

28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Mr James Epstein  
Senior Compliance Officer  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment- Planning & Assessment  
Via Portal

Dear James,

**RE: High HVAS dust levels for Quarter 1 2020 at Sunnyside Coal Mine**

**Licence/Approval:** PA06\_0308 (Mod 3)  
**Licensee/Proponent:** Namoi Mining Pty Limited  
PO Box 600  
Gunnedah NSW 2380

**Licensed Premises/Land:** Sunnyside Coal Mine  
259 Coocooboonah Lane  
Gunnedah NSW 2380

**Event Details:**

As per Schedule 3, Condition 18 of PA06\_0308 (Mod 3) Sunnyside Coal Mine HVAS PM10 24h limit of 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> were exceeded during Q1 2020 on the following dates on the property Illilli at Sunnyside Coal Mine, which is 2.2km NNW of Sunnyside Coal Mine operations.

**a) The date, time and incident/nature of the exceedance.**

**Event & Date:**

**6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 60.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

- DPIE Regional Air Quality Data PM10 North West Slopes **Max 77.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**.
- Mining Activity: Running the smaller digger due to hot weather using lower dumps, minimal truck movements, no grader it was down for the day, used 150,000l water for dust suppression.
- Sampler noted, software malfunction on 3rd Jan, so scheduled monitoring occurred on 6th Jan, and slight wind at site.

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 277 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

- DPIE Regional Air Quality Data PM10 North West Slopes **Max 110.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**.
- Mining Activities: Using lower dumps, Stopped for 0.5 hrs in the afternoon for lighting.
- Sampler noted smoke haze present.

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 61.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

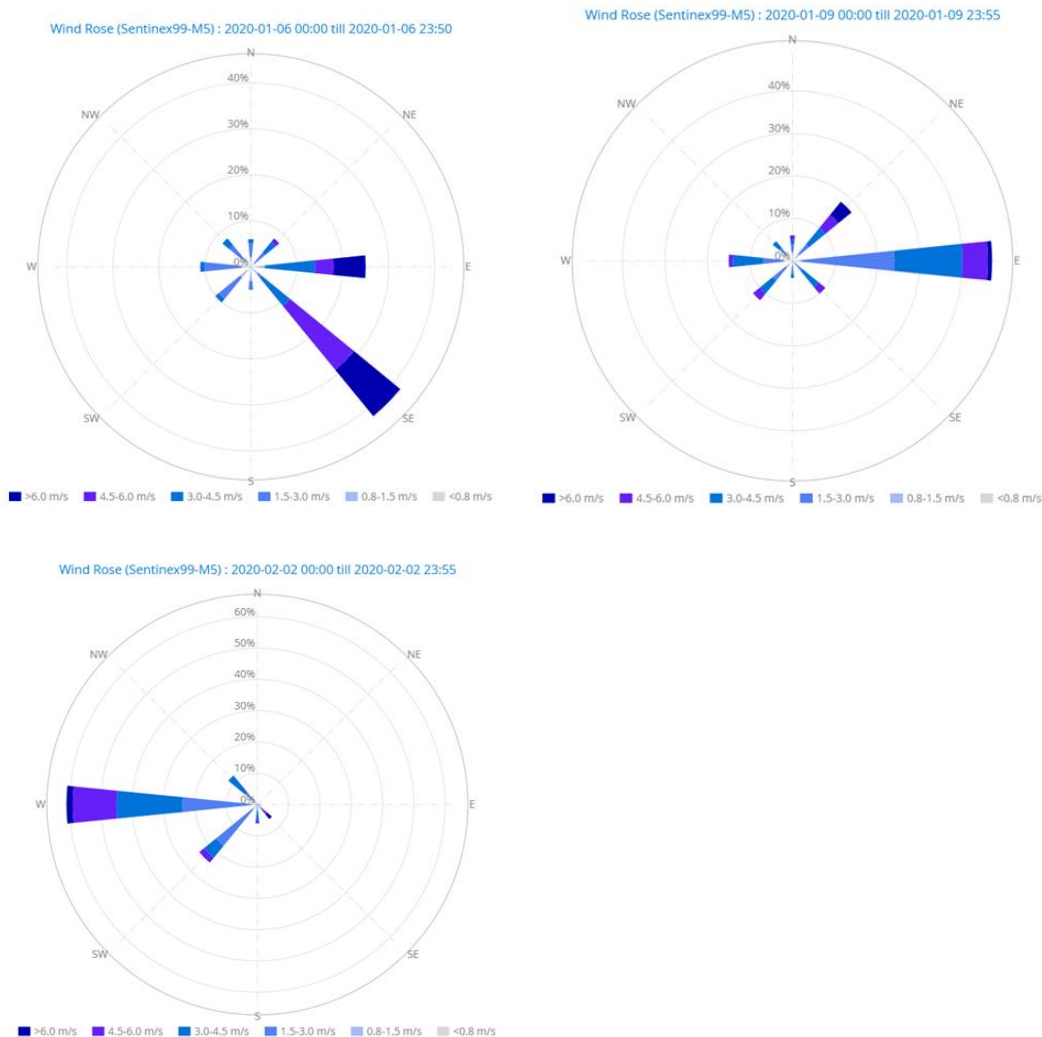
- DPIE Regional Air Quality Data PM10 North West Slopes **Max 25.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**.
- Mining Activities: Nil Operations - Sunday.
- Sampler noted windy conditions.

**b) The cause (or likely cause) of the exceedance:**

Cause of high dust reading include:

- Sampler notes indicate that there were windy conditions and smoke haze as detailed above.
- Regional Air Quality Alert issued for 9th January 2020
- Elevated Regional Air Quality Index (AQI) for North West Slopes on 6th and 9th January 2020.
- Drought conditions have contributed to high dust readings.

Prevailing wind conditions for the exceedances on the 6th, 9th January and 2nd February 2020 are shown below. The HVAS dust monitor on the property Illilli is located 2.2km NNW of the mine site and was out of wind influence from mining operations during the high dust events as per wind rose diagrams (below).



Yours sincerely,

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