



PORT WARATAH
COAL SERVICES

MEDIA STATEMENT

30 May 2018

Port Waratah and the National Pollutant Inventory (NPI)

Industrial facilities from which emissions exceed certain levels are required to report to the NPI. Emissions from Port Waratah's Kooragang and Carrington operations are below the reporting threshold, but Port Waratah reports NPI data voluntarily.

NPI in itself is not a specific measure of air quality. It is a nationally implemented database for Australian Industries to monitor and report emissions, including various pollutants. It is an estimate of potential outputs based on theoretical factors. Further, the NPI's reporting thresholds mean it only covers industries of a certain size, therefore ignoring the known air quality impact of roads, smaller industries, wood smoke and the natural environment. For some of these emissions, government agencies from time to time estimates what is referred to as diffuse emissions.

For air quality in the Newcastle region, the [Newcastle Local Air Quality Monitoring Network](#) is the best indicator, providing real-time updates and includes both PM2.5 and PM10. It takes into account all impacts on air quality – industrial, commercial and residential. The data provided by this network is publicly available and provides a greater level of insight into the impacts on the city's ambient air quality at any given time.

Rise in Reported PM2.5 emissions

Port Waratah's PM2.5 figures increased from 91kg in 2010/2011 to 161kg 2016/2017. The 2016/2017 figure represents just 0.19% of all PM2.5 emissions in the Mayfield (2304) area, or 0.0078% of all Hunter NPI catchments.

All Port Waratah's PM2.5 emissions are related to the combustion of fuel from vehicles used at Port Waratah. The 70kg increase is attributable to better accounting of vehicle fuel consumption over time, along with a transition to a majority diesel fleet. In 2010/2011, the majority of Port Waratah vehicles used unleaded petrol. By 2016/2017 most had been replaced with diesel vehicles. Under NPI calculation methodologies, diesel vehicles are assumed to produce more PM2.5 emissions than unleaded vehicles. This 70kg increase correlates to 270 return trip from Beresfield to Wahrenoonga by an articulated truck on the M1.

Reduction in Reported PM10 emissions

Port Waratah's NPI reported PM10 emissions declined by almost two thirds (65.1%) between the 2010/2011 reporting period and the 2016/2017 reporting period.

The levels of PM10 reported by Port Waratah for 2016/2017 were the company's lowest ever. The 2010/2011 reporting period represented the height of large scale civil works associated with expansion of

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the Kooragang Coal Terminal. There were large areas of disturbed land due to construction activity. Port Waratah also purchased additional land holdings on Kooragang Island, adding more than 250,000m² of land area, with a related impact on Port Waratah's reported emissions totals.

Some change also resulted from Port Waratah adopting an updated NPI specified calculation method that incorporates more site-specific detail for stockpile PM10 emissions.

What are we doing to reduce dust emissions

Over time, Port Waratah has progressively implemented improved dust management techniques, which have included the adoption of an Intelligent Dust Management System, ongoing sealing and revegetation of previously bare areas of site, improved engineering controls such as better designed conveyor transfer points, and the addition of improved dust suppression along our conveyors.

A key dust management control is the Intelligent Dust Management System which automatically activates spray cycles on stockpile areas. The IDMS characterises the types of coal handled along with detailed weather forecasts based on real-time weather data to effectively manage moisture levels and prevent dust lift off. Port Waratah also use dust suppression products, mobile water carts and manually hose or spray coal to stop dust at the source when required.

Other dust management improvements have come in the form of process improvements, better design of equipment, and advancements in technology. Port Waratah continues to review its dust management performance, and implement improvement opportunities where appropriate.

Does Port Waratah have firm targets for reduced dust emissions

From our community consultation we know that dust is one of the key environmental concerns around our operations for neighbouring residents and acknowledge the concerns. Our target for air quality is to proactively work to continuously reduce emissions from our operations and our contribution to the Newcastle airshed. The NPI data for PM10 and PM2.5 from our operations demonstrate our commitment to this goal, furthermore air quality in the Newcastle region, monitored by the [Newcastle Local Air Quality Monitoring Network](#) is good to very good most of the time.

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About Port Waratah Coal Services

Port Waratah Coal Services has been receiving, stockpiling, blending and loading coal for export at the Port of Newcastle for over 40 years. They own and manage the Kooragang and Carrington Coal Terminals, which operate 24/7, and have a combined capacity of 145 million tonnes per annum.

Port Waratah has always been two things – a pioneer and a partner. They are committed to understanding and fulfilling their responsibilities as an employer and community member, as well as meeting their legal obligations. Port Waratah is an unlisted public company working in partnership with more than 25 producers and other service providers in the Hunter Valley Coal Chain. They aim to continuously improve their environmental performance, contribute to the local economy by buying and employing locally and support sustainability and resilience of the local community through their Community Investment and Partnership Programme.

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