

Hunter Valley Operations

Community Consultative Committee

Business Papers – November 2022

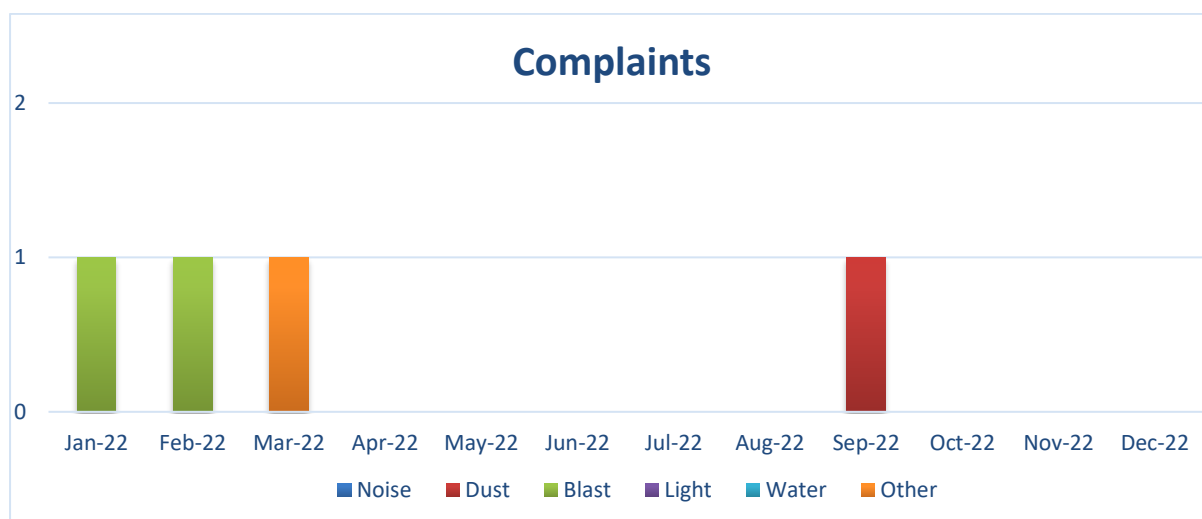
Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on **2 November 2022**

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1.0 Complaints

Four complaints have been received year to date in 2022, complaint details are provided below. One complaint has been received since the last meeting in August.

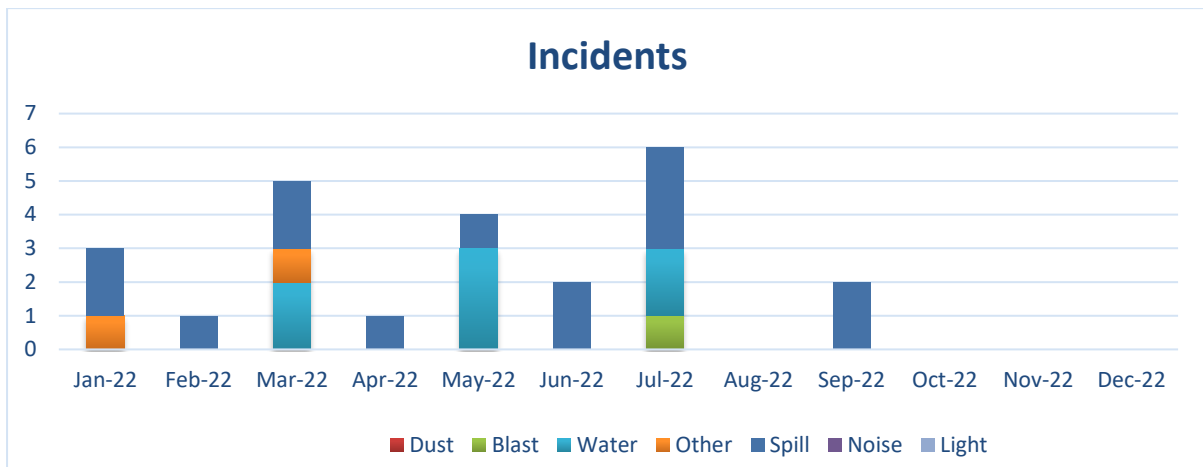


Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
5 January	1.24pm	Blast	Jerry's Plains	A resident from Jerrys Plains called the Community Hotline at 1.24pm to mention that a blast fired at approximately 1:06pm was noisy and sounded like lightning had struck their house and that the windows rattled. The Environment and Community Officer contacted the resident and confirmed that HVO fired a shot at 1.06pm from Cheshunt Pit 2. The recorded overpressure and ground vibration levels for the Jerrys Plains blast monitor were 108.39 dB and 0.04mm/s which are under compliance levels of 120dB and 10mm/s.	Phone call to Community Hotline	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
11 February	1.05pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	A resident from Maison Dieu sent an SMS to the Environment and Community Officer at 1.05pm asking to record a complaint due to noise and movement from a blast at ~1pm. The complaint followed two successive blasts in Cheshunt Pit 2. The Environment and Community Officer confirmed HVO blast firing times aligned with the complaint and called the resident. The resident noted that “vibration and sound was the main issue, the blast shook the whole house, it was a long blast and its blasts like this one that create movement in the house and damage”. Maison Dieu is the closest monitor to the property and recorded low overpressure and vibration (94.75 dBL and 0.08 mm/s) – this is the highest vibration reading of the two shots fired. No anomalies were observed with the blast, however elevated noise was possible due to it being a shallow parting shot (holes less than 2m). Wind was ~3 m/s from the south east, blowing away from the residence.	SMS to Environment and Community Officer	No
19 March	7.35pm	Other	Golden Highway	<p>A member of the public (who wished to remain anonymous) stated that they were driving along the Golden Highway near the secondary entrance to HVO South, when a car pulled out behind the complainant and tail gated the driver. The complainant reported that the rear driver sped past them (near the roadworks at Warkworth) and cracked the car windscreen of the car which was brand new. The care details were provided to HVO. They identified the driver to be wearing orange high visibility clothing.</p> <p>A search was conducted of HVO carparks in days following the complaint however the vehicle was not able to be identified.</p> <p>A presentation slide about safe driving practices when traveling to and from HVO was communicated to employees and contractors.</p>	Phone call to Community Hotline	N/A

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
19 September	1.02pm	Blast Dust	Long Point	<p>A resident of Long Point called the Community Complaints Hotline at 1.02pm regarding a dust complaint. The complaint followed blasting in Cheshunt Pit 2.</p> <p>The resident was called back by the Environment and Community Officer at 1.03pm to ascertain the details relating to the complaint. The resident was annoyed and felt that it was unacceptable for HVO to be blasting given the windy conditions at the time and that the dust was bad for the environment.</p> <p>A review of camera footage of the blasts fired at 12.52 and 12.53 pm confirmed that a dust plume was produced and started dispersing once leaving the pit crest. The wind speed was ~8 m/s at 12:50pm and wind direction was 292°. The resident's property is approximately 8 kilometres from the blast location at a bearing of ~295°. As there are no near neighbours between the bearings of 280 and 311° the maximum permitted wind speed for firing the blast was 9 m/s. The nearest real-time PM 10 monitors are located downstream of the blast but on either side of the wind bearing and levels did not spike following the blast. A high volume air sampler is located within 150 m of their residence and was monitoring particulates during the blast. Results from filter paper from the monitor were received in early October which indicated no exceedance on the run day of the monitor which was also the date of the complaint.</p> <p>The blasting permissions for wind directions between 280 and 311° are under review to ascertain an appropriate wind speed restriction for blasts in Cheshunt.</p>	Phone call to Community Hotline	N/A

2.0 Incidents



Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
01/01/2022	<p>Exceedance of annual criteria - depositional dust, Warkworth</p> <p>The 2021 annual average depositional dust at the Warkworth dust gauge was 6.95 g/m²/month which exceeded the consent criteria of 4 g/m²/month.</p>	<p>The exceedance was reported to DPE, investigated and included in the 2021 Annual Review.</p> <p>The investigation determined that HVO North could have only provided a minor contribution to the exceedance (up to 0.5g/m²/month) which is attributable to local sources of particulate near the monitor.</p>	Air Quality
01/01/2022	<p>Exceedance of annual criteria – TSP, Warkworth</p> <p>The 2021 annual average level at the Warkworth TSP monitor was 94.59ug/m³ which exceeded the consent criteria of 90ug/m³.</p>	<p>The exceedance was reported to DPE, investigated and included in the 2021 Annual Review.</p> <p>The investigation concluded that HVO South's contribution of up to 32 µg/m³ was not the primary cause of the exceedance. Highly localised sources of particulate is likely to be the primary source of elevated levels.</p>	Air Quality

01/01/2022	<p>Exceedence of annual criteria PM 2.5 Maison Dieu The 2021 annual average PM2.5 level at the Maison Dieu HVAS was 9.57 ug/m3 which exceeded the consent criteria of 8ug/m3.</p>	<p>The exceedance was reported to DPE, investigated and included in the 2021 Annual Review.</p> <p>While HVO's contribution is not calculated to be significant, the elevated total levels are considered to be anomalous. Cause of elevated PM2.5 levels recorded have been investigated throughout 2021.</p> <p>These investigations have not been conclusive. It is believed that the source of the errors is due to the high-volume air sampler monitoring method. HVO have engaged an air quality consultant to review the air quality monitoring network. This review has recommended the implementation of real-time PM2.5 monitoring at Maison Dieu and Kilburnie South.</p>	Air Quality
11/01/2022	<p>Diesel leak on ground below pump 881 at Lake James While inspecting water levels and pumping activities at Lake James through the camera, a fuel leak was identified on the ground below the quick fill point on pump 881 was identified. The spill volume was estimated to be 50 L.</p>	<p>An inspection of the pump and area were completed and an absorbent boom and peat-sorb were used to contain and prevent any further spillage from the pump. The contaminated soil was subsequently excavated and diesel pump removed and replaced with an electric pump.</p>	Hydrocarbon
14/01/2022	<p>Carrington haul road windrow material pushed into rehabilitation area Whilst drainage maintenance along Carrington Haul Rd, it was observed that overburden material from the windrow had been pushed into a rehabilitation area without GDP approval. The area is classed as rehabilitated land and the incident resulted in approximately 0.1 ha of disturbance.</p>	<p>An investigation found that the cause of the incident was due to a misunderstanding of site GDP procedural requirements. A communication was issued across site to increase awareness of adjacent rehabilitation areas and GDP requirements. Remediation works for the area are currently being assessed.</p>	Other

20/01/2022	Excavator 310 – oil leak Approximately 20 litres of hydraulic oil spilled from Excavator 310 in pit due to a hydraulic hose failure.	The spill was banded and removed to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
28/02/2022	Hydraulic hose leak from coal haulage truck Truck 1393 has opened the side door then attempted to tilt / roll body of trailer. The trailer failed to tilt and on investigation found the hose had failed spilling approximately 40 litres of oil to ground.	The spill has occurred on the concrete pad of the bin and was contained and the material taken back to the CHPP to be reprocessed	Hydrocarbon
22/03/2022	Hydraulic oil spill from Excavator 316 An estimated 7000L of hydraulic oil spilled in pit due to impact on hydraulic hoses as a result of the excavator bogging in soft ground.	Following recovery of the excavator a number of truckloads of contaminated spoil were removed to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon Cat 2
08/03/2022	Dam 2N, 35S, 39S and 15N overflow event. During consecutive rain days between 6 and 9 March 2022, HVO recorded 141.2mm and 141.6mm of rainfall at its North and South weather stations respectively. The rainfall recorded significantly exceeded the design rainfall depth for sediment dams 2N, 35S and 39S and exceeded the capacity of mine stormwater containment Dam 15N.	The incident was notified to DPE, EPA and Resource Regulator. HVO deemed that the incident would not have caused environmental harm.	Water
23/03/2022	Coal haulage truck oil leak on Pikes Gully Road The hydraulic supply line ruptured between the hydraulic tank and a trailer on A double 1394.	The oil at the Newdell receival pad was cleaned up. In addition, an action has been raised with the contractor to conduct a hydraulic hose audit on their trucks and implement recommendations.	Hydrocarbon
28/03/2022	Dam 32N (Coffeys) overflow event During March, HVO recorded between 256.2mm and 265.6mm of rainfall at its North and South weather stations respectively. The rainfall recorded exceeded the capacity of the mine stormwater containment Dam 32N (Coffeys Dam) resulting in it spilling to Bayswater Creek at the HVLP.	The incident was reported to DPE, EPA and the Resources Regulator. A pump was installed to dewater to the Ravensworth CHPP. Despite being classified as a mine-water dam the water spilling was of fresh quality due to the majority of the catchment area being undisturbed.	Water
30/03/2022	Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion overflowed from a tank inspection hatch to concrete pad	The spill occurred during a “high-level cut-out” test and related to the parameters used. The spill was cleaned up immediately.	Chemical

	The crew found ~ 50kg of ANE had overflowed from the tank inspection hatch onto the ground below.		
20/4/2022	Fuel Hose on Lube Cart 983 leaked fuel The fuel hose on Lube Cart 983 was incorrectly fitted causing the engine to fill with fuel which overflowed onto the ground at the south pit Auger Ramp. The spill was approximately 20 litres.	Material not able to be recovered.	Hydrocarbon
5/5/2022	Damaged pipework near high voltage substation at the Train Load Out While completing environmental checks at Hunter Valley Load Point a water leak was noticed near the HVLP road to the High Voltage switchyard. An estimated 5000L leaked from a pipe identified being fed from the sediment basin to Dam 33N. The majority of the water drained back towards the HVLP infrastructure with a small portion (less than 1000L) reporting to a drain that enters a clean water catchment to Bayswater Creek. There was no evidence of the water entering Bayswater Creek.	Both electric pumps and a diesel pump which feed the line were immediately isolated with notifications made to the area Superintendent and to the Environment and Community Team. The leak was caused by a skid-steer loader contacting the pipeline while undertaking roadworks the day prior. The contractor undertaking the works considered the pipeline to be redundant and did not report to HVO. The pipeline has since been repaired and further works are planned to delineate buried pipe and regrade road drainage.	Water
16/5/2022	Blocked drain causing return water to flow down roadway A blocked drain at the CHPP caused return mine water to flow along the road instead of reporting to Dam 16N. Exact volume is unknown but likely to be greater than 50kL.	The source of the water was isolated and the drain desilted and reinstated. The drain between the clean and mine water catchment areas was also desilted and an additional rollover bund installed to provide additional containment.	Water
19/5/2022	Water leak from a pipeline at the Train Load Out A low flow of water of approximately 1L/s was observed to be draining along the rail corridor in dry weather. The flow was traced back the Train Load Out where water was observed to be flowing out from underneath a concrete pad from a damaged firewater line. The flow of water was traced back along the rail corridor approximately 800m to a culvert leading to Bayswater Creek. On inspection of the culvert, it was deemed that volume of outflow was negligible and was observed to stop prior to entering Bayswater Creek.	The firewater line was isolated turned off until repairs are able to be made to the pipeline. Investigation is ongoing to determine if further works are required to relocate the pipeline and segregate drainage.	Water

19/5/2022	Oil spill in the service bay A hose had been left in the open position and had filled up the drain tray until it overflowed onto the floor at the north workshop service bay spilling approximately 220 L of oil.	The valve was closed off and the spill contained and cleaned up using a spill kit.	Hydrocarbon
5/6/2022	Oil spill from service cart hydraulic hose While the Service Cart was refilling a Haul Truck it was noticed that oil was leaking from the top of the machine. The estimated volume of oil lost to the ground was 30 litres	The machine was immediately stopped, and the area was banded to prevent oil spreading. which was cleaned up with absorbent matting.	Hydrocarbon
11/6/2022	Truck hydraulic hose failure Truck 482 had a hydraulic hose failure when travelling along Cooks Rd and over the Hunter River Bridge. The hydraulic fluid tank has emptied approximately 900 litres of hydraulic oil on to the haul road and across the Hunter River bridge toward the centre crib hut.	The Hunter River Bridge was closed to inspect the extent of the oil leak. No oil was spilled to the surrounding environment with all oil contained on the bridge and haul roads. Absorbent material was used to clean up the oil and then taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
2/7/2022	Fume event – Level 3B A level 3B fume event was recorded following the blast fired at MIT2ULD02/03 pattern at West Pit. The event was reported to the Blasting Supervisor and an external consultant engaged to investigate the cause of the fume	which was found to be blasting product loaded into a blasthole containing water, water movement between blastholes and the alteration of ground conditions during the initiation of the blast, potentially impacting either / or the sensitivity of the bulk products and the critical diameter of the bulk products. The fume remained onsite.	Blast Fume
4/7/2022	Sediment Dam 2N overflow Sediment Dam (2N) overtopped to Farrells Creek following continued rainfall in the preceding days. Rainfall volume exceeded the dam design capacity.	The dam was being pumped out at the time and continued to operate until the level reduced below the spillway and water quality samples were collected. Due to the fresh quality of the water and excessive rainfall in the local catchment there was no potential for environmental harm. Notifications were sent to DPE, DPE - Water, EPA and the Resource Regulator.	The dams were pumped out to drawdown water levels and water quality samples were collected. Notifications were sent to DPE, DPE - Water, EPA and the Resource Regulator.
6/7/2022	Dam 35S, 39S and 15N overflow During consecutive rain days between 2 and 6 July 2022, HVO recorded 161.6mm and 157.2mm of rainfall at its North and South weather stations respectively. The rainfall recorded significantly	The dams were pumped out to drawdown water levels and water quality samples were collected. Notifications were sent to DPE, DPE - Water, EPA and the Resource Regulator.	The dams were pumped out to drawdown water levels and water quality samples were collected.

	exceeded the design rainfall depth for sediment dams 35S and 39S and exceeded the capacity of mine stormwater containment dam 15N		Notifications were sent to DPE, DPE - Water, EPA and the Resource Regulator.
15/7/2022	R4 Cable Reeler failure oil spill Oil spill of approximately 30 litres due to the R4 Cable Reeler failure	Absorbent material was laid down to absorb the oil. The E&C Officer attended the site and found two areas that required further clean up.	Hydrocarbon
21/7/2022	Oil spill from lubrication stand Bay 8 of Howick workshop The catch pan under the hose reels of the lubrication stand of Bay 8 in the Howick workshop overflowed with oil and the oil ran out of the Bay 8 workshop door, down the ramp and into the drain spilling approximately 45 litres.	The spill was reported to the supervisor and the spill was contained and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon
23/7/2022	Oil spill lubrication stand Bay 8 of Howick workshop (repeat) Oil reporting to the spill tray of the lubrication stand in Bay 8 of the West Pit workshop overflowed onto the workshop floor and apron due to the oil hose not being capped resulting in a spill of approximately of 50 litres.	The area was barricaded off and the spill contained and cleaned up. The oil catch tray under the salad bar sump pump was started and the oil in catch tray pumped to the waste oil tank.	Hydrocarbon
12/9/2022	Ammonium Nitrate spill at Orica Reload Facility During decommissioning works, product was being washed from the top of the silo into a bin below. While pumping the solution from the bin into another waste container it has leaked ~100 L of solution to ground through a seal in the container.	The product was contained within the compound, then cleaned up.	Chemicals
16/9/2022	Diesel spill from Truck 414 after rock dislodges fuel tank At approximately 5.30pm, Truck 414 was returning to shovel 343 in the South pit WK6 dig area to get another load. As the truck approached the shovel it has run over a large rock which contacted the fuel tank, dislodging it from the truck.	Diesel leaked out of the tank to ground and a windrow was pushed up to contain it. Inspection of truck Modular records indicated that approximately 1948L of diesel was lost from the fuel tank. The contaminated material was removed and taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon

3.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

Round Two of our Community Grants Programme closed in September with nine applications received which are currently being assessed.

4.0 Environmental monitoring

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring; June to August 2022

June 2022

Attached as **Appendix A**

July 2022

Attached as **Appendix B**

August 2022

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/>)

2/8/2022	Hunter Valley Operations Rehabilitation Management Plan Forward Program 1 Aug 2022
17/8/2022	Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data June 2022
19/8/2022	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Presentation August 2022
19/8/2022	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Business Papers August 2022
7/9/2022	Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data July 2022
20/9/2022	Hunter Valley Operations - HVO News - Issue 9 - September 2022
10/10/2022	Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data - August 2022 Final