Fine for noise rule breach

The Mt Owen Complex coal mine has been fined by the Department of Planning and Environment for breaching noise rules.

“When the Department approves a mine, we impose strict conditions to control a range of impacts on its neighbours and the environment, including rules around noise limits,” a Department spokesperson said.

“Mt Owen’s own noise monitoring report showed that one night in December last year, the mine generated noise that was more than its limit on two occasions.

“The Department investigated the breaches and the mine cooperated fully.

“We found that while there has not been a noise breach for more than two years, a penalty infringement notice with a $3000 fine was appropriate.

“We know that noise from the Mt Owen Complex is a concern for residents of the nearby Camberwell village, which is why the issue is of particular interest to our compliance team.”

Mines are closely monitored throughout their life and companies are required to publish regular reports detailing how they followed the rules.

“The Department’s compliance team works across NSW to ensure major developments, from mines to industrial sites, are meeting the rules the Department applies to their approval,” the spokesperson said.

“While the vast majority of mines do the right thing, compliance officers work closely with the industry and the community to fix any issues as quickly as possible.”

Media contact: (02) 9228-6128