



Monday 10 December 2018

Media Release

Port Hedland Industry performance on dust remains steady

Dust levels measured in Port Hedland have remained within guidelines despite an increase in iron ore exports through the town's port, a new report released today shows.

The Port Hedland Industries Council's (PHIC) Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network's annual report shows that during 2017/18 dust levels remained within the Port Hedland Dust Management Taskforce's specified interim guideline for PM10 of 70 µg/m³ with 10 allowable exceedances per annum.

PHIC chief executive officer Peter Pierre said during the latest reporting period, the Taplin Street monitoring station recorded nine exceedances, which is within the specified interim guideline for PM10 of 70 µg/m³ with 10 allowable exceedances per annum.

Detailed analysis of PM10 data and meteorological conditions for the nine days at Taplin that were above 70 µg/m³ in the 2017/18 financial year indicated that:

- four exceedance days were attributed to Industry activity,
- three exceedance days were attributed industry combined with elevated regional dust events
- one exceedance day was attributed to industry and a local non-industry source of dust
- one exceedance day was attributed to a local non-industrial source.

"The report reaffirms the need for continued collaboration across industry, government and community in addressing dust issues in Port Hedland," Mr Pierre said.

"While a number of exceedances were the result of combined regional dust events and industry activity, it is reassuring that these exceedances have remained within guidelines despite increased exports through the port.

"Industry remains focused on working with government and the community to continually improve dust mitigation strategies in Port Hedland."

Mr Pierre said industry welcomes the State Government's proposed implementation of an improvement plan for Port Hedland, to restrict residential development in the West End of Port Hedland.

"The proposed improvement plan provides the opportunity for the implementation of good planning practices and sustainable development for the long-term benefit of Port Hedland," he said.

The government's recent announcement on the Taskforce recommendations will also see the operation and maintenance of the Port Hedland ambient air quality monitoring network transferred to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER).

Mr Pierre said industry supports the transfer of the Network to DWER.

"PHIC has reported openly and transparently on air quality for many years and will continue to work closely with the regulator and the State Government to ensure an orderly transition of the Network and that all parties continue to have access to the scientific data generated by the Network."

As has been the case since the network's inception, air quality monitoring data is available in real time via the [PHIC website](#).



The report provides a summary of the Port Hedland ambient air quality monitoring network (the Network), which consists of eight monitoring stations spread across Port Hedland that collect scientific data on air quality of the Port Hedland Airshed.

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

- ENDS -

Media contact:

Lynda Ravis-Hermann
Platform Communications
lynda@platformcommunications.com.au
08 6467 7640
0419 194 031

Lauren Prater
Platform Communications
lauren@platformcommunications.com.au
08 6467 7640
0434 369 487

About the Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC)

The Port of Port Hedland is the State's most important infrastructure asset, delivering real jobs and economic security and certainty for families across the State and local businesses.

Allowing the capacity of the Port of Port Hedland to grow will ensure the ongoing growth and vibrancy of the Port Hedland community.

The Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC) works to address industry issues, particularly in relation to the use of the Port Hedland Port and advocates for the sustainable co-existence of Industry and community in Port Hedland.

PHIC also provides a forum for information sharing and knowledge transfer, assists partner companies to manage and minimise the impacts of industry on the community.

Established in 2009, PHIC has evolved to become a single industry-wide point of contact for government and community engagement concerning industry development, environment, safety and land use planning.

www.phic-hedland.com.au