

Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

The HVO CCC meets regularly with the last CCC meeting held on 17 November. The forum provides for open discussion between our community members, Singleton Council and our business. Topics of discussion in 2021 have included mine operations, environmental performance and community relations. Our community members on the HVO CCC include; Brian Atfield, Di Gee, David Love, Dr Neville Hodgkinson, Janelle Wenham, Todd Mills, Jeannie Hayes, Michael Wellard and Councillor Hollee Jenkins. The CCC is independently chaired by Dr Colin Gellatly AO. If you would like a copy of the CCC business papers, presentations and minutes from previous meetings, these are available on our website, which can be accessed on <https://Insite.hvo.com.au/>. Alternatively, if you would prefer a hard copy, please contact us.

HVO SMS Blast Notification System

The system is designed to provide SMS alerts relating to HVO blasting plans and road closures. Community members can subscribe to the service to receive a SMS alert at no cost.

Please send an SMS to 0447 448 982 to register your details for the service making sure that the word subscribe is included in the text.

If there is particular information you would like to see included in this newsletter, please let us know.

Contact details

Tony Morris
HVO General Manager
T: 02 6570 0300
E: tony.morris@hvo.com.au

HVO Complaints and Blasting Hotline

1800 888 733 (freecall)

- This number can be used for making a complaint about HVO's operations or for finding out road closure times for blasting
- Attended 24 hours a day / seven days a week

Up to date information about HVO and our environmental monitoring performance is available on our websites. To view this information, go to:

- HVO website, via: <https://hvo.com.au>
- HVO Insite (environmental monitoring performance) via: <https://Insite.hvo.com.au/>

Andrew Speechly
HVO Environment & Community Manager
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Welcome from Tony Morris, General Manager Hunter Valley Operations



I'm pleased to present Issue Eight of HVO News, our second and final newsletter for 2021.

As we work towards the end of the year we reflect on our operations and our plan for 2022. This year we have again been subject to the uncertainty of Covid-19 and the change that has initiated. This has required all of us to continually review our controls as we attempt to mitigate the risk to our employees and the broader community. As a large employer in the region we take our role seriously in trying to mitigate the transmission and impacts of COVID 19. As a site we have stringent controls in place and we will continue to revise these as more advice from the Government is provided.

I would like to thank our Community Consultative Committee (CCC) members who also have adapted

to the changes. We have successfully been running our CCC meeting via video conference. Our CCC members volunteer their time to be a conduit between our operations and the community. Feedback from the CCC is valued and allows us to keep abreast of community concerns and also the type of information our community is interested in receiving.

In 2022 we will continue to progress the Hunter Valley Operations Continuation Project. There will be continuing consultation with the community as these studies are finalised. This will include a broad range of methods for consultation including phone calls, video conference, face to face meetings and community information sessions. This will ensure an inclusive approach and allow all our community members an opportunity to learn about the Project and the assessment outcomes.

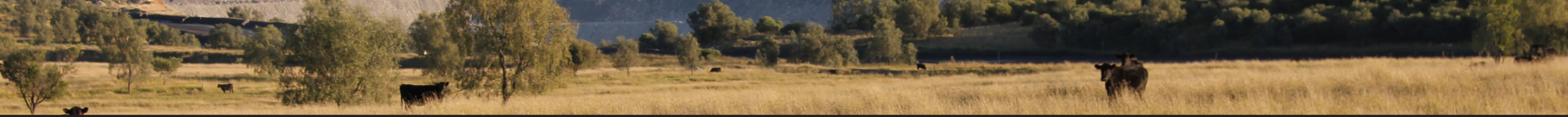
Finally, I'd like to wish all of our near neighbours a very happy Christmas and New Year. For those who own properties we hope the rainfall is a great early present.

Christmas/New Year Shutdown

Earlier this year, we made a decision to introduce a Christmas shutdown. This provides a great opportunity for the workforce to enjoy the festive period with their families after a challenging year. Whilst the majority of the site will be shutdown, there will be limited activities occurring during the Christmas to New Year period with the Coal Processing Plants (CPP) continuing to operate, supported by reduced Mining and Maintenance crews.

Rehabilitation

Our planned rehabilitation target for 2021 is 78 hectares and we are working hard to achieve this around the wet weather. To date 51 hectares of rehabilitation have been seeded. The areas which have been completed include 38.6 ha in HVO South and 12.4 ha in HVO north. The seed mixes for these areas have included native woodland species and native grass pasture mixes and are targeting a final land use of mixed grazing and woodland.



Community Grants Program

Our community grants programme is something we are proud of and provides an opportunity for local organisations to benefit from our business operations.

Round Two of our Community Grants Programme closed in August with a number of local organisations successful in obtaining funds totaling almost \$17,000 including:

- Hunter Valley Camp draft Club Arena
- Singleton PCYC - Book Fair
- Singleton Business Chamber -Video Conferencing Capability
- St John Ambulance Australia (NSW) -Fingertip Pulse Oximeters
- Toy Box Children’s Mobile Outreach Service-Upper Hunter -Books in Homes
- Australian Stock Horse Society Eastern Branch -Eastern Branch ASHS Championships and Performance Weekend

Thanks to all of the community groups who applied for grants for Round Two. Round One of the 2022 programme will open in April and we encourage community groups to apply.

Please contact Merri Bartlett on 0455 782 292 if you have a potential project that you have in mind and would like to discuss. Merri is more than willing to help with applications.

Community Information Sessions

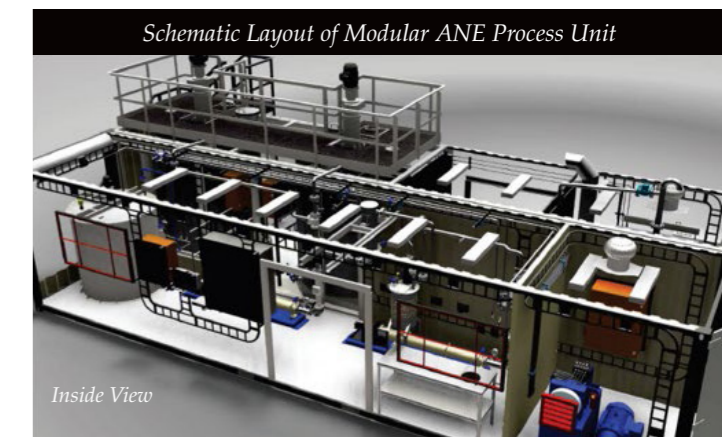
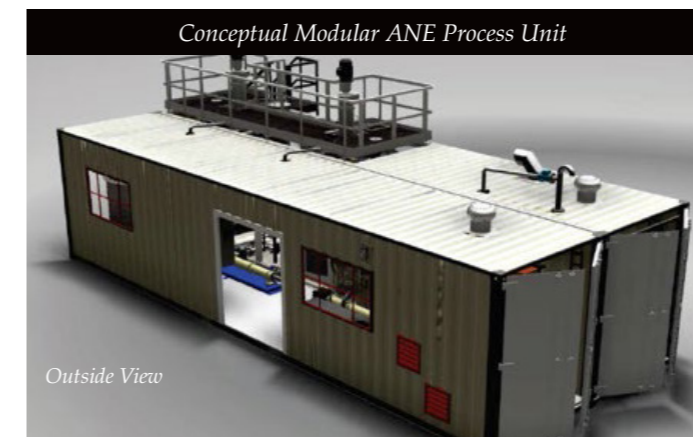
Based on current Government advice we are planning to recommence our Community Information Sessions in Jerrys Plains and Maison Dieu during Quarter one of 2022 so please keep a look out for a reminder letter in the post and we look forward to seeing you at these sessions.

Near Neighbour Amenity Resource

HVO continues to offer free of charge a choice of either an under-sink water filter kit or water tank cleaning to our near neighbours. If you received this newsletter and are interested in taking up the offer, please contact Merri Bartlett (merri.bartlett@hvo.com.au or 0455 782 292) to register your interest for this initiative.

HVO South Minor Modification - ANE Facility

HVO submitted a modification of existing consent (PA 06_0261) to allow for the construction and operation of a modular Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) manufacturing plant within the existing approved HVO South mine disturbance area. The project has since been approved with the next step to be an application for a revised Environmental Protection Licence.



HVO South Minor Modification - Lemington Underground Water Storage

HVO and Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) are investigating ways to improve site water management across the operations and are currently assessing the feasibility of storage of site water in the former Lemington Underground Mine workings.

This would involve installing additional bores to transfer water into, and extract water from, the Lemington Underground Mine workings. Works would be undertaken within existing disturbance areas.

A modification of the existing HVO South Development Consent was submitted and public exhibition of the modification held with no public objections received. HVO is currently preparing a response to Government submissions received.

Pest and Weed Management

Results to date of the 2021 Vertebrate Pest control program include:

- 1080 baiting program targeting wild dogs and foxes - 237
- 100 Pigs
- 177 kangaroos culled

HVO have employed significant resources to weed control on its rehabilitation and buffer properties during 2021. The change from drought to wetter seasonal conditions in 2020 - 2021 has brought with it an increase in weed infestations and this has necessitated a mix of weed control strategies including slashing, boom spraying, weed wiping and targeted spot spray weed control.