

Hunter Valley Operations

Community Consultative Committee

Business Papers – September 2020

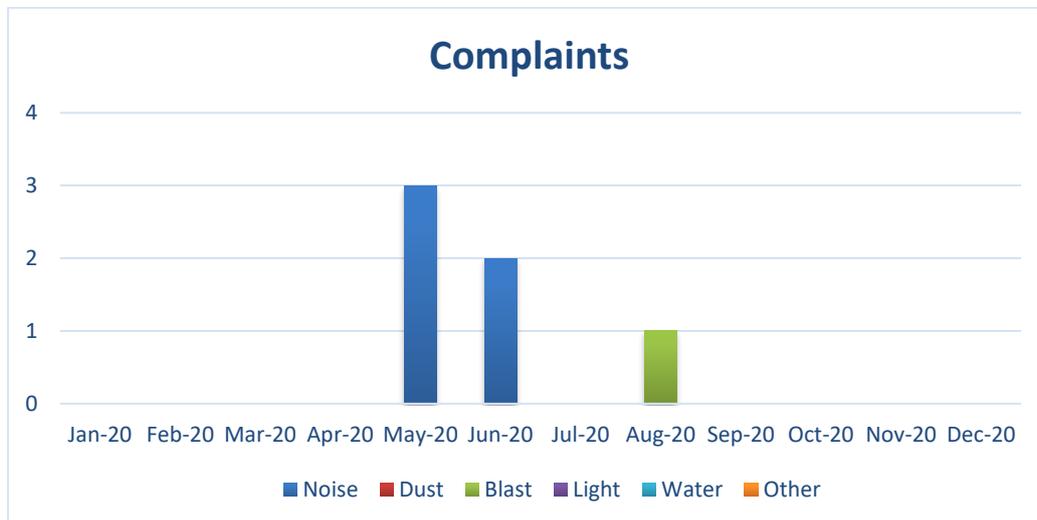
Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on **9 September 2020**

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1.0 Complaints

Six complaints have been received for 2020 to date.



Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
19/5/2020	8.28pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A complaint was received by a resident of Jerrys Plains Village who reported that he could hear a horn from a digger or shovel as well as a dozer rattling and haul trucks running.</p> <p>Following his conversation with the resident at 8.49pm, the Senior Supervisor rang the OCE on shift at West Pit at 8.57pm and asked him to complete a field inspection to ascertain if any noise was coming from West Pit that could be contributing towards the noise being heard in Jerrys Plains. Shovel 317 was shutdown to determine if it was contributing to the noise. 341 shovel operator was requested to reduce horn use on shovel and minimal tracking of dump dozers.</p> <p>The Senior Supervisor rang the resident back at 9.40pm to advise of the modifications.</p> <p>At 10.00pm haulage from shovel 317 recommenced and the Senior Supervisor rang the resident back at 10.07pm to confirm if any noise could be heard. The resident confirmed he could only hear a few trucks at infrequent intervals. The resident mentioned that he had been sitting outside his residence since 9.40pm and couldn't hear any noise after this time and that he was happy with the operational modifications that the OCE had made. Observations continued until the early morning to ensure noise was contained.</p> <p>It's likely that noise was being reinforced by atmospheric conditions. No noise alarms were received during the time of the complaints.</p>	Hotline	NA ¹

¹ The noise complainant related to intermittent, punctuated noise which would not contribute significantly to overall measured noise levels.

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
19/5/2020	9.02pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A complaint was received from a resident from Jerrys Plains who reported that she could hear horns going off and rocks being thrown into trucks.</p> <p>The Senior Mine Supervisor called the resident at 9.14pm to ascertain the noise source. The resident confirmed that she could hear horns blowing and trucks running in a south-easterly direction from her property which the Supervisor deduced might be coming from Riverview Pit.</p> <p>Whilst the Supervisor was speaking with the resident on the telephone he could hear a horn noise from a shovel or digger on her phone. At the time of the call the Supervisor was at the Riverview crib hut and couldn't hear any horns being blown from that location. Conversely when horns were being used in the Supervisors vicinity these could not be heard by the resident.</p> <p>The Supervisor told the resident that he would speak with HVO operators about minimising horn noise and also changing the trucks coming off the RW 150 dump to sound attenuated. Changes were also made to operations in West Pit around this time in response to a prior noise complaint. It's likely that noise was being reinforced by atmospheric conditions. No noise alarms were received during the time of the complaints.</p> <p>The Supervisor rang the resident back at 10 pm to check if the noise had abated. The resident reported that the noise levels had dropped and that she was happy with the modifications that had been made.</p>	Hotline	NA ²

² The noise complainant related to intermittent, punctuated noise which would not contribute significantly to overall measured noise levels.

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
30/5/2020	9.38pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A complaint was received by a resident of Jerrys Plains Village who reported that he could hear horn noise believed to be from a loading unit which was described as the same noise that he could hear when he made a complaint on 19 May 2020.</p> <p>The resident was called back by the Senior Supervisor on shift who advised the resident that the concerns of horn noise would be investigated. The resident did not request a further call back. The Senior Supervisor then rang the West Pit OCE who reviewed current pit operations to ascertain if noise was coming from West Pit and contributing to the noise being heard in Jerrys Plains.</p> <p>At approximately 11pm the West Pit OCE observed from the RL 160 Wilton Pit Dump that all loading units were operating below the natural surface. Horn and haul truck noise from loading units 306 and 341 was audible from this location however it was considered that the noise was unlikely to be carrying to Jerrys Plains and as such no operational changes were made.</p> <p>Noise levels were below trigger level, no noise alarms were received during the time of the complaint. Weather conditions at the time deemed criteria to be applicable. Noise levels at the nearest noise monitor half an hour before and after the complaint ranged from 32 to 34 dB against a criteria of 36 dB indicating compliance.</p>	Hotline	NA ³

³ The noise complainant related to intermittent, punctuated noise which would not contribute significantly to overall measured noise levels.

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
1/6/2020	8.28am	Noise	Maison Dieu	<p>A complaint was received by a resident of Maison Dieu who reported that she could hear a pump which she thought was coming from Lake James from Friday 29 May to Monday 1 June and that the noise from the pump had disrupted her sleep.</p> <p>Noise monitor indicated potential mine related exceedances at night on 31 May issuing noise alarms from nearest noise monitors at Maison Dieu and Knodlers Lane over</p> <p>Alarms were received and actioned by Dispatch and the Mine Supervisor, with the observation being that noise was from a water pump and farm animals and not mining equipment. A pump was a suspected cause of previous noise alarms and actions had been implemented to mitigate. Pump was changed out for quieter version (29/5/2020) and shrouded with noise insulation, and testing proved to be less noisy than previous pump. The pump wont be run on night-shift until additional controls are implemented.</p> <p>The E&C Officer called the resident at 1.47pm to confirm that the pump had been attenuated with sound curtains and that the pump would be turned off on night shift. The resident was appreciative of these actions.</p>	Direct phone call to E&C Officer	Yes ⁴
12/6/2020	9.40pm	Noise	Jerrys Plains	<p>A complaint was received from a resident of Jerrys Plains regarding loading and horn noise from the direction of West Pit.</p> <p>The OCE called the resident to confirm noise concerns and later returned call whilst inspecting the pit to confirm horn noise that she was hearing. It was identified that Shovel 341 horn noise was the key source. The OCE consulted with operators to develop a plan to limit horn use by using Dispatch to the kick the trucks out, reduced air pressure in the shovel horn to reduce noise level and reduced the amount of time they held the horn on for. Approximately 15 minutes of down time was recorded. No further complaints were received.</p>	Hotline	NA ⁵

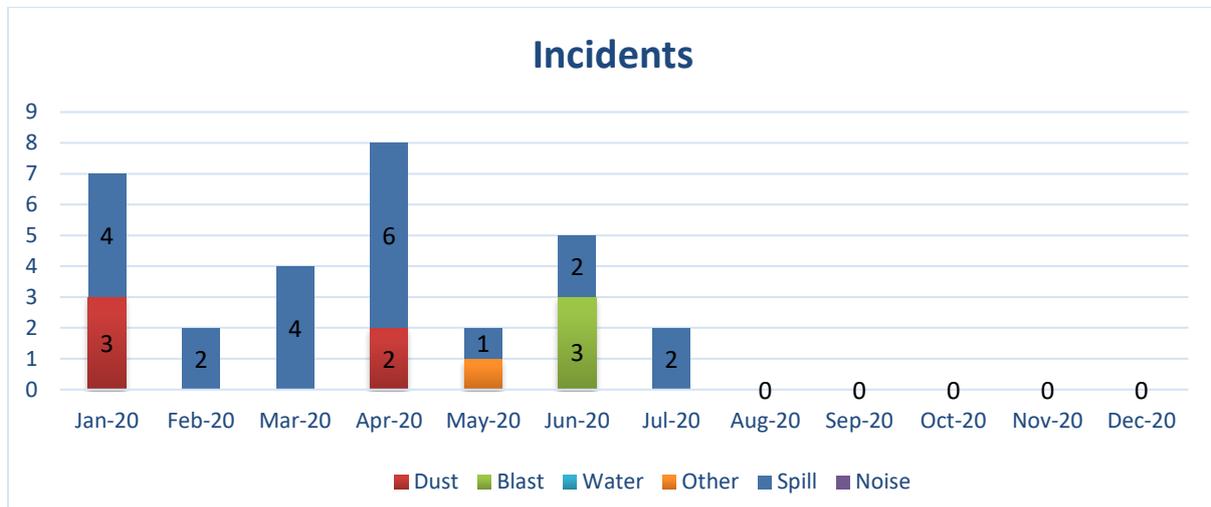
⁴ This is indicated as a potential exceedance based on real-time noise monitor data. The contribution to the measured levels have not been calculated to determine significance of the mine noise.

⁵ The noise complainant related to intermittent, punctuated noise which would not contribute significantly to overall measured noise levels.

Date	Time	Type	Location	Complaint details	Method Received	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance ?
7/8/2020	2.29pm	Blasting	Jerrys Plains	<p>A complaint was received by a resident of Jerrys Plains who called the Environment and Community Officer (E&C Officer) directly, to report that her house shook and windows vibrated from a mine blast at around 2.29pm.</p> <p>The E&C Officer checked the blast monitoring database and consulted with Drill and Blast confirming that HVO had fired a blast at 2.29pm. Both the vibration and overpressure results (0.05 mm/s and 105.82dBL) recorded at the Jerrys Plains Village blast monitor were below compliance levels.</p> <p>The resident was called back at 3.36pm to confirm that HVO had fired a pre-split blast in West Pit at 2.29pm and that both vibration and overpressure levels were below compliance levels. The resident asked if the E&C Officer could record the enquiry as a formal complaint.</p>	Direct phone call to E&C Officer	No

2.0 Incidents

Incident overview for 2020 YTD



Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
09/01/2020	PM10 High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) at the Hunter Valley Glider Club site failed to run for the full 24 hour period only recording for a total of 20 hours.	The HVAS was investigated by HVO's environmental contractor with no faults found with the unit. Further investigation found that the mis-capture was likely due to a local power outage. DPIE were notified with an incident report submitted on 5 February.	Dust
15/01/2020	The TSP HVAS at the Warkworth site failed to run for the full 24 hour period only recording for a total of 18.6 hours.	The HVAS was investigated by HVO's environmental contractor with no faults found with the unit. Further investigation found that the mis-capture was likely due to a local power outage. DPIE were notified with an incident report submitted on 5 February.	Dust
16/01/2020	Pump 217 failed in the drill area at the south end of 306 dig, spilling approximately 100L of oil on the ground.	Contaminated soil from the spill was removed and taken to the onsite bioremediation area for treatment.	Hydrocarbon
19/01/2020	A hydraulic hose failed on Dozer 504 after it was unloaded from a float near the South workshop wash pad, spilling approximately 100L of oil onto the ground.	The dozer was parked up and absorbent matting used to clean up the spill.	Hydrocarbon
21/01/2020	A diesel spill occurred while an operator was refuelling Truck 422 at the West Pit Howick fuel farm. The operator did not notice that the breather on the fuel tank had become blocked with mud and continued refuelling, resulting in 100-150 litres of diesel being spilled onto the ground.	The operator ceased refuelling and reported the spill. The contaminated soil was contained and taken to the onsite bioremediation area for treatment.	Hydrocarbon
21/01/2020	The TSP HVAS at the Warkworth site failed to run for the full 24 hour period only recording for a total of 18.6 hours.	The HVAS was investigated by HVO's environmental contractor with no faults found with the unit. Further investigation found that the mis-capture was likely due to a local power outage. DPIE were notified with an incident report submitted on 5 February.	Dust
25/01/2020	A hydraulic hose failed on Excavator 312 whilst in operation spilling approximately 100L of oil onto the ground.	The excavator was parked up and the spill contained and the contaminated soil taken to the onsite bioremediation area for treatment.	Hydrocarbon
11/02/2020	985 Fuel Cart had an overflow of diesel due to the inspection cover not being fully closed	The Supervisor was advised and a spill kit was deployed to contain spill.	Hydrocarbon

	when repairs were completed which caused approximately 40L of diesel to spill onto the floor of the South Fuel Facility Bunded Area.		
22/02/2020	Excavator 310 operator identified an oil leak while working in the West Pit Upper Liddell Coal Bench with approximately 50L of oil spilled.	The excavator was shut down and the oil spill was contained to the bench. The contaminated material was taken to the site bioremediation facility.	Hydrocarbon
04/03/2020	A road haul truck tipping at the Newdell Dump Hopper leaked approximately 25 litres of oil when a hydraulic oil hose failed.	The truck was isolated, the spill was contained and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon
13/03/2020	Haul Truck 408 spilled approximately 400 litres of oil on the dig bench due to a failure of the hoist filter.	The leak was repaired and the contaminated material was taken to the bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
26/03/2020	Approximately 30 litres of diesel fuel leaked along the road while a generator was being transported from the old field building to the new Lemington South Maintenance offices.	The leak was isolated and absorbent matting used to clean up the spill.	Hydrocarbon
29/03/2020	A road haul truck tipping at the Newdell Dump Hopper leaked approximately 100 litres of oil when a hydraulic oil hose failed.	The truck was isolated, the spill was contained and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon
04/04/2020	Drill operator was operating at the south end of West Pit where he proceeded to drill a hole when the drill lost hydraulic pressure resulting in 50L of oil being spilled.	The machine was shut down and the spill taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
08/04/2020	Excavator operator was loading truck 485 when the hydraulic block hit the back of the truck causing approximately 300L of oil to spill.	The spill was contained and contaminated material moved to bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
14/04/2020	Loader 651 blew the main discharge line from the hydraulic tank due to a mechanical failure, causing approximately 200 litres of oil to spill under the machine.	The spill was contained and contaminated material moved to bioremediation pad.	Hydrocarbon
14/04/2020	Truck 415 operator identified a hydraulic leak causing approximately 600L of oil to spill from the hydraulic tank.	The operator stopped the truck. The spill was contained with an earthen bund and taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
22/04/2020	A B double truck was side tipping, when a spray of hydraulic oil was identified,	Absorbent sand was spread over the spill which was contained to the concrete floor of the dump hopper.	Hydrocarbon

	causing approximately 20L of oil to spill.		
26/04/2020	The TSP HVAS at the Cheshunt East site failed to run for a full 24hr period. A reason for the run failure was unable to be determined. The adjacent PM10 HVAS ran without issue over the same time period indicating power supply was not the cause and the contractor confirmed that the timer settings, clock and run schedules were checked and found to be normal. The unit was test-run on the 27 April and operated without issue.	The unit was sent for repairs to confirm any faults and a hire unit was used in the interim.	Dust
26/04/2020	A sample taken at the Cheshunt East High Volume Air Sampler on 26/4 measured 72 ug/m3 compared to the criteria of 50 ug/m3.	HVO engaged an air quality specialist to review the result and determine HVO's likely contribution to the measurement which determined that HVO could have contributed up to 63% of the measurement. HVO reported this exceedance to the DPIE as a non-compliance against its HVO North Development Consent and notified residents and tenants represented by the monitor.	Dust
28/04/2020	Approx. 30L of fuel leaked from a Skid pump remote tank valve.	The valve was closed and stem nut was tightened. A replacement valve is being sourced. The contaminated material was cleaned up and taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
14/05/2020	A hydraulic oil filter housing cap has cracked and broken off and let approximately 60 L of oil from the system flow on to the ground at the North Workshop go-line	The spill was contained and the contaminated soil was taken to the bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
26/05/2020	During a site inspection it was observed that ground disturbance had commenced without an approved Ground Disturbance Permit (GDP). Topsoil had been scraped into a	Silt fencing was immediately installed and the GDP finalised with conditions included requiring relocation of gantries	Other

	<p>stockpile and several conveyor gantries had been deposited outside the proposed GDP boundary. Four gantries were placed on the road verge outside of HVO's approval boundaries and land ownership. No unauthorised disturbance was caused to heritage sites or vegetation.</p>	<p>and clean-up of areas outside the approved boundary.</p>	
01/06/2020	<p>After firing a blast in the Riverview Pit, the measured overpressure result was found to be 115.32 dB at the Maison Dieu blast monitor.</p>	<p>The incident was investigated by an external consultant, following the verification of the data in the blast monitoring system, who found that the results were wind affected. HVO are waiting for the EPA to issue a licence variation to permit the use of an alternative monitor less affected by wind.</p>	Blasting
23/06/2020	<p>After firing a blast in the Riverview Pit, the measured overpressure result was found to be 115.24 dB at the Maison Dieu blast monitor.</p>	<p>The incident was investigated by an external consultant, following the verification of the data in the blast monitoring system, who found that the results were wind affected. HVO are waiting for the EPA to issue a licence variation to permit the use of an alternative monitor less affected by wind.</p>	Blasting
25/06/2020	<p>After firing a blast in the Riverview Pit, the measured overpressure result was found to be 115.24 dB at the Maison Dieu blast monitor.</p>	<p>The incident was investigated by an external consultant, following the verification of the data in the blast monitoring system, who found that the results were wind affected. HVO are waiting for the EPA to issue a licence variation to permit the use of an alternative monitor less affected by wind.</p>	Blasting
22/06/2020	<p>Truck 479 developed a hydraulic leak losing approximately 200 in-pit.</p>	<p>The truck was isolated and a grader was called to contain the oil leaking from the truck. The contaminated dirt was recovered and delivered to the bio remediation area.</p>	Hydrocarbon

24/06/2020	A diesel tank on a truck was pierced by a metal stake on the ground which leaked approximately 80 L of diesel while driving. The spill was on an internal bitumen road.	The spillage was removed, dry sorb placed on road ways and a street sweeper to remove the dry sorb.	Hydrocarbon
06/07/2020	Mayfield Truck 636 had a mechanical failure and oil leak (~40L) in-pit..	The spill was banded with a grader and waste material taken to the bio-remediation cell in Carrington.	Hydrocarbon
20/07/2020	Truck 702 blew an O-ring on a hydraulic hose spilling approximately 150 L at the South In-Pit Crib Hut.	The spill was banded to prevent further contamination and cleaned up.	Hydrocarbon

3.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

Round One of HVO's Community Grants Programme closed in May with 12 applications received. A number of local organisations were successful in obtaining funds totalling \$29,875 the organisations included were:

- Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service – 2020 Hunter Valley Mining Charity Rugby League Day
- St Catherine's Catholic College – Safe Livestock Handling
- Singleton High School – Flying High with Drone
- Singleton Council – Sponsorship Cycling NSW
- Singleton Chamber of Commerce – Hunter Coal Festival
- Branxton Lions – Lions Road Safety Signs
- Denman Little Athletics – Shelving for Sports Shed
- Singleton Girl Guides – Building Floor Repair and Maintenance

In addition, HVO have continued to support the Jerrys Plains Public School Jerrys Juniors and Ready4School pre-school programmes.

4.0 Environmental monitoring

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring; March to June 2020

March 2020

Attached as **Appendix A**

April 2020

Attached as **Appendix B**

May 2020

Attached as **Appendix C**

June 2020

Attached as **Appendix D**

5.0 Environmental Documents

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

22/5/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data April 2020
25/5/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Minutes February 2020
12/6/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data May 2020
13/7/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Minutes - 20 May 2020
20/7/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data June 2020
05/8/2020	Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data July 2020