Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee

Business Papers – November 2019

Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on 20 November 2019

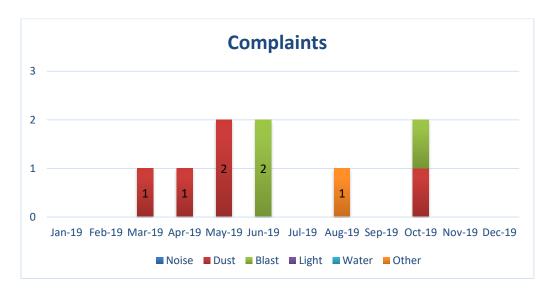
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1.0 Complaints

Complaints overview for 2019



Complaint details 2019 YTD

Date	Time	Туре	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance?
6/03/2019	18:58	Dust	Location not disclosed	Complaint received from duty EPA Officer who advised that a complaint had been received about HVO in relation to dust with the location described as being nearby to HVO. Dust levels were high throughout the Hunter region on the day. A number of actions were taken by HVO to mitigate dust including working lower in the pit, equipment shutdown and postponing a blast. In the late afternoon light rain fell and wind changed direction, blowing from the SE.	EPA	No
29/4/2019	11:44	Dust	Maison Dieu	Complainant stated that they had received an automated SMS notification from the OEH in regards to dust readings from the Upper Hunter Air Quality monitor at Maison Dieu which had recorded 104.2 ug/m3 at 10am. The complainant had requested information in regards to what HVO were doing to manage dust. A follow up call was made at 13:07 by HVO with details of current dust management practices on site and explained that wind direction placed the monitor upwind of HVO. The Environment and Community Officer also explained that hazard reduction burns were taking place in the area and the smoke would impact the monitors as identified on the OEH website.	Community member	No
27/5/2019	10.33	Air Quality	Gouldsville	An email was received via the EPA at 11.20am regarding a complaint received from a resident at Long Point Road, Gouldsville. The complainant mentioned extremely dusty conditions observed on Sunday 26 May and during the morning of Monday 27 May. HVO had enacted its TARP due to strong winds prior to the complaint. Only one excavator and a few trucks were hauling coal and rejects in Pit 1 with no equipment operating in Pit 2 since 9.00-9.30am on the morning of the complaint. In addition, five water trucks were in circulation in South Pit. A blast scheduled for 1pm was also postponed for the next day.	ЕРА	No

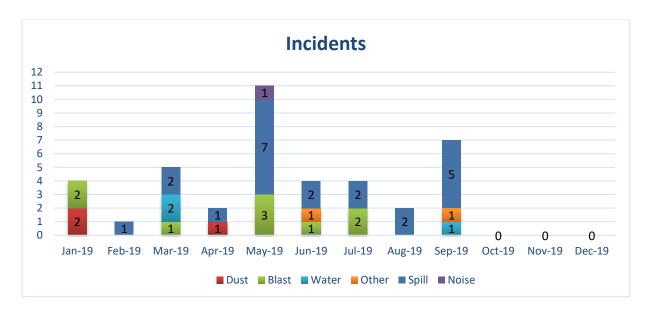
Date	Time	Туре	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance?
27/5/2019	11.10	Air Quality	Lemington	A complaint was received by a motorist about high levels of dust on Lemington Road at about 10.30am. The Environment and Community Officer spoke to the complainant at 11.30am. A dust inspection was conducted following the complaint at 11.35am from Lemington Road whereby no dust was observed to be coming from the West Pit over Lemington Road. HVO had enacted its TARP at 9.30am due to strong winds prior to the complaint. Earlier dust inspections had been conducted at West Pit whereby no significant dust was observed emanating from the pit.	Community Member	No
7/6/2019	12.45	Blast Fume		The Department of Planning (DP&E) and Environment received a complaint in relation to blast fume at HVO for a blast that occurred on 6 June. The blast was fired from West Pit at approximately 13:10 and produced fume that was ranked 3B. The blast plume was observed to disperse over mine land. The DPE advised they could not disclose complainant details therefore the complainant could not be contacted for follow up by HVO.	DP&E	No
26/6/2019	15:03	Blast Dust		A complainant called the HVO public telephone number to complain about dust being emitted from the mine and covering their property following a blast at Riverview Pit at 2.48pm. Video footage indicated a visible dust plume crossed the mine boundary however it was dispersing as it tracked westwards. Video footage was insufficient to track the dust plumes path offsite however based on wind direction at the time, it is possible the dust plume would have travelled in the general direction of the resident who is located approximately 4km from the blast. The dust plume is likely to have dissipated over this distance. Blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions which indicated acceptable wind speed and direction (4.9 m/s @ 128°).	Community Member	No

Date	Time	Туре	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance?
12/8/2019	17:00	Gate left unlocke d	Jerrys Plains	Complaint regarding a gate being left unlocked into the Travelling Stock Route (TSR) adjacent to HVO's Riverview pit. The complaint was made by the licensee who grazes cattle inside the area who was concerned about cattle escaping via the unlocked gate. HVO have a licence to access the TSR to conduct pre- blast clearances. The complainant advised that the gate had been left unlocked multiple times and had now removed HVO's lock to prevent this occurring again. HVO Environment and Community Manager contacted the complainant to understand concerns and made assurances that HVO would rectify the situation. As result of this complaint, on all future blasts where the TSR is in the exclusion zone, a picture is taken as proof of the locked gate (following a sweep of the TSR) and forwarded to the Environment and Community Manager.	Community Member	N/A
4/10/2019	11:20	Air Quality		The complainant called concerned about dust coming from HVO and blowing onto their property at Maison Dieu. In response the Environment and Community Officer called the Mining Supervisor to conduct a field inspection of the Cheshunt Pit who confirmed that four water carts were in circulation. In addition, two shovels and an excavator at Cheshunt stopped operating and the proposed blast at 1pm at Riverview had been postponed. A review of environmental alarms showed that a dust alarm was received at the Maison Dieu dust monitor at 11.00am (20 minutes prior to the complaint) after which all OCE's on shift were notified and all shovels and excavators were dumping in-pit with no visible dust observed coming from HVO. A further dust alarm was received at 11.10am with dispatch noting again that all loading units continued to dump in-pit. There was some rehabilitation work working on the top dumps but with water carts in were circulation in this area.	Community Member	No

Date	Time	Туре	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance?
30/10/2019	17:02	Air Quality	Maison Dieu	A complaint was received from regarding odour from a blast fired in Cheshunt Pit at 4:39 pm. The Environment and Community Manager called the complainant at 5:17pm who advised he could smell a blast fume and observed a dust plume passing across the Maison Dieu river flats at approx. 5.00pm. The complainant noted the main concern was in regards to odour and that the dust plume was not that large. The odour and plume had dissipated at the time of the phone call. The Environment and Community Manager advised that HVO had waited for most favourable wind conditions and fired within blasting permissions. The approximate wind direction at the time of shot was W to WNW with wind speed approximately 3 m/s but within HVO's blasting permission for wind speed (<6 m/s). Minor fume was noted and ranked as a 1A fume event. There was an isolated spike in dust from 4:59 pm on the Maison Dieu dust monitor but did not contribute significantly to 24 hr measurement due to regionally elevated dust levels. A pre-blast risk assessment was undertaken by the Environment and Community Team and the Production Manager due to elevated dust levels. The potential risks were deemed not to result in non-compliance with licence conditions or the HVO air quality management plan if the blast was fired within blasting permissions.	Community Member	N

2.0 Incidents

Incident overview for 2019 YTD



Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
2/1/2019	Category 3B fume West Pit North LED Blast WN45LED01A was fired at 13:10 and produced fume ranked as 3B which did not leave site.	An internal investigation found that the shot was fired in the reverse order (fired from the bottom up). Corrective actions to prevent reoccurrence in the blast design were developed and communicated.	Blasting
3/1/2019	Faulty timer on High Volume Air Sampler The Hunter Valley Glider Club High Volume Air Sampler (PM10) was identified as faulty by a contractor and had only run approximately 2 hours over the 24 hour sample time producing an invalid sample for the scheduled run day. The timer was identified to be faulty.	The timer was replaced as well as the installation of a temporary replacement unit to cover the repair period of the permanent unit. A review of HVAS timers on site was undertaken and timers replaced on all HVAS units to prevent a re-occurrence of this issue.	Dust
10/1/2019	Blast capture near miss at Jerrys Plains Village blast monitor The environmental monitoring contractor notified HVO Environment Department at 12.30pm to communicate that the Jerrys Plains Village Blast Monitor was offline (due to the failure of the GPS affecting the time stamp. The contractor was reminded that a blast was being fired at 1pm (30 minutes later) and that the issue needed to be resolved prior to the shot being fired to avoid a miscapture of data at this monitor. Attempts were made at 12.50pm to contact the contractor to ascertain the status of the issue however he was not answering his phone. The Drill & Blast Supervisor was also called to advise him of the status of the monitor but could also not be reached. The two shots were fired successfully and both sets of data were captured, however at the time it appeared that the Jerrys Plains blast monitor was offline.	The battery was changed out on the day of the incident and on the following day (11 January), all blast monitor batteries were checked. It was subsequently found that a firmware issue affected the monitoring networks time syncing which was rectified with a software update.	Blasting
26/1/2019	Warkworth PM10 monitor failure to run The Warkworth PM10 High Volume Air Sampler unit was identified to have no power supply as it had tripped at the breaker in the local supply box. The PM10 unit returned a blockage error and could not run for one sample cycle.	A hire unit was calibrated and installed to temporarily replace the faulty unit and the faulty unit was removed and sent for repairs.	Dust
2/2/2019	Blown hydraulic line at the Hunter Valley Load Point A Hydraulic hose blew out and caused a loss of oil onto the rail tracks and bin at the load point.	Spill kits were used to contain and clean up the oil spill and the remainder of oily water was captured in the sump and cleaned out. The spill kits were replenished and the hose replaced.	Hydrocarbon

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
2/3/2019	Truck 712 engine failure oil spill Truck 712 was driving up a pit ramp when the engine failed and dropped its oil on the ramp (approximately 200L).	The operator stopped the job and reported incident to supervisor. The area was contained and cleaned up once the truck was removed from the area. The contaminated material was delivered to the Lemington (HVO South) Bio-remediation area.	Hydrocarbon
18/3/2019	Turbid water entering Farrells Creek from East TSF rehabilitation area At approximately 14:00 on the 18 March, it was reported to the Environment and Community Coordinator by a sampling contractor that turbid water was identified in Farrell's Creek downstream from HVO. This followed 47.2mm of rainfall received over the weekend of 16th, 17th & 18th (up until 0700) March 2019	HVO conducted inspections and determined that a source of turbid water from HVO was due to rainfall runoff entraining sediment from an old rehabilitation slope. Water samples were taken, erosion and sediment controls put in place and PIRMP activated and relevant authorities notified. Rehabilitation work has been undertaken to repair erosion and redirect runoff water to a dam. Under investigation by EPA and NSW Resource Regulator	Water Management
19/3/2019	Category 3C blast fume event At 13:00, a blast in West Pit was fired and produced a Category 3C fume event. The blast plume was observed to move in the direction of Ravensworth Open Cut before dispersing over mine land.	An additional check has been added to the Pre-blasting Environmental Checklist to review the weather forecast 48 hours in advance to reduce potential for blasting shots that have been exposed to rainfall producing fume.	Blasting
28/3/2019	Excavator 306 leaking hydraulic hose The operator of 306 excavator noticed a hydraulic leak under the machine caused by a failed hydraulic hose in pit.	The operator stopped operation and reported to supervisor. The spill was contained and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon
30/3/2019	Turbid water entered Farrells Creek from two dams Turbid water entered Farrells Creek due to heavy rainfall (66 mm) causing the overflow of two dams. Neither dam was mine affected but contained turbid water from surface runoff. The rainfall event exceeded the design capacity used for construction of sediment dams.	PIRMP was activated and other regulatory notifications were made. Pumps were used to lower dam levels and water sampling undertaken. No indication was found of environmental impact.	Water Management
18/4/2019	Hydraulic fluid spill from hydraulic line of Excavator 316 During operation of Excavator 316 the return line coupling to the hydraulic tank has failed, resulting in an approximate 500 L spill of hydraulic fluid in pit.	The spill was contained and cleaned up and contaminated material delivered to the south bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
25/4/2019	HVGC PM10 monitor mis-capture The E&C team were notified by the Hunter Valley Gliding Club that the PM10 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) at the site had been damaged by activities occurring at the club, subsequently resulting in the sample not being captured on 26 April 2019 in accordance with the Air Quality Monitoring Programme.	The power lead was removed from the unit on Friday 26 April for repair and returned to the unit on 30 April. The Department of Planning and Environment were notified once the missed sample was confirmed.	Dust

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
2/5/2019	Hydraulic hose leak on Loader 652 During operation a hydraulic hose blew on Loader 652 at the ROM Reject pad resulting in a spill of approximately 50L.	Loader 652 was shut down immediately and the spill contained, controlled and cleaned up and the contaminated material delivered to north bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
5/5/2019	Oil spill from make-up valve on Excavator 311 During operation of Excavator 311 the make-up relief valve cap unscrewed resulting in a spill of approximately 300L.	The excavator was shutdown immediately, the spill contained, cleaned up and the contaminated material delivered to the south bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
7/5/2019	HVO South noise exceedance During attended noise monitoring, an exceedance of the LAeq 15min Impact Assessment Criteria (39dB(A) was measured at the Maison Dieu Noise monitoring location. This resulted in an LAeq of 42dB(A) which included a +2dB penalty applied due to low frequency noise The source of the noise was made up of engine/exhaust and equipment fan noise.	The noise monitoring contractor contacted Dispatch to advise of the exceedance whereby Loading units 312, 311 & 340 where shut down or sent to crib in response. In accordance with the Noise Management Plan, a follow up measurement was undertaken within 75 minutes resulting in compliant noise levels. The measurement is deemed compliant in accordance with the Noise Management Plan.	Noise
9/5/2019	Level 3 Blast fume A blast from West Pit North was fired at 13:10 and produced fume ranked as 3 which did not leave site. The investigation found that a heavy rain event over multiple days prior to the blast (the site weather station recorded 7.6mm and 3.2mm on the 3rd and 4th May respectively prior to the shot on the 9th May), resulted in elevated levels of fume when the shot was fired.	Recommendations for preventing a re- occurrence include avoiding sleeping blasts across rain events, capturing environmental forecasts and these impacts on current loading and potential product changes and adding delayed shots to the pre blast checklist.	Fume
11/5/2019	Newdell coal stockpile dozer oil leak Operator was pushing up stockpile coal and while reversing, noticed approximately 30L of oil on the coal that was being worked on.	The dozer was parked up and the supervisor notified and all oil was contained on the stockpile.	Hydrocarbon
12/5/2019	Hydraulic hose leak on Loader 652 During operation, a hydraulic steering hose blew on Loader 652 at the ROM Reject pad resulting in a spill of approximately 200L.	Loader 652 was shut down immediately, the spill contained, cleaned up and the contaminated material delivered to the north bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
15/5/2019	Hydraulic filter failure on Drill 221 During drilling activities in West Pit, the operator was attaching the second rod to continue drilling when hydraulic oil was identified to be leaking onto the ground. The spill was estimated to be approximately 300L.	The drill was shut down and the spill was contained.	Hydrocarbon
15/5/2019	Truck 467 steering oil leak Truck 467 was leaving the loading area, when the operator realised the truck had lost steering. An inspection identified that the steering oil line had been damaged and spilled approximately 40L of oil on the bench.	The operator shutdown the truck and the incident reported incident to supervisor.	Hydrocarbon

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
23/5/2019	Blast overpressure exceedance <120dB(L) A blast from the Riverview pit was fired at approximately 13:14 which recorded an overpressure result of 116.72 dB(L) at the Moses Crossing Blast Monitor. HVO is permitted 5% of blasts measure above 115dB(L).	An investigation found that the overpressure recording was due to a suspected hole with shorter stemming height than designed. An Overpressure validation was undertaken to confirm the result.	Blasting
23/5/2019	Truck 416 fuel overflow at in-pit fuel bay During refuelling at the 1580 fuel farm, the operator has overflowed the fuel tank causing a spill of approximately 30L within the bunded area.	The spill was contained and cleaned up using contents of a nearby spill kit.	Hydrocarbon
28/5/2019	Potential blast overpressure exceedance >120dB(L) A blast from Cheshunt was fired at approximately 9:25 am resulting in an overpressure result of 125.69dB(L) at the Maison Dieu Blast Monitor.	HVO engaged two specialist blast engineers to review the blast result and investigate the cause. Both engineers concluded that the elevated measurement recorded at Maison Dieu was an anomaly compared with other monitors in the network. On the basis of available data, both assessments indicate a likely overpressure level due to the blast alone would be less than 120 dB(L). Wind gusts are thought to have contributed to the measured exceedance. - Investigate siting of the monitor and shielding of microphones on the Maison Dieu blast monitor - Risk assessing the use of short inter-hole delays when blasting a free-face.	Blasting
5/6/2019	Hydraulic hose leak on excavator 311 During operation a hydraulic hose blew on Excavator 311 in Cheshunt Pit resulting in a spill of approximately 40L.	authorities and an incident report provided. Excavator 311 was shut down immediately, and the spill contained, controlled, cleaned up with the contaminated material delivered to south bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
6/6/2019	Blast fume 3B A blast was fired in West Pit at approximately 13:10 and produced fume that was ranked 3B. The blast plume was observed to disperse over mine land. An investigation of the blast by an external consultant found that blasting at a depth greater than 25m, with strip widths greater than 90m; using heavy ANFO blends in relatively weak coal overburden in damp or wet conditions were the reasons for the generation of fume.	Recommendations for preventing a re- occurrence include avoiding sleeping blasts across rain events, capturing environmental forecasts and these impacts on current loading and potential product changes and adding delayed shots to the pre blast checklist.	Fume
13/6/2019	Signposts installed on council land It was identified that signposts had been installed on council land without approval and without a ground disturbance permit.	An application was submitted for a Sect 138 permit from Singleton Council which was approved on 24 June 2019.	Approvals

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
14/6/2019	Fuel tank leak from truck 413 During an inspection of Truck 413, the operator identified a leak in the fuel tank that was spilling fuel onto ground in a bunded area of the crib hut in West Pit resulting in a spill of approximately 400L of diesel.	Maintenance were called who isolated the flow and the truck was removed from the area for repair. The contaminated material was contained and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon
15/6/2019	Steering hose leak on truck 472 During operation a steering hose blew on Truck 472 in West Pit resulting in a spill of approximately 500L.	The truck was shut down immediately and the spill contained, controlled and cleaned up and the contaminated material delivered to the north bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
1/7/2019	Blast overpressure exceedance <120dB(L) Cheshunt blast P120BAC03A was fired at approximately 15:10 recording an overpressure result of 118 dB(L) at the Warkworth blast monitor. HVO is permitted 5% of blasts measure above 115dB(L).	An overpressure validation was undertaken to confirm the result.	Blasting
18/7/2019	Blast overpressure exceedance <120dB(L) West Pit blast WN45LPG03A was fired at approximately 13:20 recording an overpressure result of 115.92 dB(L) at the Maison Dieu blast monitor. HVO is permitted 5% of blasts measure above 115b dB(L).	The enhanced overpressure result is was found to be due to the wind speed localised to the monitor. An overpressure validation was undertaken to confirm the result.	Blasting
20/07/2019	Blown hydraulic hose on Truck 410 During an inspection of Truck 410, the operator identified an oil leak of approximately 50L from a blown hydraulic line at the HVO coal loop.	Maintenance isolated the flow and Truck 410 was removed. The spill was contained and area isolated.	Hydrocarbon
22/7/2019	Blown hydraulic hose on fuel cart 985 Whilst refuelling Excavator 312, Fuel Cart 985 blew a hydraulic hose in pit at HVO South, resulting in a spill of approximately 30L.	The fuel cart was isolated and the contaminated material delivered to south bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
3/8/2019	Blown hose on Loader 610 While working on a drill preparation area, Loader 610 blew a hose spilling approximately 50L of oil to the ground.	Oil was contained and contaminated material cleaned up with a scraper and sent to the HVO South bioremediation area	Hydrocarbon
22/8/2019	Fuel spill at Howick fuel bay During re-fuelling of Water Cart 840 at Howick fuel bay, the re fuelling gun failed to shut off, causing 30L of fuel to spray out of the fuel tank breather onto the concrete pad of the fuel bay.	The contents of the spill reported to the oily water separator and was therefore contained.	Hydrocarbon
1/9/2019	Fuel leak at North Fuel Farm An o-ring from a new filter was pushed out and caused approximately 2000L of diesel to leak within the fuel tank bund. All diesel was contained	The leak was isolated, diesel recovered and bund cleaned.	Hydrocarbon
11/9/2019	Oil leak at North Fuel Farm A failed flange gasket on 60W oil line caused approximately 100L of oil to leak at the northern fence of 1004 hydrocarbon facility. The leak was contained within the catchment for the trade waste system.	The leak was isolated, contained and repaired.	Hydrocarbon

12/9/2019	Oil leak at North Warehouse	The leak was isolated, contained and	Hydrocarbon
	A second failed gasket on the 60W oil line caused	repaired. The oil supply to workshop was	,
	approximately 100L of oil to leak on the walkway	isolated in the interim and an inspection /	
	between the North Warehouse and the Light	replacement of all other flanges and gaskets	
	Vehicle Fuel Bowser. The leak was contained	was undertaken.	
	within the catchment for the trade waste system.		
13/9/2019	Spontaneous Combustion on Coal Stockpile	The HVO Geology Department was notified	Spontaneous
	A small amount of Spontaneous Combustion was	who reported this incident to the	Combustion
	found on the coal stockpile in Carrington LOOP 2	Department of Primary Industries. The area	Combastion
	when the loader was sorting potential hot coal out	was delineated, inspected and surveyed with	
	from the stockpile.	a thermal drone. A risk assessment was put in	
		place to manage the affected areas and a coal	
		plan implemented to feed the effected coal	
		through the plant.	
20/9/2019	Oil leak at Newdell Train Load Out	The area barricaded off and the oil spill was	Hydrocarbon
	A hydraulic hose on a contractors coal haulage	contained and cleaned up.	•
	truck failed resulting in approximately 10-15L of oil		
	leaking onto the clean coal pad.		
26/9/2019	Conveyor wash down water leak at Newdell	The water source had ceased upon	Water
	Water from conveyor wash down task was found	inspection and was contained and cleaned	
	pooling beside a HVO owned section of Pikes Gully	up.	
	Road at Newdell load point.		
29/9/2019	Oil leak in HVO South Pit	The area was bunded to contain the spill and	Hydrocarbon
	A hydraulic oil filter cover came off haul truck 703	cleaned up.	,
	allowing approximately 30L of oil to drain from the		
	hydraulic tank onto the ground surface in pit.		

3.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

In September, HVO opened Round Two of the 2019 Community Grants Program and called for local community groups and organisations to apply for funding. A number of local organisations were successful in obtaining funds totalling \$41,000 and these were:

- Singleton Council
- Singleton Tri Club
- Hunter Wayila
- Singleton Rugby Club
- Jerrys Plains School of Arts Hall
- · Country Women's Association
- Singleton Australian Football Club
- Australian Stock Horse Society Eastern Branch
- St Catherine's Catholic College
- Early Links Inclusion Support Service
- Singleton Girl Guides
- Australian Christian College

Community Information Sessions are to be held on Thursday 7 November at the Jerrys Plains Community Hall and on Saturday 9 November at Maison Dieu.

4.0 Environmental monitoring

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring; July – September 2019.

July 2019

Attached as **Appendix A**

August 2019

Attached as **Appendix B**

September 2019

Attached as **Appendix C**

5.0 Environmental Documents

Environmental documents uploaded to the HVO Insite website since the last meeting (https://insite.hvo.com.au/)

20/08/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data July 2019
22/08/2019	HVO Community Consultative Committee Minutes May 2019
22/08/2019	HVO Community Consultative Committee Business Papers August 2019
23/08/2019	HVO Community Consultative Committee Presentation August 2019
29/08/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environmental Monitoring Report July 2019
30/08/2019	Community Complaints Register 2019
02/09/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Topsoil Audit Report August 2019
09/09/2019	Hunter Valley Operations North Heritage Management Plan
12/09/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan
12/09/2019	Hunter Valley Operations - HVO News - Issue 3 - August 2019
17/09/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data August 2019
09/10/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data September 2019
16/10/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environmental Monitoring Report August 2019
05/11/2019	Hunter Valley Operations Environmental Monitoring Report September 2019