

Southern NSW Industry Audit Campaign

Fact Sheet

June 2016

Which facilities were audited as part of the Department's 2015 Campaign?

The audit campaign focused on four different industry operations in the Wollongong region. The operations audited were the Bass Point Quarry, Boral Cement Works Berrima, Russell Vale Colliery and Shoalhaven Starches.

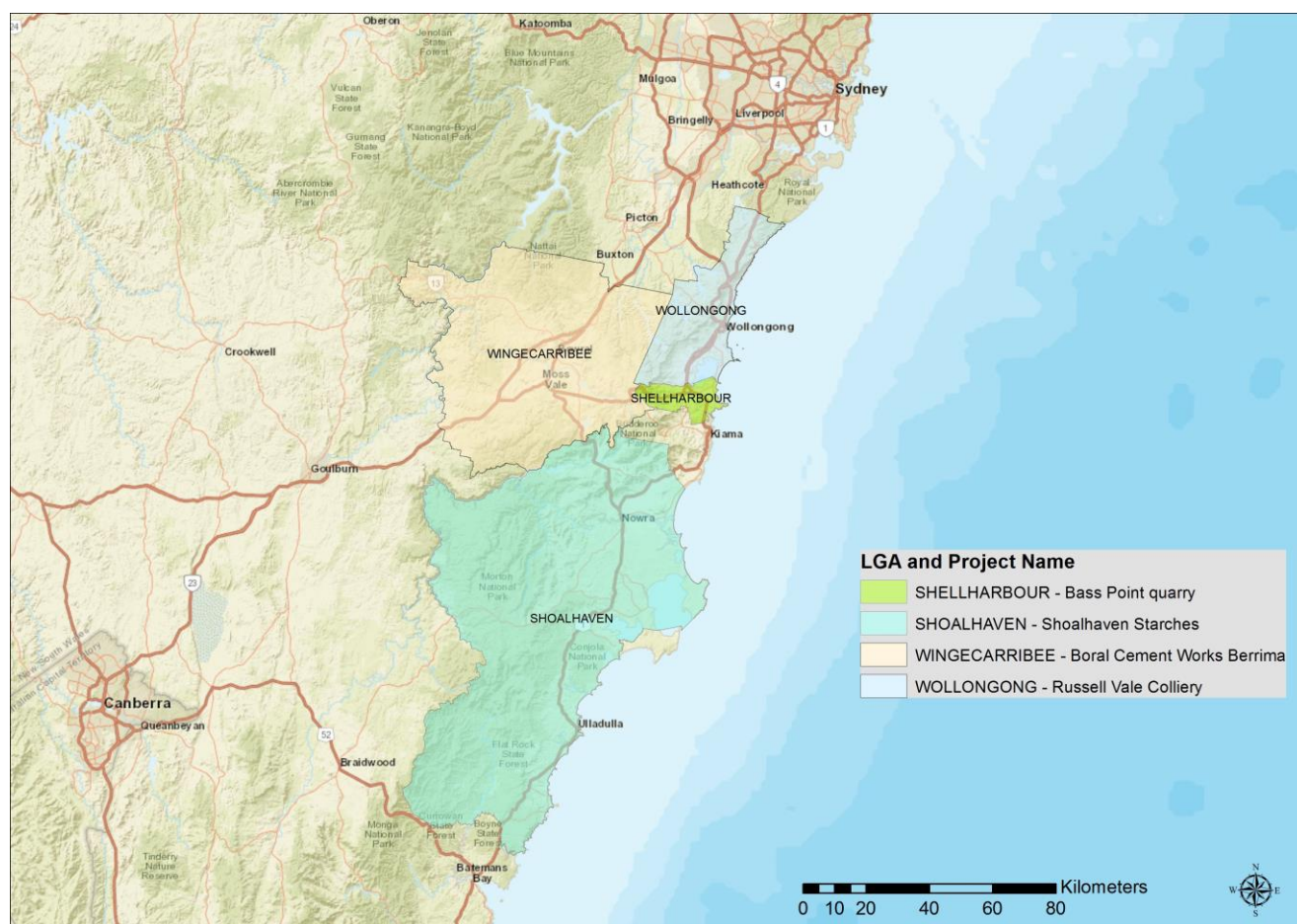


Figure 1: Location of industry operations audited

Why did the Department audit these industries?

Industries across the Wollongong region produce a variety of products, including cement, coal, hard rock quarry materials and wheat starch. In doing so these industries provide significant economic benefits to the region and NSW. It is important however, that the community has confidence that industries are operating in accordance with their project approval conditions.

The operations were chosen as a representative sample of industry types operating in the region.

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Who conducted the audits?

The 2015 Campaign was undertaken by the Department of Planning and Environment's Compliance Unit, with site inspections completed in May 2015.

What did the 2015 campaign find?

Overall, the operations audited were found to be generally operating at a high level of compliance with their conditions or commitments. However, a number of non-compliances were identified during the audit. The most common non-compliances were failure to:

- Prepare, submit or publish project related documents such as Independent Environmental Audit Reports, environmental management plans and recent monitoring results; and
- Comply with or implement particular management measures such as self-imposed speed limits and adequate parking spaces.

One high significance non compliance was identified at Shoalhaven Starches. This related to the construction of silos for which a construction certificate had not been issued. The silos were part of a proposed modification (Mod 5) to the factory on Bolong Road in Bomaderry that had not been approved when constructed. The modification has since been approved. The Department issued a \$3000 penalty notice to the company for the breach.

One moderate significance non compliance was identified at Bass Point Quarry. This related to a failure to prepare an independent cumulative traffic impact study in conjunction with nearby quarries by the required date. The traffic study has since been submitted and approved.

The audit findings are based on evidence gained during the review of all relevant documentation, site inspections of the four operations, interviews with various operators' employees and contractors, data collection and verification.

What is the ongoing monitoring and future actions?

Each of the audited industries was required to implement an action plan to address the non-compliances and post audit actions identified by this campaign. At the time of publishing this fact sheet, the majority of the non-compliances identified in the audit have been addressed.

The Department will follow up with each site on a regular basis to ensure action plans are being implemented. Progress on actions will be reported in the operations' respective annual reviews or annual environmental management reports (AEMRs).