



Media Release

15 December 2017

Port Hedland Industry continues to improve performance on dust

PORT HEDLAND – The Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC) annual report shows a significant improvement in industry’s dust management in the 2016/17 reporting period.

PHIC Executive Director John Verbeek said that 2016/17 continued a downward trend over the past few years, and compared with previous reporting years, was the best result to date.

“This decrease in dust events attributed to industry has been achieved despite significant increases in volumes handled through the port,” he said.

“PHIC members have comprehensive environmental controls in place and are committed to sustainable development for the long-term benefit of Port Hedland.

“Industry remains committed to working with government to ensure stakeholders trust the monitoring data of the air quality monitoring network and will continue to work closely with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to achieve this objective.”

The report provides a summary of the Port Hedland ambient air quality monitoring network, which examines the concentration of particle matter 10 micrometres (PM₁₀) or less in diameter per cubic metre of air recorded by the monitoring network.

The interim guideline for PM₁₀ of 70 µg/m³, set by the Port Hedland Dust Management Taskforce, allows for 10 exceedance days per year.

For the latest reporting period, the Taplin Street monitoring station recorded its lowest number of days in one year above the 24-hour average interim guideline of 70 micrograms per cubic meter (PM₁₀ of 70 µg/m³). This represents a 70 per cent decrease from 2015/16 where 10 days were recorded.

Only two of the three days of elevated concentrations were attributed to Port Hedland industry operations, compared to five days in 2015/16. The remaining day recorded above the guideline was attributed to an elevation in regional dust concentrations.

A copy of the full report is available at phic-hedland.com.au

Air quality monitoring data is available in real time to industry and the public via the [PHIC website](http://phic.com.au).

Media contact:

Lynda Rovis-Hermann

Platform Communications

Lynda@platformcommunications.com.au

08 6467 7640

0419 194 031



About the Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC)

The Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC) contributes to the scientific understanding of air quality in Port Hedland and promotes the sustainable co-existence of Industry and Community.

An incorporated member-based organisation, PHIC works to collectively address industry issues, particularly about the use of the Port Hedland Port.

PHIC provides a forum for information sharing and knowledge transfer, assists member companies to manage and minimise the impacts of industry on the community and seeks to facilitate community and stakeholder engagement.

The organisation achieves its goals by focusing on developing and employing leading-edge technology and by taking a committed, proactive approach to environmental protection.

PHIC was established by industry in 2009, and in line with the Port Hedland Dust and Noise Taskforce recommendations, its focus for the past few years has been on:

Managing an integrated air quality (and noise) monitoring program in Port Hedland

Delivering technical information to the Port Hedland community about the impacts of dust and noise. This network provides an environmental monitoring and reporting system for Port Hedland, including access to real-time monitoring data for the community and public via a monitoring website.

As member organisation, PHIC has evolved to become a single industry-wide point of contact, facilitating community engagement concerning the environment, public health and safety and industrial development.

www.phic-hedland.com.au