

Ref CR79105; CR79366; 101/0000136



Department of
**Environment and
Heritage Protection**

28 September 2017

GS Coal Pty Ltd
Level 38 Gateway
1 Macquarie Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

cc: Morné van Zyl
Environment & Community Manager
Clermont Open Cut Mine
PO Box 491, Clermont QLD 4721

Email: morne.vanzyl@glencore.com.au

Dear Directors,

As you are aware, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (the department) received a complaint in relation to an offensive odour being emitted from your activities at Clermont Coal Mine. It is alleged that this odour is the result of spontaneous combustion.

Since an initial odour complaint on 6 June 2017, the department has undertaken several inspections to nearby sensitive receptors and the mine site to determine whether GS Coal Pty Ltd is compliant with condition B3 of environmental authority EPML00634113. These inspections were triggered by additional odour complaints made directly to the department by various members of the public since June 2017. On several occasions during these inspections authorised officers from the department determined offensive odour (the result of spontaneous combustion) beyond the mine site boundary which would constitute environmental nuisance as defined under section 15 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. At this stage, the department has not observed an offensive odour at any sensitive receptor.

The department commends GS Coal Pty Ltd on the improvements made regarding spontaneous combustion management at Clermont Coal Mine since June 2017. Following discussions on 13 September 2017, the department understands that GS Coal Pty Ltd has implemented several new processes to identify, reduce and manage the impacts of spontaneous combustion. During this meeting, the department highlighted the requirement for odour monitoring (both proactive and in response to a complaint) to be undertaken at sensitive receptors to determine if compliance with condition B3 is achieved. This monitoring would also need to account for the instantaneous and subjective nature of odour nuisance. Attached to this letter is a copy of the odour log forms and guideline used by the department to determine odour nuisance.

During the meeting on 13 September 2017, it was acknowledged by all parties that the risk of odour nuisance was highest in winter months when temperature inversions are present and it is expected that there will be a reduction in odour related complaints during the summer months due to this phenomenon. Given this, the department will not be able to finalise the current investigation until winter 2018. At this time, the effectiveness of GS Coal Pty Ltd's new spontaneous combustion management processes will be demonstrated. If no further complaints are received by the department after winter 2018, the current investigation will be finalised.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact William Inonda, Compliance Delivery Manager of the department via email at CWES_Emerald@ehp.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

William Inonda
Compliance Delivery Manager
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Environmental Protection Act 1994

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Queensland 4720 Australia
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Procedural guide

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Odour investigation tools

This document provides information on investigation tools to be used for the investigation of odour complaints under the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Version history

Version	Effective date	Description of changes
1.00	01/09/2015	Approved by Director, Impact Assessment and Operational Support and published
1.01	20/07/2016	Document updated with current corporate branding, uploaded to policy register and reallocated to compliance support for ownership.

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1 Introduction

The following sets out various investigation tools that may be used in support of investigations of odour under the Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection (EHP) Odour investigation procedural guide – ESR/2016/3042.

There are various investigation tools that may be adopted to determine odour nuisance which include:

- Field observations of odour intensity, character and offensiveness
- Odour log sheets
- Odour complaints data.
- Collection of source samples, chemical analysis and comparison against the licence limits.

Deciding which of these strategies to use will generally depend on alleged source(s) and their location, nature of complaints, number of complainants, and any history of odour complaint. An outline of each strategy is provided below. EHP may ask the alleged offender to conduct an environmental evaluation under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* using some of the above tools such as collection of odour emission data and chemical analysis.

2 Field observations of odour intensity, character and offensiveness

The primary strategy available for administering authority to determine the presence of an environmental nuisance due to noxious or offensive odour is detection by authorised officers who can form this opinion based on the objective evidence gathered.

Legislative provisions require only one authorised officer to determine an odour to be noxious or offensive for action to be initiated. However, due to the subjectivity and complexity of some odour nuisances, in cases where the authorised officer's perception of the odour differs from that of the complaint, it is recommended that at least two authorised officers determine whether or not the odour is noxious or offensive. Any authorised officer involved in odour assessment may have their detection sensitivity to n-butanol assessed as a means of indicating their general ability to smell environmental odours. This would serve to improve the defensibility of the officer's field observations.

For some chronic odour nuisances, an intensive investigation response involving additional authorised officers may be necessary. If the odour releases vary over time it may be useful to request that any authorised officers driving near the vicinity of the alleged sources and/ or address from which the complaint is being lodged, undertake a "drive by" check for odour releases in the general area of the alleged odour release.

In situations where there are multiple and/or intermittent sources contributing to odour nuisance, it may be necessary to undertake a number of site visits in order to determine the source/s of odour. It is important to note that this investigation also includes checking places from which odours probably are not being emitted to eliminate these locations as potential sources. One example would be checking a location upwind of a potential source to verify that the odours were not blowing onto that premises from elsewhere.

Useful information to determine the odour nuisance can be obtained by field investigations of combined records of odour intensity, character and offensiveness.

A useful scale for describing odour intensity during field observations is detailed in German Standard VDI 3882 (1) 1992: *Olfactometry Determination of Odour Intensity*. The odour intensity scale from the standards is given in Table1. The German Standard VDI 3940: *Determination of Odorants in Ambient Air by Field Inspection* also has

a procedure for logging observations in the field which involves noting the odour intensity every 10 second over a 10-minute period in one location.

The five factors that general influence odour complaints are: frequency, intensity, duration, offensiveness and location (FIDOL). The objective analysis of FIDOL factors must include the intrinsic nature of the odour that is often referred to as the odour character. The New Zealand Ministry for the Environment has developed the odour character descriptions (see Table 2). These can be used to identify the odour character. Deciding whether a specific odour event is “offensive or objectionable” can then be done using a scale as described in Table 3. When assessing the extent of adverse effects, the physical effects of the odour on the affected people should be considered.

A proforma to record odour intensity and offensiveness in ambient air by field inspection is given in the Recording odour intensity, offensiveness and character form – ESR/2016/3046.

Table 1: German VDI 3882 odour intensity scale and its description

Intensity Scale	Descriptor	Effect on Receptor
0	<i>Not perceptible</i>	Odour is not detectable, cannot be perceived by the sense of smell.
1	<i>Very weak</i>	Odour is just detectable in the outdoor air and activates the sense of smell.
2	<i>Weak</i>	Odour is detectable in the outdoor air, but is not clearly distinguishable, noxious or offensive.
3	<i>Distinct</i>	Odour is present in the outdoor air, easily activates the sense of smell, very distinct and clearly distinguishable.
4	<i>Strong</i>	Odour is present in the outdoor air and would be noxious or offensive and cause a person to attempt to avoid it completely.
5	<i>Very strong</i>	Strong odour present in the outdoor air, which is so strong it is overpowering and intolerable for any length of time.
6	<i>Extremely strong</i>	Extremely strong odour in the outdoor air, which is immediately intolerable.

Table 2: Odour Character descriptors (Source: New Zealand Ministry for the Environment, 2003)

01	Fragrant	21	Like blood, raw meat
02	Perfumed	22	Rubbish
03	Sweet	23	Compost
04	Fruity	24	Silage
05	Bakery (fresh bread)	25	Sickening
06	Coffee-like	26	Musty, earth, mouldy
07	Spicy	27	Sharp, pungent, acid
08	Meat (cooked, good)	28	Metallic
09	Sea/marine	29	Tar-like
10	Herbal, green, cut grass	30	Oily, fatty
11	Bark-like, birch bark	31	Like gasoline, solvent
12	Wood, resinous	32	Fishy
13	Medicinal	33	Putrid, foul, decayed
14	Burnt, smoky	34	Paint-like
15	Soapy	35	Rancid
16	Garlic, onion	36	Sulphidic
17	Cooked vegetables	37	Dead animal
18	Chemical	38	Faecal (like manure)
19	Etherish, anaesthetic	39	Sewer odour
20	Sour, acid, vinegar		

Table 3: Offensiveness Scale and its description for rating adverse effects*

Offensiveness Scale	Descriptor	Effects on Receptor
0	<i>Pleasant</i>	Odour perceived as pleasant to some degree.
1	<i>Neutral</i>	Odour is not perceived as pleasant, but is also not even slightly unpleasant.
2	<i>Slightly Unpleasant</i>	Faintly unpleasant, but easily bearable even for prolonged exposure.
3	<i>Offensive</i>	Causes recognisable displeasure to sense of smell, may be bearable for short exposure, but reluctance to submit oneself to longer exposures is likely. For a 'chemical' smell caused by substances hazardous to humans at relatively low levels, a response of worry is reasonably elicited (e.g. due to it being not practicable to avoid), but without any other physiological responses. Long-term exposure may cause stress-like symptoms.
4	<i>Strongly Offensive</i>	Repulsive. Disgusting. Strongly displeasurable to sense of smell. Would soon elicit attempts to avoid exposure. <u>OR</u> Causes slight physiological effects following exposure e.g. headaches, slight nausea.
5	<i>Noxious</i>	Causes almost immediate attempts to avoid. <u>OR</u> Causes noticeable physiological effects following exposure e.g. pronounced nausea, feeling faint headed.
6	<i>Extremely offensive or noxious</i>	Unbearable Effects. Immediately intolerable. Extremely strong effects such as retching, fainting or other adverse effects on physical wellbeing caused by exposure.

* Note: Use of this table assumes an odour is detectable to olfactory sense

3 Odour log sheets

The use of Odour log sheets - ESR/2016/3045 is a relatively simple and effective way for administering authorities to actively involve the community in the investigation process and obtain meaningful information on which an investigation process can be progressed. A complainant may be requested to complete an odour log sheet and to record the time/ date/ duration/ description and effect of any odour released from the alleged source. Odour log sheets may be also used to monitor the impacts from a specific source within a defined time frame in order to determine the frequency and intensity of odour releases.

In cases where additional verification of the complaint is required to determine the frequency and intensity of odours at a number of different locations, a number of persons at varying locations around the alleged source of the odour may be requested to complete an odour log sheet. It is useful to arrange for the odour log sheets to be posted or faxed to the EHP at the end of each week or fortnight.

On receipt of the odour log sheets the details recorded by the complainant need to be validated. In order to validate the odour log sheets, check the wind-direction at the odour source site, odours known to be emitted and activities conducted at the odour source site, at the time of each odour event recorded. Cross checking the activities being undertaken at the site, at the times odour is recorded by the complainant is useful in helping the source site identify which of their activities are causing the odour, and/or determining the results of any odour release modifications that have been made.

In some instances the complainant's record of odour events will vary from those confirmed by the source site. This may be for a number of reasons such as:

- Records kept at the source site are not complete or not accurate.
- The complaint may be frivolous or vexatious.
- Complex meteorology applies and wind conditions at one place are not duplicated at the other.
- The odours are emanating from another site or a number of different sources.
- Odours emanating from the source are not clearly distinguishable from odours that may be emanating from a different source, e.g. odours emanating from wastewater treatment ponds may be similar to those emanating from nearby sewage pump stations.
- Persons located at the source site have become desensitised to the odour and perceive the odour as very weak or not perceptible. In such cases persons located at the source site may not be aware of the impact the odour releases are having on the surrounding community. This is more common in instances of chronic odour releases of a low to moderate intensity.
- The complainant's perception of the odour can differ from that of persons at the source site. This often reflects different past experiences with odours, as persons describing an unknown odour may do so with reference to previous unrelated experiences e.g. odours from a coal-fired process may be describes as smells like an old steam train.

In some situations, for example to characterise the pattern of odour impacts from an industrial complex, the odour log sheets can be distributed to a larger community surrounding that complex. In these situations, log sheets provide a method of obtaining information from a community regarding the zone of impact from an odour source and the associated characteristics of the odour exposure pattern. The aim of this data collection is to verify complaints and collect information on the frequency and intensity of odour exposures, at various locations, over a defined period of time, in order that action may be taken (if necessary). The information provided by odour log sheets needs to be validated by checking the wind-direction and site emission status during the time of each recorded odour event. This can assist in identifying the specific processes that may be contributing to the odour impact. The longer the monitoring period, the more accurate the results, however the time period should be limited as the impacted people will usually not accept the odour nuisance for extended periods and fatigue with the process will occur. This information can also be used in assessing the impacts from a specific source within a defined time frame.

4 Odour complaints data

An odour related nuisance complaint can be made to the administering authority either in writing or orally, and must include the following:

- the complainant's name and residential address;
- a telephone number at which the complainant can be contacted; and
- enough details of the emission to allow the authority to investigate whether the emission is causing an unlawful environmental nuisance.

If at any time after a nuisance complaint has been made, the administering authority believes, on reasonable grounds, that the complaint is frivolous, vexatious or based on a mistaken belief, the authority may reject the complaint without further investigation. Similarly, should a complainant fail to provide sufficient detail to allow an effective investigation to be undertaken, the authority may decide not to investigate the complaint. The odour

complaint data is stored on the Agency's database. This information can be used in determining the complaint history of an existing facility.

A sequential summary of odour complaints data can be used to indicate changes in long-term odour exposure. Trends can illustrate seasonal or other temporal changes in complaint frequency, which may be due to scheduling of activities, changes in plant production or changes in the prevailing meteorological conditions.

5 Collection of source samples

EHP may request the alleged odour source to conduct contaminant monitoring and report the results within 14 days. Source samples must be analysed for odour concentration for mixture of odorants or/and odour causing chemical species. These results can be compared against the environmental licence conditions.

All determinations of contaminant releases to the atmosphere must be made in accordance with methods prescribed in the most recent version of the EHP Air Quality Sampling Manual. If monitoring requirements for specific contaminants are not described in the Air Quality Sampling Manual, monitoring protocols must be in accordance with (a) for odour, Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4323.3:2001, Stationary source emissions - Determination of odour concentration by dynamic olfactometry; and (b) for other contaminants, a method as approved by New South Wales EPA, Victorian EPA or United States EPA.

The odour concentration of unknown mixtures of compounds is measured using a technique called dynamic olfactometry. Dynamic olfactometry is the measurement of odour concentration by presenting a sample of odorous air to a panel in a range of dilutions and seeking responses from the panellists on whether they can detect the odour. The correlations between the known dilution ratios and the panellist response are then used to calculate the number of dilutions of the original sample required to achieve the odour threshold which is where 50% of the panellists detect the odour with certainty. The unit for odour measurement using this method is odour unit (ou), which is essentially "dilutions to threshold". EHP adopts Australian and New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS 4323.3:2001) as the basis of all odour measurements. The standard covers the method for collecting a sample of odorous gas into a container.

The number of odour samples required will depend upon the nature of the source of the purpose of the measurement. Sufficient samples should be taken to ensure that the odour stream is properly quantified. Replicate samples will enable the calculation of some basic statistics of measurement. The number of replicate analyses required to achieve a definite precision is discussed in AS/NZS 4323.3:2001. This standard also describes sampling methods from point sources. Odours sample collected in a sample bag are transported to the odour laboratory for olfactometric analysis. Equipment used in the sampling process must be chosen to minimise the likelihood of adsorption, chemical transformation or diffusion both in the sample train and in the sample container.

Dispersion modelling can be used to simulate the effect on plume dispersion under varying atmospheric conditions. These models are used to calculate spatial and temporal fields of concentrations and particle deposition due to emissions from various source types. This enables prediction of the likely odour to be experienced by the community at various distances from the source. Odour dispersion modelling should not be used to try to prove the absence of an adverse effect from an existing facility when community data is already available to demonstrate the current level of effect.

6 References

- NSW DECCW (2005) Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW.
- NSW DECCW (2006). Technical notes: Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW.

- NSW DECCW (2006). Technical framework: Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW.
- New Zealand Ministry for the Environment (2003) *Good Practice Guide for Assessing and Managing Odour in New Zealand*. <<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/odour-guidelines-jun03.pdf>>
- Standards Australia, Standards New Zealand (2001) Australian/New Zealand Standard 4323.3 – *Stationary Source Emissions Part 3: Determination of odour concentration by dynamic olfactometry*. AS/NZS.
- Verein Deutscher Ingenieure 3882 Part 1 (1992) *Olfactometry – determination of odour intensity*.
- Verein Deutscher Ingenieure 3882 Part 2 (1994) *Olfactometry – determination of hedonic odour tone*.
- Vic EPA (2001) *State Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality Management)*. <<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2001/GG2001S240.pdf>>

7 Further Information

Further information and support material relating to compliance with odour management refer to the following documents:

- Odour investigation procedure guideline
- Odour log sheet
- Recording odour intensity, offensiveness and character form

Disclaimer:

While this document has been prepared with care, it contains general information and does not profess to offer legal, professional or commercial advice. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any external decisions or actions taken on the basis of this document. Persons external to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection should satisfy themselves independently and by consulting their own professional advisors before embarking on any proposed course of action.

Approved:

15 July 2016

Enquiries:

Compliance Support

Email: compliance.support@ehp.qld.gov.au

Form

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Recording odour intensity, offensiveness and character

This form is to be used to record odour intensity, offensiveness and character for investigations under the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Part A – General Information

Name of Investigating Officer _____

Name of any other authorised officer present _____

Measurement Location _____

Current weather conditions:

Wind speed	Wind direction
Temperature	Cloud cover

Date of measurement: _____

Start of measurement: _____ hrs

End of measurement: _____ hrs

Part B – Field Measurement of Odour Intensity and Offensiveness

The measurement duration is 10 minutes and each inhalation is taken in 10 seconds interval. A simple approach is to use a stopwatch to give a time signal every 10 seconds during the 10-minute measurement duration. The assessor inhales at the start of each 10-second period. If the assessor detects the odour being investigated, he or she records a number from the scales on the above sheet.

Odour Intensity Measurements (every 10 seconds during the 10 minute period):

Minutes	1						2						3					
Measurement.	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Odour Intensity																		

Minutes	4						5						6					
Measurement.	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Odour Intensity																		

Minutes	7						8						9					
Measurement.	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Odour Intensity																		

Minutes	10					
Measurement.	55	56	57	58	59	60
Odour Intensity						

Intensity Scale	Descriptor	Effect on Receptor
0	<i>Not perceptible</i>	Odour is not detectable, cannot be perceived by the sense of smell.
1	<i>Very weak</i>	Odour is just detectable in the outdoor air and activates the sense of smell.
2	<i>Weak</i>	Odour is detectable in the outdoor air, but is not clearly distinguishable, noxious or offensive.
3	<i>Distinct</i>	Odour is present in the outdoor air, easily activates the sense of smell, very distinct and clearly distinguishable.
4	<i>Strong</i>	Odour is present in the outdoor air and would be noxious or offensive and cause a person to attempt to avoid it completely.
5	<i>Very strong</i>	Strong odour present in the outdoor air, which is so strong it is overpowering and intolerable for any length of time.
6	<i>Extremely strong</i>	Extremely strong odour in the outdoor air, which is immediately intolerable.

Odour Offensiveness Measurements (every 10 seconds during the 10 minute period):

Minutes	1						2						3					
Measurement.	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Odour Offensiveness																		

Minutes	4						5						6					
Measurement.	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Odour Offensiveness																		

Minutes	7						8						9					
Measurement.	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Odour Offensiveness																		

Minutes	10					
Measurement.	55	56	57	58	59	60
Odour Offensiveness						

Offensiveness Scale	Descriptor	Effects on Receptor
0	<i>Pleasant</i>	Odour perceived as pleasant to some degree.
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3	<i>Offensive</i>	Causes recognisable displeasure to sense of smell, may be bearable for short exposure, but reluctance to submit oneself to longer exposures is likely. For a 'chemical' smell caused by substances hazardous to humans at relatively low levels, a response of worry is reasonably elicited (e.g. due to it being not practicable to avoid), but without any other physiological responses. Long-term exposure may cause stress-like symptoms.
4	<i>Strongly Offensive</i>	Repulsive. Disgusting. Strongly displeasurable to sense of smell. Would soon elicit attempts to avoid exposure. <u>OR</u> Causes slight physiological effects following exposure e.g. headaches, slight nausea.
5	<i>Noxious</i>	Causes almost immediate attempts to avoid. <u>OR</u> Causes noticeable physiological effects following exposure e.g. pronounced nausea, feeling faint headed.
6	<i>Extremely offensive or noxious</i>	Unbearable Effects. Immediately intolerable. Extremely strong effects such as retching, fainting or other adverse effects on physical well-being caused by exposure.

From: BROWN Paul (Mines)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July 2017 8:50 PM
To: HUGHES Linda
Cc: CW ES_Emerald; INONDA William; WALTON Alison
Subject: RE: Clermont Coal Odour Complaint

Thankyou Linda, I will let you know the outcome of the inspection.

Regards,

Paul Brown
Inspector of Mines

Safety & Health, Mackay Region
Department of Natural Resources & Mines
PO Box 1801
Level 5, 44 Nelson Street
Mackay QLD 4740
Mobile: (06) 4999 8501 Phone: +61 (07)4999 8501 Fax: +61 (07) 4999 8519

Weekend/Duty officer number: 1300 882 096

Paul.Brown2@dnrm.qld.gov.au <mailto:Paul.Brown2@dnrm.qld.gov.au>
<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/safety-health/mining-safety-health>
<<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/safety-health/mining-safety-health>>
www.dnrm.qld.gov.au <<http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/>> Customer Service Centre 13 25 23

From: HUGHES Linda
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July 2017 4:18 PM
To: BROWN Paul (Mines) <Paul.Brown2@dnrm.qld.gov.au>
Cc: CW ES_Emerald <CWES_Emerald@ehp.qld.gov.au>; INONDA William <William.Inonda@ehp.qld.gov.au>; WALTON Alison <Alison.Walton@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Clermont Coal Odour Complaint

Hi Paul,

In relation to your phone call, I can confirm there have been recent complaints made to the department relation to an offensive "sulphur type" odour being emitted from Glencore's Clermont Coal on the following dates:

- 16 May 2017
- 23 May 2017
- 24 May 2017
- 27 May 2017
- 28 May 2017
- 29 May 2017
- 06 June 2017
- 27 June 2017 - Departmental officers were able to attend on the day of this complaint and sight spon com in the pit. Glencore representatives advised that the current spontaneous combustion was due to a blast which occurred on 24 June 2017. Coal was exposed and combusted following this blast. Glencore had since been trying to put the visible flames out for over three days.

Let me know if I can be of further assistance prior to your site inspection tomorrow.

Regards

Linda Hughes

Team Leader (Compliance)

Business Centre (Coal) | Coal and Central QLD Compliance

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

 P 07 4987 9377

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Please note I only work part-time on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For enquiries on Friday please email CWES_Emerald@ehp.qld.gov.au <mailto:CWES_Emerald@ehp.qld.gov.au> or call 49879353.

<<http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/connect/>>

...make the move

EHP RTI DL Release

From: WALTON Alison
Sent: Friday, 16 June 2017 2:23 PM
To: 'morne.vanzyl@glencore.com.au'
Cc: INONDA William; CW ES_Emerald
Subject: Odour Complaint - Clermont Coal Mine
Attachments: Complaint 20160616 Letter to Source Complaint Recieved EPML00634113 GS Coal Pty Ltd Clermont Coal Mine.pdf

Afternoon Morné,

Thank you for taking the phone call from the department.

As discussed, the department has received an odour complaint in relation to activities at Clermont Coal Mine. The department is currently investigating the issue and requires information from Glencore to assist with this process. Please find attached a letter which details this information request.

If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Alison Walton
Senior Environmental Officer (Compliance)
Business Centre (Coal) | Coal and Central QLD Compliance
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
P 07 4987 9342
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720





Department of
**Environment and
Heritage Protection**

Ref CR79105; 101/0000136

16 June 2017

GS Coal Pty Ltd
Level 38 Gateway
1 Macquarie Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

cc: Morné van Zyl
Environment & Community Manager
Clermont Open Cut Mine
PO Box 491, Clermont QLD 4721

Email: morne.vanzyl@glencore.com.au

Dear Directors,

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (the department) has received a complaint regarding an offensive "sulphur type" odour being emitted from your activities at the Clermont Coal Cut Mine on the following dates:

- 16 May 2017
- 23 May 2017
- 24 May 2017
- 27 May 2017
- 28 May 2017
- 29 May 2017
- 6 June 2017

The role of the department is to investigate this matter and ensure that where a valid issue is identified, appropriate action is taken in accordance with the relevant environmental legislation.

To assist with this investigation, GS Coal Pty Ltd is requested to provide the following information to the department by **4pm 23 June 2017**:

- All meteorological data collected by GS Coal Pty Ltd for the above dates including a map showing the location of each meteorological monitoring station.
- Mining activities, including spontaneous combustion management, undertaken at Clermont Coal Mine on the above dates.
- A copy of any odour and visual amenity related complaint(s) received by GS Coal Pty Ltd since May 2017. This is to include all the information required under condition A9 environmental authority (EA) EPML00634113.
- A copy of the Community Complaint Management Procedure.
- A copy of the Standard Operating Procedure – Spontaneous Combustion Management

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Website www.ehp.qld.gov.au
ABN 46 640 294 485

- A copy of the Trigger Action Response Plan – Spontaneous Combustion.
- Detail regarding GS Coal Pty Ltd's process to manage spontaneous combustion onsite.
- Any new or additional actions taken by GS Coal Pty Ltd to comply with condition B3 of EA EPML00634113 since August 2016.
- If odour monitoring has been undertaken by GS Coal since May 2017, a copy of the monitoring results; a map showing the specific location(s) at which the monitoring was undertaken; the instrument(s) used to undertake the monitoring and calibration records of that instrument(s); and the qualifications of the person who undertook the monitoring.

GS Coal Pty Ltd will be notified of the outcome of the current investigation once it is finalised. Should you have any enquiries in relation to this letter or the investigation, please contact Alison Walton, Senior Environmental Officer of the Department on 4987 9342 or via email cwes_emerald@ehp.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

William Inonda

Compliance Delivery Manager - Emerald

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

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