

# Narrabri Gas Project CCC

## Information Request Response

<b>Reference:</b>	<b>19.5</b>
<b>Request:</b>	<p>Query about further information regarding call to the EPA hotline number.</p> <p>A member sought further information about a reported incident at the Bibblewindi site (Bohena Creek Road) in March 2016; EPA investigated an open and unattended vent. The caller requested further information from the Resources Regulator as he stated that the incident posed a safety threat.</p>
<b>Response:</b>	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The open and unattended vent in question is a high point vent. High point vents are used on water gathering lines and are common in the gas industry. They are a means of releasing minor amounts of gas that may be trapped in a water gathering line. It is possible that small amounts of water can also be released through the vents.</p> <p><u>Health and Safety legislative requirements</u></p> <p>The <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>, imposes a duty on a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that workers and other people are not exposed to health and safety risks arising from the business or undertaking.</p> <p>The Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014 requires that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A PCBU at a mine or petroleum site must manage risks to health and safety associated with mining operations or petroleum operations at the mine or petroleum site in accordance with Part 3.1 of the Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011.</li> <li>2. A person conducting a business or undertaking at a mine or petroleum site must ensure that a risk assessment is conducted in accordance with this clause by a person who is competent to conduct the particular risk assessment having regard to the nature of the hazard.</li> </ol> <p><u>Response</u></p> <p>The Resources Regulator considers that any health and safety risk that could be posed by open high point vents is negligible and that the risk controls that have been implemented at the Narrabri Bibblewindi site are more than adequate to manage any assessed risk.</p> <p>The incident in question, whereby a high point vent was open and unattended, is not considered a notifiable incident under the WHS (Mines and Petroleum Sites) legislation.</p> <p>The incident was investigated by the EPA and while the Resources Regulator was made aware of the incident by the EPA, the Resources Regulator did not take any action as it was not considered a health &amp; safety risk.</p>
<b>Briefing Officer:</b>	<p>Nick Butler            Division of Resources and Energy  <a href="mailto:nick.butler@industry.nsw.gov.au">nick.butler@industry.nsw.gov.au</a></p>
<b>Date:</b>	27 October 2016