

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**RESPONSE TO EPA DECISION ON NO<sub>x</sub> LIMITS**

Delta Electricity, the operator of the Vales Point Power Station, notes the decision of the EPA granting a 2 year exemption on Group 5 oxides of nitrogen limits for the Vales Point Power Station.

Company spokesperson, Steve Gurney, stated that the Vales Point Power Station operates in accordance with strict environmental licence conditions, with diligent oversight by the Environmental Protection Authority.

‘There have been issues raised about the operation of time limits for applications under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010. This is an administrative interpretation issue, not an environmental one, and the decision by the EPA now allows for these conditions and limits to remain in Delta’s Environmental Protection Licence’ Mr Gurney said.

Delta’s Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) was varied by the EPA in December 2021 after considerable input from the community and other groups. Notably, limits for emissions such as of oxides of nitrogen were tightened as part of this process. Delta continues to comply with these reduced limits.

Vales Point Power Station has lower licence limits for oxides of nitrogen than other stations in NSW such as Bayswater and Mt Piper.

The decision by the EPA follows independent analysis which consistently shows that air quality on the Central Coast and Lake Macquarie is very good and amongst the best in New South Wales. It also concludes that ‘levels of nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide easily meet National Standards’<sup>1</sup>. Specifically, monitoring has shown that NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were either very good or good at all times.

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

**END**

28 October 2022

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1. <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Air/annual-air-quality-statement-2018-190031.pdf>