

Hunter Valley Operations

Community Consultative Committee

Business Papers – November 2025

Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on **Wednesday 5 November 2025**

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1.0 Complaints

Five (5) community complaints have been received to date during 2025. A summary of all complaints received during 2025 are provided in **Figure 1** and **Table 1**.

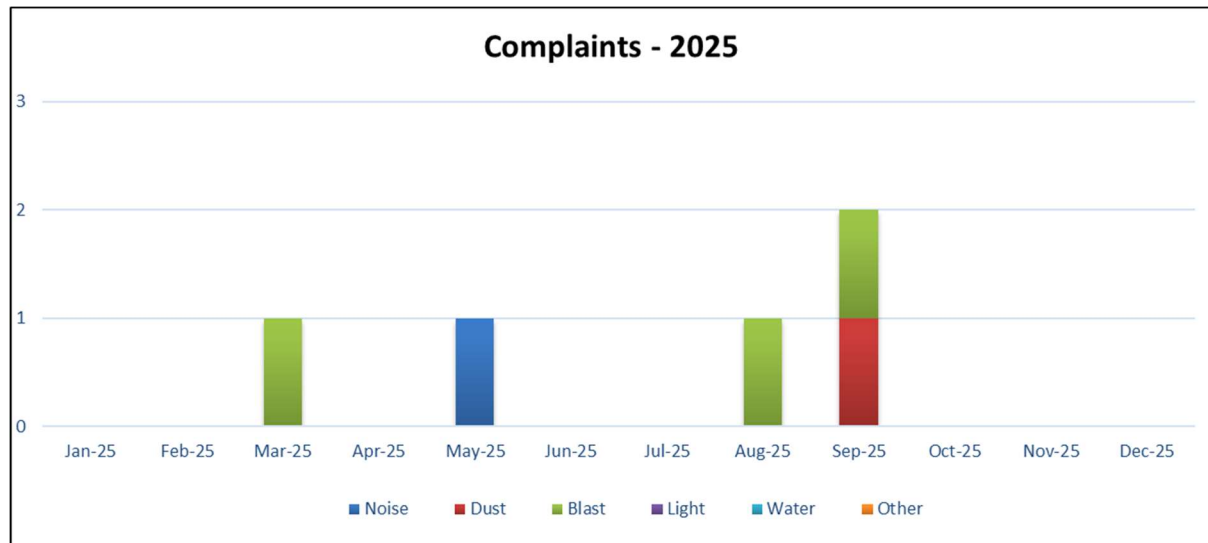


Figure 1: *Summary of 2025 Community Complaints by Type*

Table 1: Summary of 2025 Community Complaints

| Date | Time | Nature of Complaint | Mode of Complaint | Monitoring Indicates Exceedance | Brief Description and Response |
|---|--------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| No community complaints received during January | | | | | |
| No community complaints received during February | | | | | |
| 25 March | 3:40pm | Air quality | Community Hotline | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 3:40pm regarding observed blast fume and concerns for health impacts. A member of the HVO environment and community team communicated with the resident via telephone confirming that a blast had been fired in the HVO Cheshunt Pit at 3:31pm. The team member provided feedback and information regarding the blast including mitigation measures and confirmation that the visible plume did not leave site boundaries. A subsequent phone call was received from NSW EPA at 9.17am 26 March 2025 regarding a complaint they received from a community member regarding the same blast. The EPA requested further information which HVO provided. |
| No community complaints received during April | | | | | |
| 6 May | 8:20pm | Noise | Community Hotline | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 8:20pm regarding noise Noise results as well as meteorological data were checked prior to calling the resident HVO West Pit OCE communicated with the resident via telephone whereby the resident provided further feedback, including that the noise had since subsided Noise monitoring results from the closest monitoring unit (Jerrys Plains ENC) prior to and at the time of the complaint were below the compliance limits |
| No community complaints were received during June | | | | | |
| No community complaints were received during July | | | | | |
| 21 August | 1:58pm | Blast | Community Hotline | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 1:58pm regarding blast noise and vibration |

| Date | Time | Nature of Complaint | Mode of Complaint | Monitoring Indicates Exceedance | Brief Description and Response |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A member of the HVO environment and community team communicated with the resident via telephone confirming that a blast had been fired in the HVO Mitchell Pit at 1:22pm. The team member provided feedback and information regarding the blast including results from the Moses Crossing blast monitor (closest to the resident's house) which were below the relevant compliance limits for blast overpressure and vibration A subsequent email was received from NSW EPA at 3:40pm on 21 August 2025 regarding a complaint they received from a community member regarding the same blast. HVO provided requested information on 29 August 2025. |
| 15 September | 6:20pm | Blast | Community Hotline | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 6.20pm regarding blast noise and vibration experienced at 5:12pm HVO West Pit OCE contacted the resident at 6:51pm and discussed the nature of the complaint, confirming HVO had blasted in Mitchell Pit at that time. A member of the environment and community team contacted the resident the following day and discussed the results, noting they were within compliance limits Monitoring data from the Jerrys Plains Village blast monitor (closest to the resident's house) was emailed to the resident |
| 19 September | 10:20am | Dust | via EPA Environment Line | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSW EPA received an Environment Line report relating to the alleged emission of dust from HVO around 10:20am. The report alleged that a passerby observed dust blowing from haulage trucks as they drove past on Lemington Road HVO investigated the event and supplied a report to the EPA, noting compliance with air quality criterion at the time of the event |

2.0 Incidents

Seven (7) environmental incidents requiring external reporting under approvals licences and/or reporting in the HVO Annual Environmental Review have been reported to date during 2025. A summary of incident details are provided in **Figure 2** and **Table 2**.

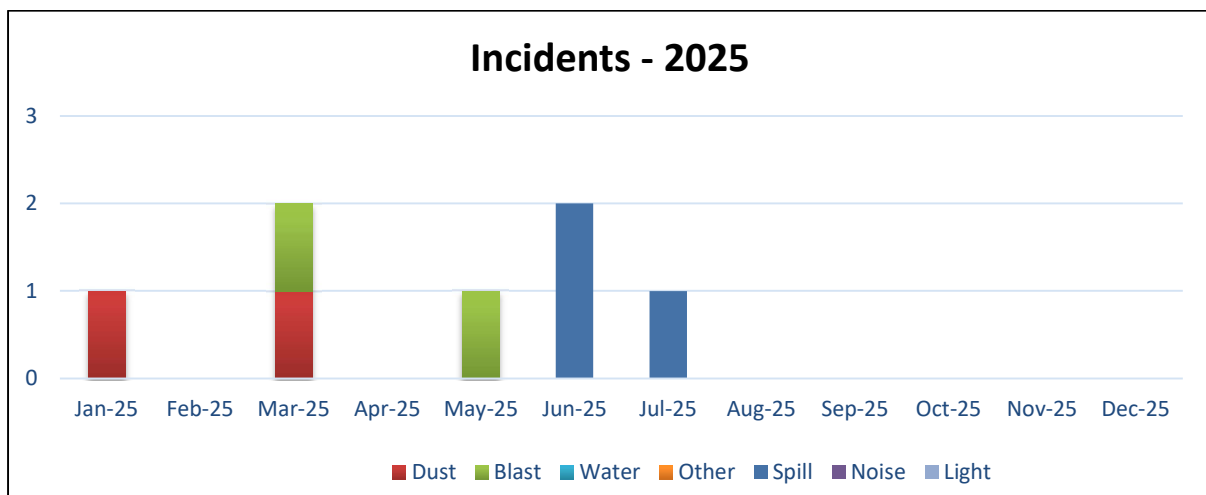


Figure 2: *Summary of 2025 Environmental Incidents by Type*

Table 2: Summary of 2025 Environmental Incidents Detail

| Date | Details | Key Actions | Aspect |
|-----------|--|---|-------------|
| 6/01/2025 | HVAS PM10 dust exceedance – Cheshunt East Monitoring results indicate that on 6 January 2025, the Cheshunt East HVAS recorded a total result of 56.1µg/m ³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM10, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50ug/m ³ . An air specialist consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO's maximum possible contribution to be 22.8ug/m ³ | HVO implemented operational controls on 6 January to comply with the HVO Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan. The Department of Planning Housing and Investment (DPHI) were advised of the exceedance on 18 November with an incident report submitted on 29 January. HVO notified affected residents as per requirements in HVO North Development Consent | Air Quality |
| 1/03/2025 | Kilburnie South HVAS PM10 Exceedance Monitoring results indicate that on 1 March 2025, the Kilburnie South PM10 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) recorded a total result of 50.8µg/m ³ for the 24-hour averaging period, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50ug/m ³ . No complaints were received on this day. An air specialist consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO's maximum potential contribution to be 9.7ug/m ³ (HVO South) and 0.0ug/m ³ (HVO North) | HVO implemented operational controls on 1 March to comply with the HVO Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan. The DPHI were advised of this exceedance on 17 March and an incident report was submitted on 24 March. No further follow up has been requested from DPHI | Air Quality |

| | | | |
|------------|--|--|--------------------|
| 25/03/2025 | Post blast fume emissions from P102BWF402 – South Pit Blast HVO initiated blast P102BWF402A in the Cheshunt Pit 1 at 3:21pm on 25 March 2025. Post initiation, fume was observed. Weather conditions throughout the day and immediately leading up to the blast were overcast with showers persisting. The wind speed and wind direction at the time of the blast was 6.4m/s and 115 degrees respectively. Blast fume travelled from the initiation point post ignition in a north westerly direction dispersing over HVO land | Observed fume was ranked Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the cause of the fume found that water contamination from higher than forecast rainfall impacted explosive integrity. There were holes that were visibly impacted by the wet weather so a sucker truck was organised to extract bulk product from the hole to re-establish a competent charge and minimise fume generation. The post blast fume was observed to move slowly across the HVO mining area in a Westerly direction and fully dissipate visibly while over HVO land is indicated pre-blast plume modelling and meteorological assessment | Blast |
| 03/05/2025 | Post Blast Fume Event (Level 3B) Blasts P10203601B and P1024401 were initiated on Saturday 3 May at 17:11pm. Blast hole conditions were wet and loaded with S33012 product at the end of April. Due to wet weather conditions, the shot was postponed. After firing the blast, post blast fume was observed across the blast surface | The blast was ranked Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. Fume and dust from the blast travelled in a north westerly direction and dispersed over the mining lease area. No community complaints were received relating to the blast | Blast |
| 24/05/2025 | Data Mis-Capture at Golden Highway TEOM TEOM recorded erroneous data on Friday 23 May. The TEOM was offline for a total of 95.20 hours between 24/05/2025 and 27/05/2025 until the site was in a dry and safe condition for a field technician to attend and replace the cables. As a result of the down time, the unit recorded capture rates below the daily requirement of 75% meaningful data required by Environment Protection Licence 640 for approximately 4 days | Heavy rainfall occurring the week prior had submerged the 240volt cables connecting to the TEOM, generating erroneous data and required the TEOM to be switched off. The results of this mis-capture will be reported in the EPL Annual Return | Failure to monitor |
| 26/05/2025 | Data Mis-Capture at Jerrys Plains TEOM TEOM mis-captured data on Saturday 24/05/2025 with the unit only capturing 74.3% of the required 75% data capture | An investigation identified that a site-wide power outage had occurred from external power issues with Ausgrid as a result of the heavy rainfall that occurred during the week prior. The results of this mis-capture will be reported in the Annual Return | Failure to monitor |

| | | | |
|------------|---|---|--------------------|
| 27/05/2025 | Wandewoi TSP and Kilburnie South TSP + PM10 HVAS Data Mis-Capture All three units failed to operate for their full 24-hour periods resulting in runtimes of 74%, 6% & 6% respectively | An investigation by an electrician established that a site-wide power outage occurred on 24 May due to an external supply issue from Ausgrid. At Kilburnie South, the electrician found that the Residual Current Device (RCD) on the circuit powering both the TSP and PM ₁₀ HVAS units had tripped, preventing power restoration. The RCD was subsequently reset, restoring power | Failure to monitor |
| 01/06/2025 | Coupling Dislodged on EX310 causing Hydraulic Oil Leak in West Pit In the process of washing excavator EX310 hydraulic oil was observed leaking onto the ground. It was identified that the Victaulic coupling for the hydraulic cooler return piping had dislodged and drained approximately 1,900 litres of hydraulic oil on the ground | The maintainer isolated the hydraulic tank valves and closed the hydraulic return gate valves. The spill area was bunded and cleaned up using a nearby loader. Contaminated soil was transferred to the Bioremediation Area in the Carrington Pit | Hydrocarbon spill |
| 10/06/2025 | Damaged Bung on Fuel Tank of EX330 Released Diesel in West Pit Operator of excavator EX330 noticed a diesel smell in the cab which triggered them to investigate. They found a damaged bung under the front left corner of the machine, causing approximately 7,000L of diesel to leak from the fuel tank | The operator immediately moved EX330 to the floor of the pit to allow for a bund to be installed. IBCs were positioned beneath the leak to capture leaking fuel. Contaminated soil material was collected and transported to the Howick Bioremediation Area. EX330 was repaired in-situ and returned to work | Hydrocarbon spill |
| 30/07/2025 | Hydraulic Sub Tank Bung Failure on EX317 causing Hydraulic Oil Leak in West Pit Operator noticed hydraulic oil leaking from Excavator 317. Upon inspection it appears that the cap and valve from the hydraulic sub tank had fallen off and drained approximately 3,000 litres of hydraulic oil on the ground | Operator placed excavator on dig floor and contained oil with bunding, notified supervisor and maintenance. The contaminated soil was picked up and transported to the onsite bioremediation area | Hydrocarbon spill |

3.0 Rainfall

A summary of rainfall data recorded at HVO weather stations during 2025 is provided in **Figure 3** and **Table 3**.

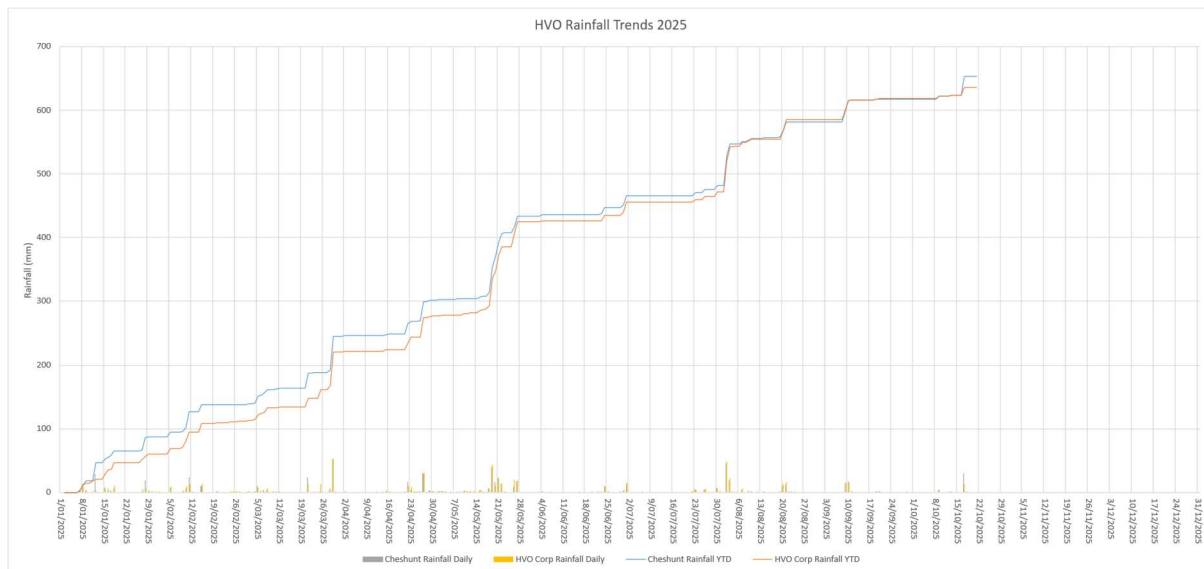


Figure 2: Summary of 2025 HVO Rainfall Data

Table 2: Summary of 2025 HVO Rainfall Data (up till 21 October)

| Month | Monthly Total Rainfall (mm) | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | Cheshunt | HVO Corporate |
| Jan-25 | 87.6 | 60.0 |
| Feb-25 | 50.2 | 52.4 |
| Mar-25 | 107.0 | 108.0 |
| Apr-25 | 57.2 | 56.2 |
| May-25 | 131.4 | 148.0 |
| Jun-25 | 17.8 | 15.4 |
| Jul-25 | 30.8 | 32.2 |
| Aug-25 | 99.8 | 113.2 |
| Sep-25 | 36.0 | 32.8 |
| Oct-25 | 35.6 | 17.6 |
| Nov-25 | | |
| Dec-25 | | |
| Total | 653.4 | 635.8 |

4.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

Round Two of the 2025 HVO Community Grant Programme closed on 30 September. In summary:

- Twenty-three (23) applications were received via SmartyGrants from:
 - Singleton, Muswellbrook, Maitland and Cessnock LGAs, as well as multiple regional-scale projects
 - Sporting, education, first nations, arts, religious and other charitable organisations
- Assessment of successful recipients currently underway
- Announcement of recipients to follow assessment

5.0 Environmental Monitoring Documents

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring uploaded to the HVO website since the last meeting (<https://www.hvo.com.au/documents>) include:

- Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data – July 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data – July 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report – May 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report – June 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report – July 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report – August 2025

6.0 Environmental and Related Documents

Environmental documents uploaded to the HVO website since the last meeting (<https://www.hvo.com.au/documents>) include:

- Hunter Valley Operations Community Complaints Register – up till September 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Minutes – May 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Agenda – August 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Business Papers – August 2025
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Presentation – August 2025