



COMPLIANCE REPORT – AUGUST 2014

The Department of Planning and Environment's (DP&E) Compliance team works in communities across NSW to ensure projects, such as mines, industrial sites, major developments and infrastructure, are meeting the strict conditions included in their approvals.

The team works closely with the community, local councils and other state and federal government agencies to investigate potential breaches and carry out enforcement where necessary. Information from community members is an important way the team learns about issues to investigate. Enforcement can range from negotiating fixes, issuing penalty notices and in serious cases, criminal prosecutions.

Below is a snapshot of some of the team's activity in August.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

- **Hunter Valley**

Mine education workshops

- As part of ongoing efforts to improve environmental management at mines, the Department's Compliance team held a series of workshops with operators and supervisors at the Mount Arthur Mine, covering:
 - dust management;
 - blasting;
 - water management;
 - noise management.
- These sessions were an opportunity for mine staff to ask questions about environmental standards and for the Department to make its expectations on environmental practices for the project clear.

PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Southern Tablelands**

Fine issued to Ardmore Park Quarry, Goulburn

- On 21 August a penalty notice was issued to the operator of the Ardmore Park quarry for failing to report a water pollution incident earlier this year. The Department carried out the investigation in partnership with the Sydney Catchment Authority, which has issued a clean-up notice in relation to the same incident.

PROTECTING WHERE YOU LIVE

- **Northern Tablelands**

- *Unannounced site visits*

- The Compliance team conducted surveillance of eight mines across the region to ensure they were managing dust effectively, with no issues identified.
 - In addition, five on-site inspections, three of which were unannounced, were carried out at the following mines to ensure they were meeting their conditions of approval:
 - Maules Creek Coal Mine
 - Gunnedah CHPP
 - Werris Creek Mine
 - Ulan Mine Complex
 - Wilpinjong Mine
 - There were no compliance issues with any of the mines inspected.

- **Sydney**

- *Former Rachel Forster Hospital redevelopment site, Redfern*

- On 19 August a penalty notice was issued to the developer of the former Rachel Forster Hospital site in Redfern for starting demolition work on the site without a valid construction certificate.
 - The investigation is being carried out in partnership with the City of Sydney, which is also taking its own action against the developer.

COMPLIANCE COUNTER

COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES	AUGUST	2013/14 TOTAL
Compliance audits conducted	0	1
Inspections and surveillance carried out	19	50
Compliance meetings held	39	67
Review of compliance reports	61	95
<i>Subtotal compliance monitoring</i>	119	213
ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES		
Solution negotiated successfully	4	7
Compliance advisory letters issued	17	33
Compliance warning letters issued	4	19
Orders imposed	0	1
Penalty notices and fines imposed	4	5
Prosecutions	0	2
<i>Subtotal enforcement</i>	29	67