

Hunter Valley Operations

Community Consultative Committee

**Business Papers – February 2022**

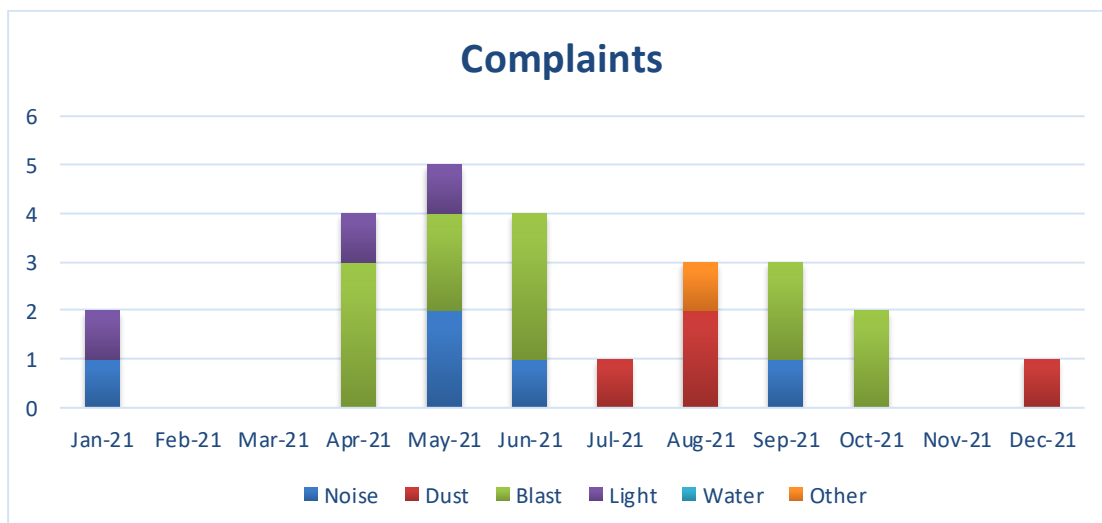
Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on **16 February 2022**

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## 1.0 Complaints

25 complaints were received in 2021



Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
2 January	10.12pm	Lighting	Long Point	A lighting complaint was received from a resident of Long Point at 10.12 pm on 2 January 2021. The resident called the HVO Community Complaints Hotline to advise that two lighting plants from HVO operations had been shining directly into his window at his residence preventing him from sleeping. Following this conversation, the OCE shut down the Pit 2 RL125 dump activities and turned the lights off after which he called the resident back to see if there had been any changes to the offending lights. The resident confirmed that he could no longer see the lights and was happy with the action taken. The dump plan has been modified to operate during daylight hours.	Hotline	N/A

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
3 January	11.48pm	Noise	Long Point	<p>A noise complaint was received from a resident of Long Point at 11.48 pm on 3rd January 2021. A call-back was not requested. The resident registered a further complaint at 12.12am on 4 January in regards to a loud whining sound coming from the pit with the complainant being 'very unhappy, can't sleep and needs to work tomorrow'.</p> <p>The OCE had reviewed noise levels and contacted the resident advising that the noise was below criteria however was in the process of undertaking an inspection of the area. The OCE travelled to Long Point Road and listened near the residence, where he advised that a low-level mining noise could be heard and an occasional whining sound that he believed to be the auto-retard on the haul trucks. The OCE did not consider the noise to be excessive.</p> <p>The Environment and Community Officer spoke with the resident at 2.39pm on 4 January who confirmed that a whirring noise from the pit, in addition to dozer tracks and trucks revving could be heard at the time of the complaint. No noise alarms were received from the Long Point noise monitor. The highest 15 minute noise level recorded between 10 pm and 12:15 am was 19dB (low frequency) against a criteria of 35dB.</p>	Hotline	No
10 April	1.27pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident sent a text message to the Environment and Community Officer directly to confirm that the shots fired in the Cheshunt Pit at 1.26pm and 1.27pm was "quite loud and a lot of movement it was like it was a double shot seconds apart".</p> <p>Blasting data from the shots fired at 1.26pm indicate that the overpressure and vibration levels were below compliance levels being 113.6 dB and 0.47mms respectively. The complaint was recorded in the Community Complaints Register.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
23 April	3.40pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident from Shearers Lane, Maison Dieu sent a text message to the Environment and Community Officer at 3.41pm to advise that a shot fired at HVO at 3:40 pm “really rocked the house”.</p> <p>Blast levels were checked and deemed to be compliant. The Maison Dieu monitor measured overpressure of 100.06 dBL against a maximum criteria of 120 sBL and ground vibration of 0.47 mm/s against a maximum criteria of 10 mm/s.</p> <p>The E&amp;C Officer contacted the resident at 3.54pm to confirm the details of the complaint, they advised they could feel the ground move and it rattled crockery in the house. They asked for the complaint to be recorded as a complaint rather than feedback. E&amp;C Officer advised levels were compliant.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No
30 April	6:09pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident in Maison Dieu sent a text message to the Environment and Community Officer at 6.09pm to report that the blast fired in the Cheshunt Pit at 3.22pm 'caused a fair bit of movement in the house approximately 3.25pm' The complaint aligns with timing of the Cheshunt Pit 2 blast. Blast levels were checked and deemed to be compliant. The Maison Dieu monitor measured overpressure of 96.74 dBL and ground vibration of 0.47 mm/s. The E&amp;C Officer contacted the resident at 6.27pm to confirm the details of the complaint. The resident asked for the complaint to be recorded as a complaint rather than feedback.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No
30 April	6:09pm	Lighting	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident in Shearers Lane Maison Dieu sent a text message to the Environment and Community Officer at 6.09pm to request that the position of the lighting plant at the Cheshunt Dump be changed, as light from the lighting plant was shining directly into her house. The E&amp;C Officer organised with the OCE to investigate the position of the lighting plant on the Cheshunt dump and move the plant. The E&amp;C Officer called the resident at 7.04pm who confirmed that they could no longer see the lighting plant and that they were satisfied with the outcome.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	N/A

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
1 May	9.31pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A resident in Jerrys Plains contacted the Complaints Line with the details 'noise complaint' and requesting a call back as soon as possible. The OCE phoned the resident at 9.31pm, who advised the noise sounded like a horn from a digger from the West Pit and that he had called previously (2020) about noise from HVO but that they hadn't "rung in a while I was bored tonight so I thought I would phone it in".</p> <p>The OCE spoke with the operator of Ex313 at the Riverview Pit and asked to just keep the horn to one short sharp blow. In addition, he also called the Mining Supervisor in the West Pit and notified the operators of Ex 330 &amp; Ex 310 about the complaint with the same instruction as given to the operator of Ex313. No further noise complaints were received for the remainder of the shift. Checks were subsequently undertaken on horn compressed air pressures and reduced to minimum where possible. A capital project is being scoped to implement silent horns from 2022.</p> <p>The noise data from the Jerrys Plains ENC was checked with the noise reading for the period of the complaint under the compliance noise limit.</p>	Hotline	No
10 May	2.25pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident of Maison Dieu sent a text message to the Environment and Community Officer at 2.25pm to report that the blast fired in the Cheshunt Pit at 2.22pm was 'loud and a lot of movement and crockery rattling please put in an official complaint'.</p> <p>The E&amp;C Officer contacted the resident at 2.36pm to confirm the details of the complaint. The resident asked for the matter to be recorded as a complaint.</p> <p>Blast levels were checked and deemed to be compliant. Maison Dieu monitor measured overpressure of 101.67 dBL and ground vibration of 0.17mm/s.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
11 May	10.01pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A resident of Jerrys Plains contacted the Complaints Line at 10.01pm about noise which they believed was coming from the dragline at the Riverview pit.</p> <p>The OCE phoned the resident at 10.06pm, who ascertained the resident could hear general mine noise from Wambo and a HVO Dragline was making a hum that they could hear whilst swinging/slewing. The OCE instructed the Dragline operator to slow down the slew. This was subsequently relayed to the resident and that if there were further noise disturbances to call back. No subsequent complaints were received for the remainder of the shift.</p> <p>The OCE checked the noise monitor, as well as any noise alarms received for the Moses Crossing area (nearest monitor to the complainant's house), which was below compliance levels prior to and at the time of the complaint.</p>	Hotline	No
18 May	7.50pm	Lighting	Long Point	<p>A resident of Long Point Road called the Community Complaints Hotline at 7.50pm about a light from the HVO South operation shining into their bedroom.</p> <p>The complainant was contacted by the OCE who through a process of elimination found that the lighting plant on the Auger RL170 South dump was the light causing the complaint.</p> <p>The lighting plant was moved and orientated to the south in response, with no further complaints received. In addition, the windrows on the eastern edge of the dump were also lifted to act as a screen.</p>	Hotline	N/A
27 May	1.13pm	Blast Fume	Long Point	<p>A resident of Long Point called the Environment and Community Coordinator on 27 May about a very strong sulphur smell at their property located at Long Point following three blasts fired from the Cheshunt P2 area of HVO South on 26 May at 4.37pm, 4.41pm and 4.42pm. They commented that the blast filled up the whole valley with sulphuric fume and that a family member at the residence is allergic to sulphur. The resident confirmed that they wanted the complaint recorded as a complaint rather than feedback. Review of the blasting database found that HVO did blast at the time specified by the complainant which was confirmed.</p>	Contacted Environment and Community Coordinator	N/A

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
6 June	1.14am	Noise	Maison Dieu	<p>Noise complaint received from a resident of Maison Dieu. Reported they were unable to sleep due to loud equipment noise from HVO which started about sunset and continued through to 3:30am. Noted hearing engine noise from a shovel and truck loading noise. Complaint was sent as a text message direct to the Environment &amp; Community Officer and not via the hotline, therefore the complaint could not be communicated to operations at the time. Noise alarms were received at 9:30pm and 10:30pm from the nearest noise monitor (Maison Dieu). Three 15 minute periods between 5pm and 3:30am exceeded the noise criteria of 41dB, however during these periods the wind speed exceeded 3m/s when noise criteria do not apply due to being adversely impacted by wind on microphones.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No
21 June	9.56am	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident from Maison Dieu sent a text message to the E&amp;C Officer at 9.56am on Monday 21 June to report that the blast fired in the Cheshunt Pit at 2.57pm on Saturday 19 June 'was quite loud and rocked the windows I think due to the very heavy weather and maybe should not of been detonated'.</p> <p>Blast levels were checked and deemed to be compliant. Maison Dieu monitor measured overpressure of 93.53 dBL and ground vibration of 0.15mm/s.</p> <p>Information was provided to the resident on Monday confirming that both ground vibration and overpressure were below respective compliance levels. It was requested that any future complaints are registered via the HVO Complaints Hotline to allow for more prompt and appropriate response.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer	No



Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
23 June	2.19pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident of Dights Crossing, Maison Dieu left a voicemail message with the Environment and Community Manager at 2.19pm regarding the blast fired from Cheshunt Pit. The E&amp;C Manager returned Warren's voicemail message at 2.48pm and advised Warren that based on the information provided this would align with the HVO blast at 1.13pm, noting that the blast monitors had recorded below compliance criteria and indications were that atmospheric reinforcement had influenced the overpressure effect at distance.</p> <p>Following receipt of the complaint the blasting data for the blast that was fired from Cheshunt Pit at 1.13pm was checked which registered overpressure of 113.30 dBL and ground vibration of 0.21mm/s from the Knodlers Lane blast monitor which is under compliance limits.</p>	Contacted Environment and Community Manager	No
23 June	1.23pm	Blast	Long Point	<p>A resident of Long Point contacted the United Wambo Community Complaints hotline at 1.23pm reporting that the blast fired was really loud and shook their house. The United Wambo Environment and Community Manager spoke with the resident at approximately 2.20pm and then contacted surrounding mines to determine source, subsequently confirming it was HVO.</p> <p>The blasting data for the blast that was fired from Cheshunt Pit at 1.13pm was checked which registered an overpressure of 113.30 dBL and ground vibration of 0.21mm/s from the Knodlers Lane blast monitor which is under compliance limits.</p>	Hotline	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
31 July	1.21pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident from Maison Dieu sent an SMS with photos to the Environment and Community Officer and Environment and Community Manager at 1.21pm on Saturday 31 May regarding visible dust from the shots fired at 1.13pm and 1.14pm from Cheshunt P2 and Cheshunt P1 respectively. The SMS read 'The dust blows across until the man-made hill then straight at us which we have been trying to explain to you. Please check wind direction on this side. This I would like recorded as an official complaint noise and dust on the blast approximately 10 minutes ago.'</p> <p>The blast was fired according to internal blasting criteria for wind speed and direction. Wind direction prior to the blast at 1.10pm was at 294 degrees and 291 degrees at 1.20pm a minute prior to the SMS being sent. Wind speed was around 5.8m/s at 1.10pm and 5.5m/s at 1.20pm. The resident's property is at a bearing of ~ 270 degrees from the detonated blasts.</p> <p>Dust levels at both the Maison Dieu and Knodlers Lane monitors were both under the criteria of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup> following the shots being fired and were not observed to spike.</p> <p>The resident was contacted by email on Monday 2nd August at 4.09pm providing wind direction data as requested in addition to the TEOM readings from the Maison Dieu PM10 monitor.</p>	SMS direct to Environment and Community Officer and Environment and Community Manager	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
13 August	2pm	Other	Jerrys Plains	A resident of Jerrys Plains rang the Environment and Community Manager (E&C Manager) to advise he had been sworn at and verbally threatened by an HVO contractor. The contractor was off-duty at the time and had mistakenly entered the resident's yard to purchase firewood. Upon noticing Sydney dealership signs on the contractors' car, a discussion regarding the contractors residential and work details ensued and escalated to the alleged interaction. The E&C Manager advised the resident that we would investigate the matter internally but that it was a civil matter and if he wanted to take further action, he should contact the Police.	Direct phone call to Environment and Community Manager	N/A
20 August	1.49pm	Blast dust	Long Point	A resident of Long Point rang the Hotline at 1.49pm enquiring if HVO had fired a blast as a large amount of dust was produced noting it was "really bad and that he could not see across to the neighbouring farm and that it was not very good for the environment". The resident thought that the blast had been fired at around 1.44pm.  HVO fired a Cheshunt blast at 1.38pm.  The 10 minute wind direction at 1:40pm (2 minutes after the blast was fired at 1:38pm) was 269 degrees and the wind speed was 5.9m/s which is within site blasting permissions. Dust levels at the Knodlers Lane monitor were under the criteria of 50ug/m3 at the time of and following the blast. Dust levels at the Maison Dieu monitor reached 53ug/m3 at 1.50pm but then fell, the 24hr average was below criteria.	Hotline	No

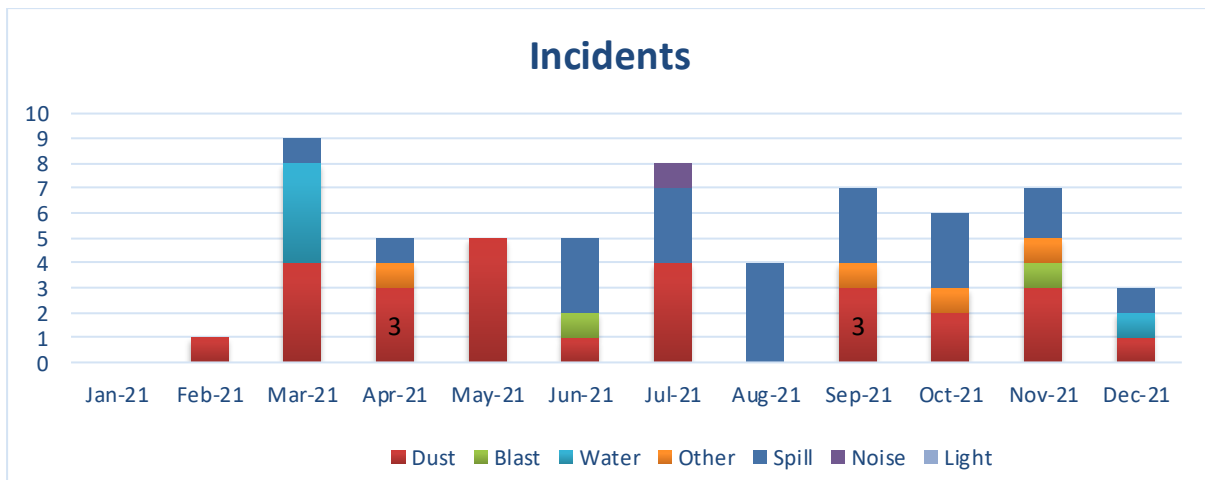
Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
20 August	1.54pm	Blast dust	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident from Maison Dieu sent an SMS to the Environment and Community Officer (E&amp;C Officer) at 1.54pm stating "I think maybe the blast should not have been done" and that she "couldn't go and photo it so I have taken shot through front window".</p> <p>HVO fired a Cheshunt blast at 1.38pm.</p> <p>The 10 minute wind direction at 1:40pm (2 minutes after the blast was fired at 1:38pm) was 269 degrees and the wind speed was 5.9m/s which is within site blasting permissions. Dust levels at the Knodlers Lane monitor were under the criteria of 50ug/m3 at the time of and following the blast. Dust levels at the Maison Dieu monitor reached 53ug/m3 at 1.50pm but then fell, the 24hr average was below criteria.</p>	SMS to Environment and Community Officer	No
10 September	10.18pm	Noise	Singleton	<p>Complaint received from resident at Gowrie (Singleton) regarding low frequency rumbling noise from HVO while inside their house trying to sleep. Inspection determined HVO truck engine noise was audible from their location.</p> <p>The closest monitor (~3km away) at Long Point recorded 33 decibels at 10:15 pm against a criteria of 35 decibels. The monitor is the most representative of the residents location however more than 3 km away.</p>	Hotline	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
27 September	1.36pm	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A resident from Maison Dieu sent an SMS to the Environment and Community Officer (E&amp;C Officer) at 1.36pm stating that the blast had "rattled the house off its piers and crockery out of the cupboards it happened at approximately 1.30pm".</p> <p>Monitoring data for the blast that was fired in Cheshunt Pit at 1.33pm was reviewed. A ground vibration level of 1.32 mm/s and overpressure level of 94.38 dB was recorded at the Maison Dieu blast monitor which are below compliance limits. Meteorological data from the nearest weather station (Cheshunt) was checked which showed a wind speed of 4.8 m/s and wind direction of 133 degrees which is within internal blasting rules for the location.</p>	SMS to Environment and Community Officer	No
29 September	4.07pm	Blast	Jerrys Plains	<p>A resident from Jerrys Plains sent an email to the HVO website "wanting to know if HVO south pit let a blast off just prior to 4pm causing a large amount of sound and movement at Jerry's plains". The Environment and Community Officer (E&amp;C Officer) rang the resident at 4.21pm to confirm that HVO had blasted in the West Pit at 3.54pm.</p> <p>The blasting data for the shot fired at 3.54pm in West Pit was reviewed which showed that both ground vibration (0.13mm/s) and overpressure (101.46 dB) were under compliance limits. The meteorological data for the HVO Corporate weather station was reviewed which showed a wind speed of 2m/s and wind direction of 183 degrees at 3.50pm prior to the blast which is within internal blasting rules for the location.</p>	Website	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
25 October	9.02am	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>The complainant contacted the E&amp;C Officer at 9.02am to report that there was excessive dust produced from a blast on 25 October at around 4pm and also stated that there was enough vibration from the blast that it made him 'jump out of his chair and that the house shook'.</p> <p>HVO fired two blasts in Cheshunt Pit at 3:46pm and 3:48 pm. Overpressure and ground vibration levels were under compliance limits (100.14 dBL/0.10 mm/s and 101.59 dBL/0.20 mm/s respectively). The Knodlers Lane TEOM was checked and showed that dust levels were below compliance limits following the two shots. Camera footage was checked indicating limited offsite dust. Blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions.</p>	Phone call to Environment and Community Officer	No
26 October	Grant Maher	Blast	Maison Dieu	<p>A complainant from Maison Dieu contacted HVO via the complaints hotline at 2:42 pm to register a complaint about a blast noting that he felt a 'shockwave through the house' and could feel the vibration. The resident was contacted by the E&amp;C Officer who confirmed that the complaint related to a Cheshunt blast fired at 2:24 pm. The blast was compliant registering overpressure of 92.89 dBL and vibration of 0.27 mm/s at the Maison Dieu blast monitor.</p>	Hotline	No

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
10 December	11.21am	Dust	Maison Dieu	<p>HVO E&amp;C Officer was speaking with the resident about an unrelated matter when they mentioned that there was dust coming off the hill (Cheshunt) and they had to take a Phenergan to mitigate the effect of the dust and asked for a complaint to be recorded.</p> <p>Observation was made by HVO E&amp;C Officer and Operations notified to mitigate observed dust.</p> <p>TEOM data for Maison Dieu (closest monitor to the resident's address) was reviewed and found to be below compliance limits for the two hours preceding the complaint.</p>	Phone call to Environment and Community Officer	No

## 2.0 Incidents



Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
09/02/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Golden Highway TEOM</b></p> <p>On 08/02/2021 and 09/02/2021 the Golden Highway TEOM achieved data capture of 50% and 46% respectively. This is below the required 75% data capture rate required by the HVO Environment Protection License. The monitor is under the operational control of Mt Thorley Warkworth (MTW). A planned power outage was undertaken by MTW and the generator used to maintain power supply failed. The offline status of the monitor was identified during morning HVO data checks at 7am on 09/02/2021.</p>	The result will be reported in the Monthly EPL Report and Annual Return.	Air Quality
08/03/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Knodlers Lane TEOM</b></p> <p>A storm in the area on the afternoon of 8 March interrupted the power supply of the Knodlers Lane TEOM which resulted in data capture percentage of 58% which is below the 75% data capture rate required</p>	Power was restored to the area by Ausgrid at 9am on 9 March. The DPIE was notified of the incident which will be included in the 2021 Annual Report.	Air Quality
12/03/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Maison Dieu TEOM</b></p> <p>An issue with the logger at the Maison Dieu TEOM at 10:00pm on 11 March resulted in data</p>	The DPIE was notified and will be included in the 2021 Annual Report.	Air Quality



	capture percentage of 50% which is below the 75% data capture rate required for 12 March 2021. The monitor is operated by the Regulator.		
14/03/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – HC1 TEOM</b> Power was lost to the TEOM after 12:30 on 14 March resulting in 50% data capture on 14 March and 1% data capture on 15 March.	Requested reset of power from site electrical infrastructure team which was completed at the unit at 1.30pm on 15 March. The result will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Air Quality
20/03/2021	<b>Inaccurate measurement of flow from Parnells Dam during HRSTS discharge</b> Following opening of the discharge valves at Parnells Dam (9W) at 2:47 pm on 20 March for a licensed HRSTS event, it was identified that the flowrate at the measuring weir could not be reduced despite reducing flow from the discharge pipes. The pipes were fully closed at approximately 4pm. This did not reduce the measured flowrate and it was then discovered that a weir plate had not been removed at the measuring weir. The weir plate blocked the flume where flow height is measured and caused the water level to rise higher than normal resulting in a false reading of flow.	The weir plate was subsequently removed and discharge recommenced. Incident will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Water
23/03/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Golden Highway TEOM</b> The Golden Highway TEOM recorded erratic data for a 9-hour period on 23 March which failed hourly validation criteria resulting in recording a 62% data capture on the 23 March (against required 75% capture).	Upon investigation it was found that ingress of moisture into the TEOM from recent rainfall was the likely cause of the data loss.  The result will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Air Quality
23/03/2021	<b>Sediment dam (2N) overtopped during high rainfall</b> Sediment Dam (2N) overtopped to Farrells Creek following continued heavy rainfall in the preceding week. Rainfall runoff volume exceeded the approved dam design capacity. The dam was being pumped out at the time and continued to operate until the level reduced below the spillway.	Notified to DPIE and EPA with incident report	Water

	Due to the fresh quality of the water from the dam and excessive rainfall in the local catchment there was not a potential for environmental harm		
24/03/2021	<b>HRSTS TSS exceedance – Parnells Dam</b> Parnells Dam exceeded discharge limits for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) during HRSTS discharge on 24 March. The sample returned a TSS of 266 mg/L vs EPL limit of 120mg/L. Due to Flood Flow in the Hunter River at the time there was no potential for environmental harm. An investigation was undertaken however a cause was not able to be confirmed. TSS samples taken up to and after the 24 March were well below the limit. Continuous Turbidity monitoring was occurring and did not indicate an increasing trend.	A number of actions have been identified to prevent a reoccurrence including monitoring at the discharge point as well as inside the dam and relocating pit pump inputs away from the intake point for the discharge pipes. Incident was notified to regulators, incident report provided to DPIE and will also be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Water
24/03/2021	<b>Partial failure to monitor EC during HRSTS discharge block</b> At approximately 8:30pm on 24 March during HRSTS discharge at Parnells Dam, the Electrical Conductivity (EC) was observed to be reading 1.0 uS/cm, indicating the sonde was not measuring a valid result. EPL 640 requires continuous measurement of EC during a discharge event. The discharge valves were turned off at 9:22 pm. During daylight on 25 March the water level in the dam was observed to have fallen lower than the sonde causing it to record an invalid measurement.	The water quality sonde was relocated downstream of the dam wall into a small dam that the discharge pipes send water to, ensuring the sonde had an adequate cover of water as the main dam level dropped. The incident will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Water
30/03/2021	<b>Engine oil spill in workshop</b> Maintainer was filling up engine oil on haul truck 710 but did not disconnect the oil supply which resulted in the engine being overfilled with approximately 400 litres of oil which spilled onto the floor in the North Workshop truck maintenance section, Service Bay N2	Workshop maintainers soaked up the spill, shovelled and hosed out the oil spill.	Hydrocarbon
3/04/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Warkworth TEOM</b> An issue with data capture at the Warkworth TEOM data logger from 3 - 6 April was identified as part of the daily checks on 7 April.	The Regulator was contacted to determine the cause of the data miscapture who confirmed by email that the issue related to the	Air Quality

	Data capture included 20% on 3 April, no data on 4 and 5 April and 64% on 6 April. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	data logger which was reset remotely by the Regulator.  The incident was reported to DPIE.	
6/4/2021	<b>Truck blown hydraulic hose</b> The operator pulled into the R4 crib hut park area when he returned to his truck he discovered that a hydraulic hose had spilled approximately 200 litres of oil.	A scraper was organised and cleaned up the spill and transported the contaminated material to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbons
7/4/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Golden Highway TEOM</b> During the daily checks on 8 April it was discovered that the Golden Highway TEOM had recorded 58% data capture for 7 April and data capture of 32% on 8 April. The monitor is operated by MTW.	A site visit to the monitor by HVO's environmental monitoring contractor during the afternoon of 8 April determined that the power supply powering the data logger and modem had failed at the unit.  The result will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.	Air Quality
12/04/2021	<b>Barrys RL125 overtip</b> During a site inspection to the Barrys Dump Area the Environmental and Community Coordinator observed the RL125 dump at Barrys Dump had advanced into an area of reported rehabilitation. The area affected was 0.10 ha.	Operations were suspended on the area by the time of the inspection. Comments were added into Daily Plan to keep any dumping activity away from reported rehabilitation. A dump design is to be re-issued to prevent a reoccurrence.	Rehabilitation
14/04/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Warkworth TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Warkworth TEOM data logger from 14 - 15 April was identified as part daily checks on 15 April. 54% of data was recorded on 14 April and 67% of data was recorded on 15 April. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	The data miscapture is believed to be related to logger issues at the unit.  Incident was reported to DPIE.	Air Quality
3/05/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Maison Dieu TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Maison Dieu TEOM data logger on 3 May was identified as part of daily checks on 4 May. The 24-hour data capture at Maison Dieu TEOM was 46% on 03 May 2021 due to logger failure, below the 75% data capture required. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	DPIE was notified to investigate.	Air Quality
20/05/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Warkworth TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Warkworth TEOM data logger from 20 May was identified as part of the daily checks on 21 May. Data capture was 38% on	The incident was notified to DPIE on 21 May.	Air Quality

	20 May due to the logger failure, which is below the 75% data capture required. The monitor is operated by DPIE.		
23/05/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Jerrys Plains TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Jerrys Plains TEOM data logger on 23 May was identified as part of daily checks on 24 May. 24-hour data capture at Jerrys Plains TEOM was 0% on 23 May and 54% on 24 May 2021 due to logger failure which is below the 75% data capture required. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	The DPIE was notified to investigate.	Air Quality
24/05/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Maison Dieu TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Maison Dieu TEOM data logger on 23 May was identified as part of daily checks on 24 May. 24-hour data capture at Maison Dieu TEOM was 46% on 23 May 2021 due to logger failure which is below the 75% data capture required. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	The DPIE was notified to investigate.	Air Quality
27/05/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Jerrys Plains TEOM</b> An issue with the data capture at Jerrys Plains TEOM data logger on 27 May was identified as part of daily checks on 28 May. 24-hour data capture at Jerrys Plains TEOM was 71% on 27 May 2021 due to logger failure, below the 75% data capture required. The 24 hour data capture at Jerrys Plains. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	The DPIE was notified to investigate.	Air Quality
02/06/2021	<b>Transformer oil spill</b> While taking a routine oil sample from the transformer, the drain/sample point tap unscrewed from the seat of the tap and was difficult to re-seat due to gravity pressure from the contents of the transformer. An estimated 100 litres of oil was spilled.	The spill was contained within an earthen bund. The supervisor and task coordinator were both notified and the spill clean-up response initiated. Actions have been raised to investigate taps and bunding for other transformers onsite.	Hydrocarbon
10/06/2021	<b>Post blast fume event - West Pit North</b> A level 4 post blast fume event was recorded after firing a blast in the West Pit. A portion of the blast holes slumped following higher than forecast rainfall in following days. The remaining holes were loaded with emulsion to reduce	Incident recorded in CMO. Report provided to DPIE. DPIE confirmed that no further action will be taken.	Blast

	<p>the risk of blast fume. A pre-blast risk assessment identified risk of fume and the blast scheduled to be fired when wind conditions were predicted to carry the fume over the mine.</p> <p>The blast fume was observed to dissipate over HVO land approximately 15 minutes following initiation.</p> <p>DPIE was notified of the event in accordance with the Blast Management Plan.</p>		
12/06/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Maison Dieu TEOM</b></p> <p>The Maison Dieu TEOM data logger was not producing valid data due to a logger failure with only 12% data capture recorded. The monitor is operated by DPIE.</p>	The DPIE was notified to investigate.	Air Quality
28/06/2021	<p><b>Dump truck blown steer hose</b></p> <p>Truck 462 was descending the Red Ramp when the operator noticed a steering alarm on the dash. They pulled up and upon investigation noticed a blown steer hose resulting in approximately 90 litres of oil being spilled.</p>	The contaminated material was collected and sent to the bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
29/06/2021	<p><b>Excavator oil spill - South Pit</b></p> <p>During operation of the equipment the left rear swing hose clamp failed, resulting in an oil spill of approximately 250 litres.</p>	The machine was isolated and hose clamp repaired. The spill occurred on a coal bench, hence was excavated with the coal to be processed in the CHPP.	Hydrocarbon
05/07/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Warkworth TEOM</b></p> <p>The Warkworth TEOM was not producing valid data from 04:30 to 15:00 on 04/07/2021, resulting in a data capture of only 54% which is less than the required 75% capture rate. The monitor is operated by DPIE.</p>	Lockup of the DPIE logger at the TEOM was found to be the cause of the miscapture. The DPIE was contacted for further information and notified of miscapture.	Air Quality
17/07/2021	<p><b>Missed air quality capture – Warkworth TEOM</b></p> <p>The Warkworth TEOM was not producing valid data from 07:10 to 16:20 on 17/07 resulting in a data capture of only 58% which is less than the required 75% capture rate. The monitor is operated by DPIE.</p>	Lockup of the DPIE logger at the TEOM was found to be the cause of the miscapture. The DPIE was contacted for further information and notified of miscapture.	Air Quality
18/07/2021	<p><b>Fuel spill at the R4 fuel farm</b></p> <p>Operator of truck 479 was refuelling at the R4 fuel farm when they noticed fuel coming from the overflow breather pipe.</p>	Contaminated material was removed to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon

	Approximately 50 litres of fuel spilled onto the ground. The spill was contained within the fuel farm area which has a constructed liner.		
20/07/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture – Jerrys Plains TEOM</b> The 24-hour data capture at the Jerrys Plains TEOM was 71% on 20 July, below the 75% data capture required. The monitor is operated by DPIE.	The lockup of the DPIE logger at the TEOM found to be the cause of the miscapture. The DPIE was notified of the incident.	Air Quality
21/07/2021	<b>Blown hydraulic hose on drill 222</b> Drill 222 was drilling in Cheshunt Pit and after drilling a hole the operator retracted the jacks when a hydraulic hose on one of the front jacks failed with approximately 50 litres of oil spilled.	The incident was reported, maintenance informed and the hydrocarbon contaminated soil removed to remediation area.	Hydrocarbon
22/07/2021	<b>Oil spill from Legra pump</b> Legra pump 4235 had a seized bearing on the roller bed shaft, causing an oil spill of approximately 20 litres.	The machine was isolated and the incident reported. The majority of the spill went over the highwall face so was not recoverable.	Hydrocarbon
22/07/2021	<b>Noise exceedance – Jerrys Plains East</b> Monthly attended noise monitoring at the Jerrys Plains East monitoring location recorded a short term LA1(1 min) result of 55dB, above the criteria of 45dB. The acoustic consultant contacted HVO to explain the monitoring result and that the source of the noise was coming from the dragline bucket in Riverview Pit. The dragline was shut down and progressively restarted while monitoring noise levels.	Follow up monitoring was below criteria with five additional 1 minute measurements taken on the night and additional measurement taken the following week. Follow-up monitoring indicates noise was not sustained. EPA and DPIE were notified of the exceedance and report provided.	Noise
28/7/2021	<b>Knodlers Lane PM10 Exceedance</b> Review of monitoring data on 29 July for the previous day identified a 24-hour PM10 average of 70.8ug/m3 at the Knodlers Lane TEOM, exceeding the Project Approval criteria of 50ug/m3	Initial investigation found site contribution to be below the Project Approval criteria, however the data was sent to an external air quality consultant for investigation which found contribution from HVO South to be less than or equal to 55.8ug/m3, or 79% of the total level recorded at Knodlers Lane. The investigation found that the estimation is conservative as it assumes that the entire difference between the background level and the level at the monitor is attributable to HVO South and does not consider any potential nearby	Dust

		sources. Following receipt of the consultant report, notification was made to DPIE and affected neighbours. Actions arising from the incident include: rectification of dust alarms not activated during the day, refreshing Supervisor dust response training, workforce awareness and installing an intermediate dust monitor to measure mine only dust	
7/8/2021	<b>Truck 424 fuel spill</b> The Operator of Truck 424 was pulling away after being loaded by shovel 343 when he felt the truck make contact with a rock on the off side of the truck. The operator kept driving until he was advised by the clean-up machine operator that diesel was leaking from the truck. The operator completed a u-turn and parked up the truck where an inspection found damage to the fuel tank. Based on Modular data approximately 3600 litres of diesel released onto the pit floor	The operator advised the crew supervisor and the diesel was contained and taken to the Carrington bioremediation area. The investigation determined that the rock was in the shadow of the Truck with the Operator focused on passing the clean-up Dozer. Communication was issued to reinforce timely reporting and escalation of large spills.	Hydrocarbon
21/8/2021	<b>Grader hydraulic oil spill.</b> Grader 855 was grading the South Pit boxcut haul road and came into contact with a large rock causing significant damage to hydraulic hoses resulting in approximately 40 litres of hydraulic oil being spilled.	The contaminated material was scraped up and taken to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
26/8/2021	<b>Truck 467 hydraulic hose spill</b> Whilst operating in Cheshunt Pit 2 Truck 461 has blown a hydraulic hose resulting in 600 litres of oil being spilled.	The truck was parked up and contaminated material taken to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
28/8/2021	<b>Truck 461 hydraulic hose spill</b> Whilst operating in Cheshunt Pit 2 Truck 461 has blown a hydraulic hose resulting in 600 litres of oil being spilled.	The truck was isolated and maintenance contacted to organise for the hoses to be replaced. The contaminated material was scraped up and taken to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
4/9/2021	<b>Truck 460 oil leak</b> Truck 460 was travelling back from the dump to RL330 with warning lights going off on truck. The operator stopped and called truck 419 to see if anything was wrong who confirmed that fluid was coming from the truck.	Truck 460 was shut down and the Supervisor informed. A bund was placed around the truck to contain the spilled oil. The oil leak (approximately 500 litres of oil) was caused by the steering filter hose to the bleed down manifold fitting failing.	Hydrocarbon

		An inspection programme has been implemented for the rest of the truck fleet.	
5/9/2021	<b>Fuel spill at 706 truck park-up</b> 985 Fuel Cart operator was fuelling DT456 when they noticed fuel coming from the overflow breather pipe which resulted in approximately 100 litres of diesel being spilled to the ground.	The spill was cleaned up and the contaminated material taken to the bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
7/9/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture - Warkworth TSP HVAS</b> HVO was notified by the environmental monitoring contractor that the TSP High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) at the Warkworth site had failed to run for the full 24 hour period on 6 September due to failure of the flow sensor.	A hire unit was arranged until the unit was repaired. A notification was sent to the DPIE.	Air Quality
8/9/2021	<b>Oil spill from a trailer whilst towing</b> Approximately 30 litres of oil leaked onto site roads from an oil-catch trailer being towed from an excavator shutdown area in West Pit.	Spill absorbent was used to clean up the oil and the Environment and Community Department completed an inspection of the area confirming that the spill was confined to site roads.	Hydrocarbon
12/9/2021	<b>Cheshunt East HVAS PM10 Exceedance</b> The Cheshunt East High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) exceeded the HVO North PM10 24 hour air quality criteria on 12 September 2021 recording 63.4µg/m <sup>3</sup> against a criteria of 50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	HVO's contribution was calculated as 31.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup> however the criteria is measured against HVO plus all other sources hence the exceedance was notified to DPIE. The resident represented by the monitor has also been notified. The exceedance was initially missed and identified while reviewing HVAS data in the monthly report. Investigation was carried out to determine site contribution and cause of the delay in identification of the exceedance. As a result, direction has been provided to EC team to utilise EMD (monitoring database) as the primary source of exceedance alerts, instead of reliance on email notification from the monitoring contractor.	Air Quality
19/9/2021	<b>Missed air quality capture - Jerrys Plains TEOM</b> The Jerrys Plains TEOM was not producing valid data from 6:20am on 19 September to 1:10pm on 21 September, resulting in a data capture less than the required 75% capture	The DPIE technician was contacted who confirmed that the failure was likely due to a fault with the analyser on the TEOM. DPIE was notified of the mis-capture.	Air Quality



	rate on 19, 20 and 21 September.		
24/9/2021	<b>Hot coal fire on HVCHPP coal pad</b> A previously identified hot coal area on the HV CHPP coal pad caught on fire, producing minor odour and smoke visible on adjacent Lemington Road.	The supervisor was notified and the Emergency Services Officer (ESO) was contacted and attended and doused the area of concern with fire hoses until all visible flames were extinguished. The affected coal was reclaimed through the plant. The incident was reported to the NSW Resources Regulator.	Fire
1/10/2021	<b>Loader 553 blown hose</b> While completing a pre start inspection the operator found that the loader was covered in a film of oil and on closer inspection, found one of the quick hitch hoses had burst and discharged approximately 20 litres of oil onto the ground and over the machine.	A spill kit was deployed to contain the oil and the hose removed and a new hose fitted.	Hydrocarbon
6/10/2021	<b>Hunter Valley Gliding Club HVAS mis-capture</b> On 8 October, HVO was notified that the PM10 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) at the HVGC site had failed to run for the full 24 hour period on 6 October, with the HVAS recording only 17 hours and less than the required 75%.	The cause of the failure was identified as a localised power outage due to construction works at the HVGC inadvertently interrupting power supply to the HVAS. Notification was sent to the DPIE advising of the incident.	Air Quality
11/10/2021	<b>Spoil over-tipped on grass within a rehabilitated area at Riverview</b> Whilst dumping on the RL130 dump in Riverview, material was dumped over the catch berm onto an existing rehabilitation area. Area of disturbance was ~1700 m2	The RL130 dump is being tipped out for rehabilitation.	Other
18/10/2021	<b>Hunter Valley Gliding Club HVAS mis-capture</b> HVO was notified that the PM10 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) at the HVGC site had failed to run for the full 24 hour period on 18 October, running for approximately 14 hours and less than the required 75%.	The cause of the failure was identified as a localised power outage due to construction works at the HVGC inadvertently interrupting power supply to the HVAS. Notification was sent to the DPIE advising of the incident. A services scan of the area is being investigated to prevent further occurrences of this incident.	Air Quality
25/10/2021	<b>EX313 oil spill</b> Whilst working on Box Cut BR6 bench in the south pit, damage to Excavator 313 was sustained to the accumulator hoses	The cause of the incident was due to excavator tracks sinking on a wet bench and material contacting the hydraulic hoses. The contaminated material was contained and dug off the bench	Hydrocarbon

	resulting in a hydraulic spill of approximately 3000 litres.	and taken to the bioremediation site.	
27/10/2021	<b>Minor oil spill in Carrington buffer property</b> On Wednesday the 27th October at 8.00am, a small tractor was undertaking slashing of grass on Carrington buffer land when it contacted a concrete block in a drainage line piercing a hydraulic line on the tractor and spilling approximately 20 litres of oil. Oil sprayed in isolated patches on the foliage of grass and weeds within and outside of the drain.	The site was assessed by the Environment and Community team and arrangements made to clean up the spill using absorbent pads and removing affected vegetation with a backhoe. Contaminated material which was taken to the Carrington bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
2/11/2021	<b>Oil leak under old shovel at S2 fill point in West Pit</b> An oil leak of approximately 20 litres was observed under decommissioned shovel 320 located at the S2 fill point in West Pit.	The source of oil was removed by vacuum truck and contaminated soil taken to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
3/11/2021	<b>Slashing without GDP approved</b> Slashing and mulching works commenced adjacent to pipelines without an approved ground disturbance permit.	Slashing was within a previously disturbed and rehabilitated area with no potential for significant impacts. The area disturbed was 0.4 hectares. Works ceased until a GDP was approved. An HCOM slide was circulated to remind HVO personnel of the need for a permit holder to sign and receive hard copy permit before work commences	Other
8/11/2021	<b>Level 3 Fume event after firing the WN45ULD07A shot</b> After firing the WN45ULD07A shot, fume was seen coming from majority of the blasted area. Post blast fume rating was rated as a level 3C	The fume dissipated in pit. Heavy rain fall (20mm of rain) prior to the shot being loaded was deemed to be the cause of the fume event.	Blast
23/11/2021	<b>Maison Dieu PM2.5 HVAS and Kilburnie South PM10 HVAS data miscapture</b> On 24 November, HVO was notified that both the Maison Dieu PM2.5 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) and Kilburnie South PM10 HVAS did not run on 23 November	Upon inspection a crack was found in the plug casing at the Maison Dieu PM2.5 monitor and is thought to have allowed water ingress. The socket was replaced on 26 November. An issue with the plug on the power lead is thought to be the cause of the trip at the Kilburnie South PM10 HVAS with the lead replaced on 24 November. Electrical testing and tagging was last undertaken in October 2021. The incident was notified to the DPIE	Air Quality

25/11/2021	<p><b>Waste oil spill at HVCHPP Lube shed</b></p> <p>While pumping waste oil from a bulk container into a truck, the overflow protection valve has failed which allowed the truck to keep filling causing oil to spill out from the breather onto the ground spilling approximately 20-30 litres of waste oil</p>	<p>The pump was stopped and an emergency spill kit used to contain the spill to the immediate area. The free waste oil was removed by vacuum truck contaminated soil cleaned up.</p>	Hydrocarbon
26/11/2021	<p><b>Wandewoi TEOM Data Miscapture</b></p> <p>The TEOM stopped recording data from approximately 9:40pm on 26 November and resumed at approximately 1:20pm on 29 November</p>	<p>On inspection the cause was identified as a faulty relay in the thermal protection circuit. The miscapture will be reported in the EPL Annual Return.</p>	Air Quality
29/11/2021	<p><b>29/11/2021 Kilburnie South PM10 HVAS data miscapture</b></p> <p>On 30 November, HVO was notified that the Kilburnie South PM10 HVAS did not run on 29 November due to a motor drive or filter blockage error.</p>	<p>The monitor has been removed for further investigation and a temporary unit organised whilst the existing unit is repaired.</p>	Air Quality
7/12/2021	<p><b>Water leaving the Coal Truck haul road through a windrow</b></p> <p>Water was observed to be leaving the West Pit CHPP coal haul road through a breach in the windrow and flowing down towards the truck wash dams.</p>	<p>Runoff water from rehabilitation areas and the haul road had collected in the dip in the road until a level was reached that the gap in the windrow was overtopped and collected in a cleanwater diversion dam. The windrow breach was filled in so water could no longer flow from the area and the dam dewatered.</p>	Water
9/12/2021	<p><b>Warkworth TEOM miscapture</b></p> <p>The Warkworth TEOM produced 58% data capture for 9 December and 53% data capture for 10 December, less than the required 75% capture rate.</p>	<p>The DPIE technician was contacted who confirmed that the failure was due to data logger lockup on the TEOM. The TEOM is managed by DPIE.</p>	Air Quality
17/12/2021	<p><b>B-double truck trailer cylinder hose oil spill</b></p> <p>Oil spill of approximately 20L from a blown hose on the B trailer whilst on the Newdell product ROM pad.</p>	<p>The hose had blown on the underside next to the swaged fitting. The spillage was cleaned up with absorbent material before trucks were allowed to operate and both the hoses were replaced for the rear tipping cylinder. The truck was run through the truck wash several times before heading back out on the public roads.</p>	Hydrocarbon

### 3.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

Round One of the HVO Community Grants Programme for 2022 will open in April.

HVO is planning on holding an Apprentice Day at the Singleton Community Garden on Saturday 26 February. An Apprentice Day is also planned at the Jerrys Plains School of Arts Community Hall to assist with a number of maintenance tasks. A date is yet to be confirmed.

Community Information Sessions at Jerrys Plains and Maison Dieu are not planned at this stage due to COVID19 developments.

## 4.0 Environmental monitoring

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring; September to December 2021

### **September 2021**

Attached as **Appendix A**

### **October 2021**

Attached as **Appendix B**

### **November 2021**

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/>)

26/10/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data September 2021
17/11/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Business Papers November 2021
17/11/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Presentation November 2021
25/11/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Minutes August 2021
29/11/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data October 2021
2/12/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report September 2021
2/12/2021	Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report October 2021
21/12/2021	Hunter Valley Operations - HVO News - Issue 8 - December 2021