



COMPLIANCE REPORT DECEMBER 2014 – JANUARY 2015

The Department of Planning and Environment's Compliance team works 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 December and January.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

- **Coal mine inspections – Northern Tablelands and Hunter Valley**
 - The Department's Compliance team conducted thirteen coal mine inspections to confirm the following operations were meeting their conditions of approval:
 - Boggabri Coal Mine (near Boggabri)
 - Maules Creek (near Boggabri)
 - Glendell Coal Mine (near Singleton)
 - Ravensworth Mine (near Singleton)
 - Moolarben Mine (near Mudgee)
 - Ulan Mine (near Mudgee)
 - Wilpinjong (near Mudgee)
 - Mount Thorley/Warkworth (near Singleton)
 - Hunter Valley Operations (near Singleton)
 - Bulga Mine (near Singleton)
 - Wambo Mine (near Singleton)
 - Drayton Mine (near Muswellbrook)
 - Bengalla Mine (near Muswellbrook)
 - No significant issues were observed.

- **Coal mine surveillance – Northern Tablelands and Hunter Valley**
 - The Department's Compliance team carried out unannounced surveillance of coal mines and quarries to ensure they were meeting approval conditions:
 - Werris Creek (near Quirindi)
 - Tarrawonga (near Boggabri)
 - Moolarben (near Mudgee)
 - Drayton (near Muswellbrook)
 - Bengalla (near Muswellbrook)
 - Mangoola (near Muswellbrook)
 - Mt Arthur (near Muswellbrook)
 - No significant issues were observed.

PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND OUR HERITAGE

- **Fine issued to Oberon Timber, Oberon**
 - Three penalty notices with fines totally \$9,000 were issued to Oberon Timber after Department Compliance Officers investigated a complaint from a member of the community.
 - The penalty notices were issued for Oberon Timber failing to prepare and submit an environmental management plan or an annual environmental management report (from 2009 to 2014), and for failing to make required information publicly available online.
 - The company cooperated with the investigation fully and has an action plan in place to rectify the issues and ensure it complies in the future.

- **Fine issued to Rasp Mine, Broken Hill**
 - A \$3000 penalty notice was issued to the Rasp Mine at Broken Hill for failing to submit a conservation management plan by the cut-off date.
 - The issue was identified in the mine's own independent environmental audit.
 - The Department now requires the mine to submit the plan by 1 March 2015.

COMPLIANCE COUNTER

COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES	DECEMBER/JANUARY	2014/15 TOTAL
Compliance audits conducted	0	3
Inspections and surveillance carried out	20	155
Compliance meetings held	0	169
Review of reports	0	240
<i>Subtotal compliance monitoring</i>	20	567
ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES		
Successful informal negotiation	0	9
Compliance advisory letters issued	0	118
Compliance warning letters issued	0	31
Orders imposed	0	2
Penalty notices and fines imposed	4	17
Prosecutions	0	2
<i>Subtotal enforcement</i>	4	179