

Hunter Valley Operations

Community Consultative Committee

Business Papers – February 2025

Materials ahead of meeting of the committee on **5 February 2025**

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1.0 Complaints

Two (2) community complaints regarding air quality have been received since HVOs previous CCC meeting held on 13 November 2024.

A summary of all complaints received during 2024 and Janaury2025 to date is provided in **Figure 1** and **Table 1**.

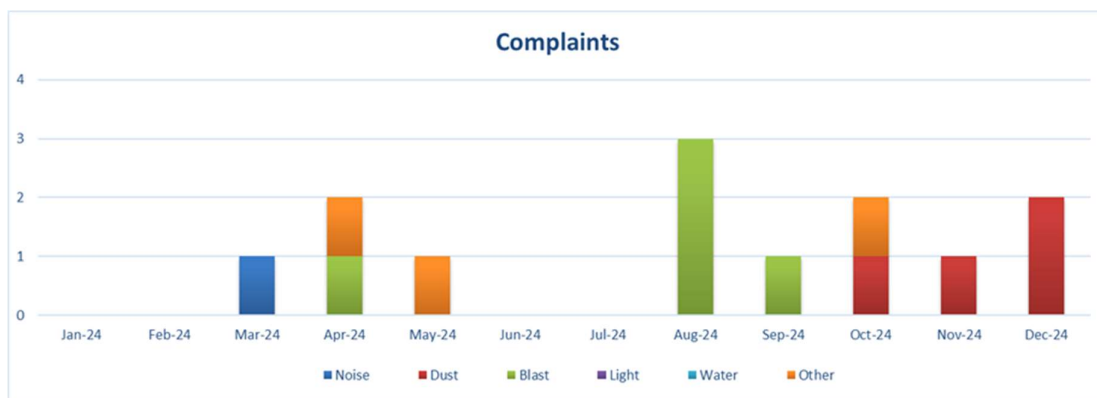


Figure 1: 2024 Community Complaints by Type

Table 1: 2024 / 2025 Community Complaints

Date	Time	Nature of Complaint	Mode of Complaint	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance	Brief Description and Response
No community complaints received during January					
No community complaints received during February					
12 March	8:59pm	Noise	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 8:59pm regarding noise, commenting that “noise is pretty loud tonight” as well as equipment horns could be heard. The OCE on duty in South Pit contacted the resident at 9:02pm and horn use and dumping practices – thought to be the causes of the disturbance – were altered and/or stopped. No noise alarms had triggered within one hour of the complaint. Horn noise was audible from noise recordings at the Jerrys Plains noise monitor.
2 April	1:31pm	Blast	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the United Wambo Joint Venture (UWJV) Community Complaints Hotline at 1:31pm regarding noise and vibration from a blast. This was relayed to HVO given they did not have a blast at that time. A member of the HVO Environment and Community team contacted the resident to advise a blast had been fired in the Mitchell Pit at 1:29pm. The closest monitor to the resident recorded overpressure of 105.5 dBL against a criteria of 120 dBL and ground vibration of 0.11mm/s against a criteria of 10mm/s.
4 April	12:30pm	Traffic	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called the Community Complaints Hotline at 12:30pm regarding traffic incidents at HVO North entry off Lemington Road. The resident reported that a vehicle exiting HVO North on the afternoon of 3 April failed to

Date	Time	Nature of Complaint	Mode of Complaint	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance	Brief Description and Response
					<p>stop at the stop sign and almost collided with his wife's vehicle. They have witnessed other vehicles failing to stop at the same location within the past two months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A presentation about the importance of road safety whilst travelling to and from HVO was delivered to relevant roles. Vegetation maintenance was performed to increase visibility at the intersection.
3 May	7:40am	Traffic	Direct call to E&C Officer	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains called an Environment and Community Officer directly regarding a traffic incident at HVO North's intersection with Lemington Road. The resident reported that a vehicle (small truck) exiting HVO North at approximately 7:40am on 3 May failed to stop at the stop sign and almost collided with another vehicle. Following an internal investigation into the complaint, a site-wide communication about road safety and the 100km/h speed limit along Lemington Road was delivered at daily HCOMs. In addition, road marking, signs and the surveillance camera near the intersection
No community complaints received during June					
No community complaints received during July					
30 Aug.	10:05am	Blast	Direct call to E&C Officer	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains contacted the HVO Environment and Community officer directly via telephone at 10:05am describing two loud blasts in succession as well as floor movement and house shudder. The Environment and Community Officer communicated to the resident advising that a blast had been fired in the HVO Mitchell Pit at 10:04am. The closest monitor to the resident recorded overpressure of 100.18 dBL against a criteria of 120 dBL and ground vibration of 0.06mm/s against a criteria of 10mm/s.
30 Aug.	10:13am	Blast	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains contacted the HVO Community Complaints Hotline at 10:13am describing their house rattling as well as two loud bangs. The Environment and Community Officer communicated to the resident via telephone shortly after the call to advise a blast had been fired in the HVO Mitchell Pit at 10:04am.

Date	Time	Nature of Complaint	Mode of Complaint	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance	Brief Description and Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The closest monitors to the resident – Jerrys Plains and Moses Crossing – recorded overpressure results of 100.18 dBL and 112.37 dBL respectively against a criteria of 120dBL and ground vibration results of 0.06mm/s and 0.21mm/s respectively against a criteria of 10mm/s. HVO conducted an internal investigation into the blast and as requested provided the outcomes to the resident via email.
30 Aug.	10:19am	Blast	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Jerrys Plains contacted the HVO Community Complaints Hotline at 10:19am describing ground movement worse than a recent earthquake. The Environment and Community Officer communicated to the resident via telephone shortly after the call to advise a blast had been fired in the HVO Mitchell Pit at 10:04am. The closest monitors to the resident – Jerrys Plains and Moses Crossing – recorded overpressure results of 100.18 dBL and 112.37 dBL respectively against a criteria of 120dBL and ground vibration results of 0.06mm/s and 0.21mm/s respectively against a criteria of 10mm/s. HVO conducted an internal investigation into the blast and as requested provided the outcomes to the resident via email.
24 Sept.	1:50pm	Blast	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Maison Dieu contacted the HVO Community Complaints Hotline at 1:50pm describing a blast that occurred at 1.30pm that shook their house and left dust over their cars. The HVO Environment and Community Officer communicated to the resident via telephone shortly after the call to advise a blast had been fired in the HVO Cheshunt Pit at 1:29pm. The closest monitors to the resident, Maison Dieu and Knodlers Lane, recorded blasting levels below relevant criteria. These monitors recorded overpressures of 112.74 and 114.6dBL respectively against a criteria of 120dBL and ground vibration of 0.33 and 0.26mm/s respectively against a criteria of 10mm/s.

Date	Time	Nature of Complaint	Mode of Complaint	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance	Brief Description and Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HVO conducted an internal investigation into the blast and as requested, and provided the outcomes to the resident.
21 Oct.	6:33am	Traffic	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A member of the community called the HVO Community Complaints Hotline at 6:33am on 22 October regarding a traffic hazard at the intersection of the HVO South access road and Golden Highway. The community member reported that a vehicle exiting HVO South on the afternoon of 21 October failed to give way causing them to brake sharply to avoid a collision with the offending vehicle. A communication about the importance of providing an adequate gap at this intersection was provided to Mine and Maintenance teams at HVO South.
30 Oct.	1:50pm	Air quality	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Putty Road, Mt Thorley contacted the HVO community complaints hotline at 1.50pm on 30 October 2024 regarding poor air quality. The resident was not able to attribute the dusty conditions to a blast event or any other event or location related to HVO. The residence is approximately 13km from HVO's nearest active mining area. The daily 24-hr results from the two closest real-time PM₁₀ monitors (Knodlers Lane and Maison Dieu) were below the compliance limits.
4 Nov.	9:27am	Air quality	Direct call to Environment and Community Officer	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Putty Road, Mt Thorley contacted HVO regarding poor air quality. The resident attributed dusty conditions to HVO South. Representatives from HVO's Environment and Community team attended the residence to discuss the residents concerns. The daily 24-hr results from the two closest real-time PM₁₀ monitors (Knodlers Lane and Maison Dieu) were below the compliance limits.
17 Dec.	11:00am	Air quality	Community Hotline	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Putty Road, Mt Thorley contacted the HVO community complaints hotline regarding poor air quality. The resident attributed the dusty conditions to HVO South.

Date	Time	Nature of Complaint	Mode of Complaint	Monitoring Indicates Exceedance	Brief Description and Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The resident was contacted by a HVO Environment and Community Officer to further discuss the nature of the complaint. The daily 24-hr results from the two closest real-time PM₁₀ monitors (Knodlers Lane and Maison Dieu) were below the compliance limits.
21 Dec.	11:14am	Air quality	Direct call to Environment and Community Officer	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident of Putty Road, Mt Thorley directly contacted a HVO Environment and Community Officer via telephone regarding poor air quality. The resident attributed the dusty conditions to HVO South. The daily 24-hr results from the two closest real-time PM₁₀ monitors (Knodlers Lane and Maison Dieu) were below the compliance limits.

2.0 Incidents

Thirty-five (35) environmental incidents with a Category 1 ranking were recorded during 2024. One (1) Category 2 ranking incident was recorded during 2024. A summary of all incident details are provided in **Figure 2** and **Table 2**.

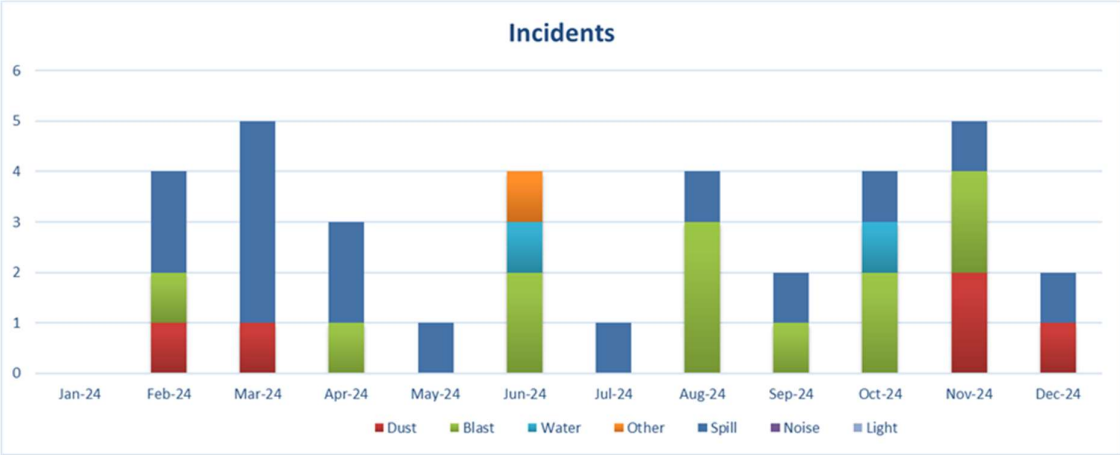


Figure 2: 2024 Environmental Incidents by Type

Table 2: 2024 Environmental Incidents Detail

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
5/02/2024	<p>PM₁₀ dust exceedance – Cheshunt East Monitoring results indicate that on 5 February 2023, the Cheshunt East High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) recorded a total result of 69.1µg/m³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM₁₀, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50ug/m³. Todoroski Air Sciences were engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO’s maximum possible contribution to be 24.4 ug/m³. HVO North was not a significant contributor of this exceedance based on elevated regional dust levels and the monitor being upwind for half of the day.</p>	Implementation of operational controls to comply with the approved Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan. The Department of Planning Housing and Investment were advised of this exceedance on 28 February and an incident report has been submitted.	Dust
9/02/2024	<p>Drill 213 oil spill A hydraulic oil leak occurred on Drill 213 whilst drilling holes on a drill pattern in Cheshunt Pit. Upon investigation, the drill operator found hydraulic oil leaking from the pump and subsequently found that a filter housing had failed. It is estimate that approximately 100 litres of oil spilled to ground.</p>	Repair of the filter was undertaken to prevent further oil leaking to the ground surface. Contaminated soils were scraped to a depth that staining was no longer visible and removed to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon

18/02/2024	<p>Diesel spill at AECI manufacturing facility</p> <p>While conducting refuelling on thermal heater tanks, an operator has opened a diesel valve then has left the area to assist at another task leaving the refuelling operation running. The thermal heater tank overflowed resulting in approximately 3,500 litres of diesel spilling to ground within the AECI compound. The spill was contained by the stormwater system designed for the AECI compound. There was no potential for an offsite spill.</p>	<p>Immediate corrective actions included closing of the diesel valve and containing the spill using designated absorbent materials and constructing earthen bunds. Post event cleanup included vacuum truck removal of liquid materials and excavation and disposal of contaminated soils to the Carrington Bioremediation area. Valves have been changed to spring-loaded, which only operate when in attendance.</p>	Hydrocarbon
20/02/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3B)</p> <p>Following initiation of a blast at 1:13pm in Cheshunt Pit 1, post blast fume was observed coming out of the face rows as well as towards the back section of the blast. The blast was ranked as Level 3B in accordance with the Australian Explosives Industry Safety Group (AEISG) rating scale. The wind direction and wind speed at the time of the blast was 5.4 m/s and 171 degrees. Blast fume travelled in a north-westerly direction and dispersed across HVO North.</p>	<p>The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction.</p>	Blast
13/03/2024	<p>Excavator oil spill</p> <p>Excavator 325 was undertaking drill preparation works in West Pit on a bench. As the excavator trammed backwards, it ran over a large rock which caused the travel motor guard to flex and travel motor oil filters to be damaged at the elbow connectors to the filters. This resulted in approximately 100L of oil spilling to ground.</p>	<p>The damaged connector elbow and filters were repaired in the field. The spilled oil in-pit was not recoverable.</p>	Hydrocarbon

13/03/2024	<p>PM₁₀ dust exceedance – Jerrys Plains Monitoring results indicate that on 13 March 2024, the Jerrys Plains TEOM recorded a result of 51.2µg/m³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM₁₀, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50ug/m³. A specialist air quality consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO's maximum possible contribution to be 13.3ug/m³. HVO's contribution towards this event was minimal and likely to have been overestimated as only the southern portion of HVO North could have potentially contributed to dust levels at Jerrys Plains and this part of the mine has no active mining occurring.</p>	The Department of Planning Housing and Investment were advised of the exceedance and an incident report has been submitted.	Dust
21/03/2024	<p>Oil spill adjacent to Parnell's Dam Whilst undertaking poly welding works at the former shutdown pad adjacent to Parnell's Dam, the hydraulic oil filter on the poly welding machine became dislodged. This resulted in approximately 20L of oil spilling to ground beneath the machine.</p>	Dirt bunds were formed to contain the oil spill as well as absorbent material applied to soak up the oil. The contaminated soil materials were picked up using an excavator and relocated to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
23/03/2024	<p>Haul truck oil spill Whilst haul truck RD407 was attempting to tip at WS145 dump, an oil spill was identified beneath the truck. An inspection was conducted and it was identified that the right-hand hoist ram had failed. This resulted in approximately 50L spilling to ground.</p>	The damaged hoist ram was repaired in field. The contaminated material was unrecoverable.	Hydrocarbon
23/03/2024	<p>Hydrocarbon spill A hydrocarbon spill was identified by a maintainer adjacent to the oil pod storage area at the North workshop. A partially filled 1,000L IBC 50W grade oil pod was found leaking oil onto a hardstand area. The volume of the spill was approximately 80L.</p>	The spill was stopped and contained using a nearby designated spill kit. Contaminated soils on top of the hardstand area were collected for disposal.	Hydrocarbon
12/04/2024	<p>Lemington fuel facility oil spill An oil spill was detected within the Lemington re-fuelling facility. The cause of the leak was an oil hose reel dispenser valve being left open. Upon further investigation, it was noted that the valve had no handle fitted, which had been broken off prior to the leak. The spill was approximately 400L.</p>	Spill kit matting and drysorb materials were applied to prevent it from flowing into downgradient drains. The area of the spill was contained to the hardstand area of the facility floor. Waste contractor disposed of contaminated materials.	Hydrocarbon

23/04/2024	<p>EX326 hydraulic oil leak at Mitchell Pit Excavator 326 received damage to its left-hand side hydraulic bucket cylinder pipe after contacting the dovetail tray of haul truck DT479. The damage caused a leak which resulted in approximately 400L of oil to be spilled to the ground.</p>	Approximately 200 tonnes of contaminated coal were stockpiled and later transported and placed at Loop 2 for processing through the Hunter Valley CHPP.	Hydrocarbon
26/04/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3B) Following initiation of the P21002001A blast at 11:25am in Cheshunt Pit 2, post blast fume was observed coming out of the face rows. The wind direction and wind speed at the time of the blast were 3.5m/s and 138 degrees respectively, resulting in fume travelling North and dissipating over the pit. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction.</p>	The blast was ranked as Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale after camera footage of the blast was reviewed by the blast supervisor, engineer and shotfirer. An internal investigation into the cause of the fume found that cracking in the face rows contributed to the event.	Blast
22/05/2024	<p>Haul truck oil leak – South Pit An oil leak occurred whilst undertaking field maintenance on a failed hydraulic pump on haul truck TR784 at the South Pit RL20 crib-hut maintenance bay. After the pump was removed, approximately 200L of oil leaked to the ground beneath the truck. The oil tank was evacuated however was not verified to be empty.</p>	Hydraulic pump replaced and truck moved from the location and remediation works undertaken. This included the excavation of contaminated soils, transport and disposal at the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon
4/06/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 4B) Following initiation of the P10101003A-P101N5P01A-P10N10P02A blasts at 1:09pm in Cheshunt Pit 1, post blast fume was observed coming from across the blast surface. Fume from the blast travelled from the initiation points in an easterly direction and dispersed above the pit.</p>	The blast was ranked as Level 4B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found the blast was impacted by a rain event (approximately 60mm) following loading and before initiation. The blast was initially delayed to avoid impact to the neighbouring glider club. The delay resulted in the rain impact to the blast product. The event was reported to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), no further follow up was requested.	Blast

20/06/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3A) Following initiation of blast P209BR601C at 1:07pm in Cheshunt Pit 2, post blast fume was observed along the face row of the blast surface. Fume from the blast was observed to stay within the blast exclusion zone and dispersed onsite.</p>	The blast was ranked Level 3A in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found inadequacies with product such as gassing properties and product placement were the cause of the greater than anticipated fume.	Blast
22/06/2024 (Cat. 2)	<p>Discharge of mine water from Dam 17N During a routine inspection by the CHPP, a small diameter hose was found to be discharging mine water into Farrells Creek. The hose was connected to a pump dewatering a valve pit at the toe of Dam 17N. The maximum estimated volume discharged to Farrells Creek was 523kL between 13 and 22 June.</p>	The pump was immediately turned off. Water quality testing was undertaken upstream and downstream of the discharge point. Upstream water quality had a higher salinity than the discharged water and downstream samples. It was determined that no actual or potential environmental harm was caused. EPA was notified on 24 June and incident report submitted.	Water
28/06/2024	<p>Clearing outside of GDP 494 boundary A land management contractor was engaged to clear vegetation along the boundary of GDP 494, located adjacent to River ROM. The operator of the mulching equipment employed to clear the boundaries inadvertently cleared vegetation on the incorrect side (outside of the approved boundary) of the GDP pegged limits. The area of disturbance was approximately 0.15ha. The area cleared is classed as rehabilitation, HVO owned land earmarked in the mine plan for clearing during 2024. No listed or protected vegetation communities or species were impacted.</p>	The issue was addressed with the land management contractor	Other
13/07/2024	<p>Excavator 331 oil leak During works in West Pit, a control valve on a high-pressure filter housing assembly failed on excavator 331. This resulted in approximately 1,000L of hydraulic oil being spilled to ground within the pit. The machine was shut down when the operator observed the low hydraulic oil level alarm had activated.</p>	The machine was inspected and repaired in the field. Remediation works included scraping of contaminated soils to a depth where visible staining was no longer present, followed by transportation and disposal to the Carrington bioremediation area.	Hydrocarbon

2/08/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3B) After firing the P21003505A and P210WK501A shots at 4:11pm in South Pit on 2 August 2024, post blast fume was observed across the blast which later dissipated onsite. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 1.7m/s and 27 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	The blast was ranked as Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found fume generation was a result of some unstemmed holes being exposed to rain. In addition, above forecast rain during loading of product which resulted in slumping of holes.	Blast
6/08/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3A) P21000003A and N15P01C shots in South Pit 2 were fired at 2:10pm on 6 August 2024. Post blast fume was observed within the blast area, which later dispersed inside the blast radius onsite. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 0.6m/s and 205 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	The blast was ranked as Level 3A in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found the dry product loaded into the blast pattern was affected by above forecast rain.	Blast
10/08/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3A) Following initiation of the M1T208001B through-seam blast at 11:11am in Mitchell Pit, post blast fume was observed coming from one location within the blast area surface. Fume from the blast travelled from the initiation point in a south easterly direction and dissipated over HVO land. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 3.4m/s and 101 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	The blast was ranked as Level 3A in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found fume was generated as a result of the “as-loaded” powder factor being higher than design.	Blast
31/08/2024	<p>Oil leak Excavator 330 Whilst EX330 was tramming over blocky material in West Pit, oil was observed on the ground in front of the tracks. The machine was stopped immediately. Upon inspection, the operator observed damage to the right-hand side travel motor caused by one of the large rocks. The damage resulted in approximately 4,000L of oil leaking to the bench.</p>	Remediation of the area was not possible due to the porous nature of the bench surface as well as line of the spill over rocky ground. The remaining contents of the oil tank, approximately 3,000L, was removed by a vacuum truck and disposed of off-site by a licenced waste disposal contractor. The excavator was repaired in the field.	Hydrocarbon

28/09/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3B) After firing the P101PF101A shot at 5:49pm in South Pit on 28 September 2024, post blast fume was observed across the blast which later dissipated onsite. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 5.7m/s and 137 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	<p>The blast was ranked as Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal investigation into the incident found fume generation was a result of rain impacting product performance and extending sleep time (3-day delay). Additional contributing factors included potential loss of energy due to broken ground and an isolated area of higher Powder Factor at the southern end of the blast.</p>	Blast
25/09/2024	<p>Oil Leak Excavator 316 During normal operation on 25 September 2024 in South Pit, Excavator 316 failed an Air Conditioner hydraulic drive motor supply hard pipe, resulting in an oil leak to ground of approximately 100L.</p>	<p>EX316 was immediately stood down, pipes removed and replaced. The oil was unrecoverable due to the fractured rock that was present under the excavator on the operating bench.</p>	Hydrocarbon
2/10/2024	<p>Oil leak Excavator 327 During overburden removal works in Cheshunt Pit 2, the hard pipe on the stick ram of EX327 contacted the dove tail of haul truck 705. This resulted in the rupture of the hard pipe and approximately 100L of hydraulic oil spilling to the bench surface.</p>	<p>The operator immediately stopped the machine and turned off the hydraulic lever to prevent further spillage. The machine was repaired in the field. The oil was unrecoverable due to the fractured rock materials that was present under the excavator on the operating bench.</p>	Hydrocarbon
15/10/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 4B) After firing the P210WK608B shot at 3:25pm in South Pit 2 on 15 October 2024, post blast fume was observed and dissipated within the pit. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 1.6m/s and 147 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	<p>The blast was ranked Level 4B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An external investigation into the incident is being undertaken, focussing on pre-conditioned ground and weak strata as contributing factors.</p>	Blast

15/10/2024	<p>Scour dam minor overflow</p> <p>A HVO contractor observed a small scour dam holding a large volume of water whilst travelling north along Lemington Road. The scour dam services Dam 9W – Dam 9N pipeline in Mitchell Pit. Approximately 1000L had released from the dam but was observed to be localised and did not leave HVO land or enter a waterway.</p>	<p>The pump crew supervisor and superintendent were notified. Two members of the environment and community department inspected the dam and confirmed that the scour dam was full. De-watering of the dam was undertaken on 17 October. The scour valve on the pipeline was found to be slightly open.</p>	Water
22/10/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 3B)</p> <p>Following shot M1T309502 shot at 1:15pm in Mitchell Pit on 22 October 2024, post blast fume was observed which dissipated onsite. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction – 1.9m/s and 209 degrees respectively at the time of the blast.</p>	<p>The blast was ranked Level 3B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale. An internal HVO investigation found that weak strata contributed to the fume.</p>	Blast
4/11/2024	<p>TEOM PM10 dust exceedance – Jerrys Plains</p> <p>Monitoring results indicate that on 4 November 2024, the Jerrys Plains Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance (TEOM) recorded a total result of 57.9µg/m³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM10, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50µg/m³ for HVO North. A specialist air quality consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO's maximum possible contribution to be 1.2µg/m³. HVO implemented operational controls on 7 November to comply with the HVO Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure were advised of this exceedance on 5 November and an incident report was submitted on 12 November.</p> <p>No further follow up was requested from the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure</p>	Dust

7/11/2024	<p>HVAS PM10 dust exceedance – Cheshunt East</p> <p>Monitoring results indicate that on 7 November 2024, the Cheshunt East High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) recorded a total result of 53.9µg/m³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM10, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50µg/m³ for HVO North. A specialist air quality consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO’s maximum possible contribution to be 11.1µg/m³. HVO implemented operational controls on 7 November to comply with the HVO Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure were advised of this exceedance on 18 November and an incident report submitted.</p> <p>Affected residents were notified of the exceedance as per Schedule 4, Condition 3 of the HVO North Development Consent.</p>	Dust
10/11/2024	<p>Dozer DZ531 diesel spill</p> <p>During refuelling of dozer DZ531 by lube cart 985 in Cheshunt Pit 2, the fuel cap / filter assembly blew off the dozer as a result of an overfilling of the diesel tank. This resulted in approximately 50L of diesel spilling to the ground.</p>	<p>The spill was unrecoverable due to broken ground within the dig area in which the dozer was operating.</p>	Hydrocarbon
22/11/2024	<p>Post blast fume event (Level 4B)</p> <p>After firing the WS49ARU302B shot at 1:20pm in West Pit, post blast fume was observed across the blast surface. Fume and dust from the blast travelled from the initiation point in a westerly direction and dispersed within the blast exclusion zone. No community complaints were received relating to the blast. The blast was fired in accordance with blasting permissions for wind speed and direction. An external investigation was undertaken to determine the likely causes of the fume event.</p>	<p>The blast was ranked Level 4B in accordance with the AEISG rating scale.</p> <p>An incident report was prepared and submitted to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) due 6 December 2024</p>	Blast

28/11/2024	<p>Blast Overpressure Exceedance</p> <p>After firing the P101PCF103A shot at 4:52pm in Cheshunt Pit 1, the Warkworth blast monitor recorded an initial overpressure result of 116.43dB. This was above the 115dB (5%) criteria. However, after the internet protocol (IP) and duration were updated in the blast monitoring software, it was not classified as an exceedance, given the result was less than 115dB.</p> <p>No community complaints were received relating to the blast.</p>	A post incident investigation revealed this was not an overpressure exceedance	Blast
14/12/2024	<p>TEOM PM10 dust exceedance – Jerrys Plains</p> <p>Monitoring results indicate that on 14 December 2024, the Jerrys Plains Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance (TEOM) recorded a total result of 50.5µg/m³ for the 24-hour averaging period for PM10, exceeding the relevant criteria of 50µg/m³ for HVO North. A specialist air quality consultant was engaged to investigate the result and determined HVO North's maximum possible contribution to be 6.3µg/m³. HVO implemented operational controls on 14 December to comply with the HVO Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Department of Planning Housing and Investment were advised of this exceedance on 18 December and an incident report was submitted on 20 December.</p> <p>HVO is to notify residents of Jerrys Plains of this exceedance</p>	Dust
30/12/2024	<p>Diesel spill at Howick fuel farm</p> <p>Whilst the operator of Water Cart 873 was re-fuelling with diesel at Howick fuel farm, the Wiggins fuel nozzle disconnected from the quick fill point resulting in approximately 100 litres of diesel spilling to the concrete surface below.</p>	Spill kit materials were used to contain the fuel spill, with contaminated materials placed in the oily rag bins located at the fuel farm. The Wiggins fitting was replaced.	

3.0 Rainfall

A summary of rainfall data recorded at HVO weather stations is provided in **Figure 3** and **Table 3**.

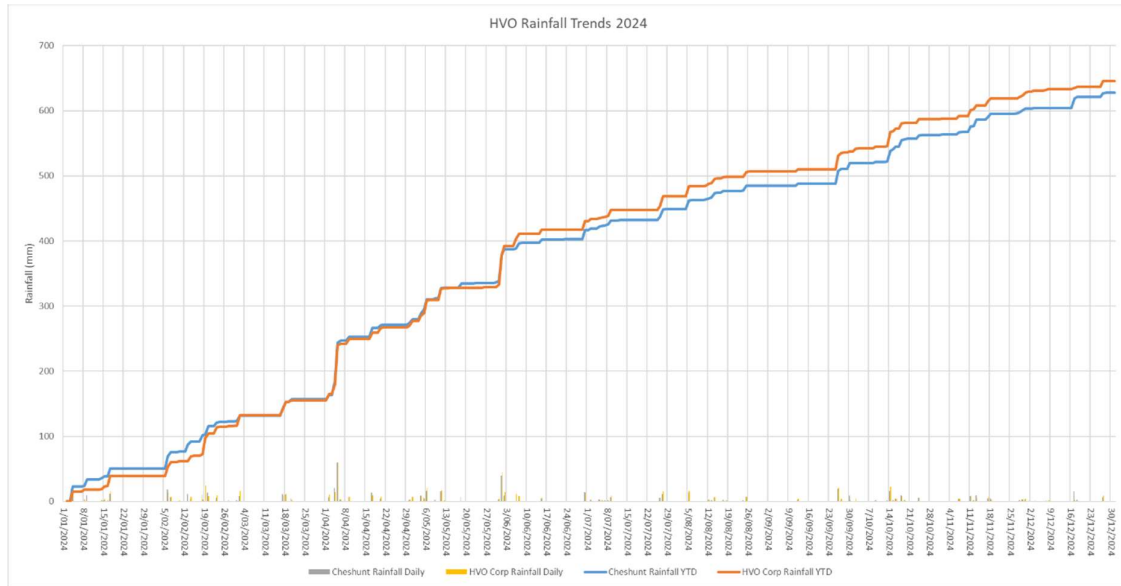


Figure 2: 2024 HVO Rainfall Data

Table 2: 2024 HVO Rainfall Data

Month	Monthly Total Rainfall (mm)	
	Cheshunt	HVO Corporate
Jan-24	50.2	39.4
Feb-24	72.4	76.6
Mar-24	34.4	39.0
Apr-24	116.6	114.8
May-24	65.4	62.8
Jun-24	78.0	98.2
Jul-24	31.8	37.6
Aug-24	36.4	38.2
Sep-24	34.6	30.8
Oct-24	43.0	50.0
Nov-24	40.8	40.2
Dec-24	24.0	17.6
Total	627.6	645.2

4.0 Community Sponsorship and Events

Round One 2025 of the HVO Community Grants Programme will be open between 1 – 30 April, 2025.

5.0 Environmental Monitoring Documents

Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring uploaded to the HVO website since the last meeting (<https://www.hvo.com.au/documents>) include:

- Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data – September 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data – October 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Environment Protection Licence 640 Monitoring Data – November 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report - September 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report - October 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report - November 2024

6.0 Environmental Documents

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

- Hunter Valley Operations Community Complaints Register – current to December 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Agenda – November 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Business Papers – November 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Presentation – November 2024
- Hunter Valley Operations Community Consultative Committee Minutes – November 2024