

MEDIA RELEASE

RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AUSTRALIA CLAIMS RELATING TO VALES POINT POWER STATION

Delta Electricity has strongly rejected the claims by Environmental Justice Australia, labelling them a gross exaggeration by a group of anti-coal activists.

Company spokesperson, Steve Gurney stated that the Vales Point Power Station had been operating since the 1960's and is subject to strict Environmental Licence conditions with oversight by the Environmental Protection Authority.

'There is nothing new in this,' he said. 'The current truck deliveries from a local mine are routed through internal roads. There is a regular dust suppression regime for the stockpile roads, using recycled water where possible, with water then contained on site. On this occasion no dust left the stockpile site and there was no licence non-compliance' he said. 'Delta has consulted with the EPA about this particular event and will continue to work with the regulator to ensure good environmental outcomes while meeting the electricity demands of the community.'

Under its environmental licence Delta also monitors local air quality and these results are reported to the EPA. Delta rejected suggestions by Environmental Justice Australia that the nearest air quality monitoring is 25 kilometres away as being factually incorrect and deliberately misleading.

Mr Gurney also said 'Delta works with both the local mines and the local community on ways to improve operations on the site. An example of this can be seen by the significant work that has been undertaken by Delta and the mine to have coal delivered by conveyor from April 2017'.

Delta also strongly rejected any suggestion about a lack of investment in the Power Station. 'Over the next two years Delta will spend in excess of \$55M on plant investments alone' Mr Gurney said. 'Maintenance outages continue to be conducted on the same frequency as occurred in the past and major projects that will continue operations beyond 2022 are underway'.

Mr Gurney stated 'Delta takes its environmental responsibilities and its relationship with the local community very seriously. Delta maintains a constructive relationship with its nearby community, conducting quarterly forums which include inspections and information on plant updates. Delta has nothing to hide from the local community. An allegation from a Victorian based environment group with an anti-coal platform should not be taken to represent community sentiment'.

For further enquiries, contact Steve Gurney, Company Secretary on 02 43 526 003 or 0438 229 043