safer, time saving and more reliable route in wet weather.
- Improved final site rehabilitation. The number of final voids will reduce from four to two.

Minimising & managing impacts

Our proposal to continue mining has been carefully planned over several years using stakeholder and community feedback and detailed technical studies. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as well as economic and social impact assessments detail how HVO will continue to avoid, minimise and manage impacts from continued operations.

Find out more - Community information sessions.

- February 13 from 4pm to 7pm Jerrys Plains School of the Arts Hall.
- February 18 from 8am to 10am 880 Maison Dieu Road, Maison Dieu.

View our Project Summary and other information at

hvo.com.au/continuation



Supporting our communities

Grants support 8 community projects



Eight community projects received more than \$51,000 in Round 2 of our 2022 Community Grants Program.

- Equipment for Star Club Milbrodale & Broke .
- Muswellbrook South Public School P&C's Colour Your Threads for Pos Ed.
- Singleton PCYC Book Fair.
- Singleton ADRA Food Pantry.
- Cessnock Community Leo Club's. Native Wildflower Initiative
- Rotary Club of Muswellbrook.
- Upper Hunter Where There's a Will's Burn Bright Program.
- Jerrys Plains Public School 2023 Jerrys Juniors and Ready4School programs.

Read the story on how funding will bring 'Burn Bright' leadership and wellbeing workshops to Year 5 students in Singleton for the first time on the news page of our website - hvo.com.au/news

Other charity support



We delivered \$5,000 in gift vouchers to Singleton Family Support and the Salvos in time for Christmas. Many of our staff donated back the gift voucher HVO gave them and we matched their generosity.

We also gave St Vincent de Paul food items that our staff put under HVO Christmas trees.

Two of our trucks wore moustaches during Movember to raise awareness about men's health and \$5,430 for the cause. Coffee carts and a hard hat sticker campaign raised \$10,000 for the Mark Hughes Foundation.

New HVO website and social media channels

Our new website - hvo.com.au - brings together HVO's latest news and details on our environmental and operational performance. We're also now on Facebook and LinkedIn and have some great videos on our new Youtube channel and our website.

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) update

The HVO CCC last met in August and November 2022. Topics of discussion included mine operations, environmental performance and community relations. Welcome Cr Sue George who has replaced Cr Hollee Jenkins.

Thanks to independent chair Dr Colin Gellatly AO and all our CCC members (below) for their continued input to create open discussion between the community, Singleton Council and HVO. Current CCC representatives are Brian Atfield, Di Gee, Dr Neville Hodgkinson, Janelle Wenham, Todd Mills, Jeannie Hayes and Michael Wellard.

The CCC will meet again this month. More information and meeting minutes are at hvo.com.au/community



The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service presented Coal Operator Dave Madden with a thankyou on behalf of all HVO staff who support it through Workplace Giving.

Dave has been donating since he started at HVO 18 years ago. Over 20 years HVO and its staff have donated more than \$1.1 million to help keep the service flying.

FREE Neighbour water filter or water tank clean

HVO continues to offer either an under sink water filter kit or water tank cleaning to near neighbours, free of charge. Call 0455 782 292 to register your interest.

Complaints and blasting information

1800 888 733 (freecall) 24/7

SMS Blast and road closure notifications

text subscribe to 0447 448 982

Up to date information about HVO and our environmental monitoring performance is available on our websites.

To view this information, go to:
HVO website hvo.com.au

