



Surrey Hills Mill

Annual Environment Report

Forico Pty Limited

23 September 2026

➔ The Power of Commitment



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1. Introduction

The Surrey Hills Mill was purchased by the Tasmanian Forest Operating Sub-Trust (TFOST) in September 2014 and is operated by Forico Pty Ltd (Forico). The Surrey Hills Mill operates within the parameters of an Environment Protection Notice (EPN) issued under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA). The EPN for the Surrey Hills Mill, numbered 7476/4, sets out the permit conditions in Schedule 2 of the EPN, with the most recent update issued in May 2016.

Condition G6 of EPN 7476/4 requires submission of an Annual Environmental Review (AER) to the Director of the EPA, presenting specific content requirements and stipulating the reporting period to end on 30 June each year.

The methodology to compile this AER incorporated the following:

- Desktop review of environmental data collected over the reporting period, including site water monitoring, emissions, and wastes;
- Site visits were conducted in July 2026, including discussions of environmental incidents that may have occurred during the reporting period, and environmental related procedural or process changes; and
- Presentation of draft for review and clarification process prior to finalisation.

The scope of the report is limited to the operations at the Surrey Hills Mill site for the 2025-2026 reporting period and does not include any further Forico operations, which encompasses a broad range of activities in the forest and wood products sector. For information on broader operations, including detailed information of both greenhouse emissions and sequestrations relating to the entire Forico group (inclusive of the Surrey Hills Mill site), please refer to the Forico website, and in particular the annual versions of Forico's Natural Capital Reports.

Hard copies of this annual environmental report are available by request via the "Contact Us" section of the Forico website: forico.com.au

1.1 Scope and limitations

This report: has been prepared by GHD for Forico Pty Limited and may only be used and relied on by Forico Pty Limited for the purpose agreed between GHD and Forico Pty Limited as set out in Section 1 of this report.

GHD otherwise disclaims responsibility to any person other than Forico Pty Limited arising in connection with this report. GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.

The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report were limited to those specifically detailed in the report and are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the date of preparation of the report. GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on assumptions made by GHD described in this report. GHD disclaims liability arising from any of the assumptions being incorrect.

2. Statement of Acknowledgement

In fulfilment of condition G6 of EPN 7476/4, we present the following information which encompasses site operations of the Forico Surrey Hills Mill. This report has been scoped and formatted to meet the requirements of the Annual Environmental Review (AER) as described in Condition G6.

The reporting period of this AER is from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

The purpose of the AER is to:

- Document and review the Surrey Hills Mill site's compliance in relation to environmental monitoring, reporting and performance conditions as detailed in EPN 7476/4;
- Review site-based commitments and targets for the reporting period;
- Communicate site-based commitments and targets for the coming period; and
- Provide a public record of environmental performance for one of Forico's two wood fibre processing sites.

As Chief Executive Officer of Forico, I endorse the following information as an accurate record of the activities of the Forico Surrey Hills Mill for the nominated period.



Jim Wilson

General Manager Enterprise Performance

Forico Pty Limited

3. About Forico

Forico is Tasmania's largest private plantation management company. Representing a new era of plantation forestry in Tasmania, Forico has a strong focus on supply chain management in an environment that prioritises people and environmental performance. Forico has operated in the Tasmanian plantation resource sector for over 10 years, building and maintaining a sustainable business model on assets that were first established by prior forest-based business entities over the previous 40 years.

3.1 Company profile and commitments

Forico is an integrated timber plantation, forest management, and forest products export business operating within Tasmania. Forico manages approximately 173,000 hectares (ha) of land in Tasmania, comprised of 88,000 ha of plantation, 77,000 ha of natural forest, 3,305 ha of infrastructure, and 3,939 ha of other land. Forico has a skilled workforce of 113 direct employees, and approximately 260 contractors and sub-contractors.

The Forico business comprises of:

- A seedling establishment nursery at Somerset;
- Plantation operations, harvesting and replanting activities, including the management of natural forests on the Forico estate;
- Administrative bases in Launceston and Ridgley (The Forico Corporate Office is located in Launceston, Tasmania with a regional office at Ridgley in north-west Tasmania);
- Fibre Technology Laboratory materials testing facility at Ridgley;
- Surrey Hills Mill at Hampshire (subject of this report); and
- Long Reach Mill and Fibre Export facility in the Tamar Valley.

With these key assets, Forico is committed to a sustainable plantation forestry sector in Tasmania. It produces high-quality, internationally certified plantation fibre products while meeting independently verified sustainable forest management standards. Forico has the supply chain infrastructure and export marketing capabilities to manage the entire supply chain from seed to market efficiently. Sustainable management of all assets, including the wood chipping mills, is a vital component of the Forico business.

»Forico's Purpose – We are custodians of the natural environment, entrusted to use our natural resources for the betterment of future generations and to preserve and create value for our investors.«

3.2 Environmental sustainability commitments

The board approved an updated Forico Environmental Sustainability Policy on 13 May 2025, with a review of the policy planned for May 2027. The policy is provided as Appendix A and can also be found on the [Forico website](#).

»Forico is an integrated asset management company that is committed to sustainability, including responsible environmental management throughout all our business activities in Tasmania. We believe that the wood fibre we grow on the estate, from carbon dioxide it sequesters to downstream value adding processes we undertake, enhances economic, social and natural capital values for Tasmania. As such we undertake our business activities consistent with our Sustainable values and environmental aspiration to be nature positive and provide overall ecosystem benefits from our management of the land estate and business activities.«

Forico's Environmental Sustainability Policy demonstrates the company's commitment to minimising environmental impacts. Forico seeks to achieve a balance between economic viability, social contribution and environmental and cultural heritage responsibility through:

- Leadership;
- Best Practice;
- Adding Value;
- Low Impact;
- Conservation;
- Biodiversity;
- Meaningful Communication; and
- Competent Workforce.

This Policy sets the framework for planning and operational practices at the Surrey Hills Mill.

3.3 Environmental Management Systems

Forico currently operates under the umbrella of a Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (SHE-EMS) to manage environmental issues across the business. Forico's SHE-system is structured on the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) activity model which is integral to site operations. This is presented in Figure 1.

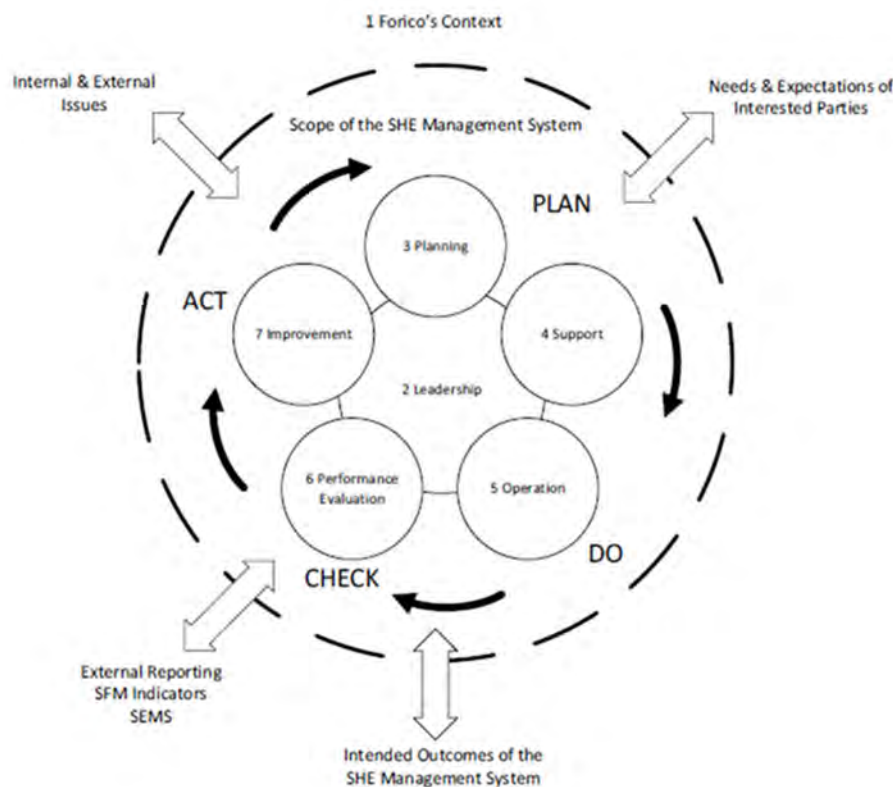


Figure 1 Conceptual model of the Plan-Do-Check-Act business cycle within Forico's SHE system

Beyond induction, ongoing training is provided to permanent staff and contractors, including Risk Management and Environmental Awareness units, to provide an ongoing focus on environmental and safety issues. Environmental Awareness topics include:

- Hydrocarbon management;
- Wastewater quality;
- Protected Environmental Values (PEVs) of the local river(s) and the importance of their ongoing protection;
- Waste management;
- Emergency management;
- Legal accountabilities; and
- Forico's Environmental Sustainability Policy.

3.3.1 Certification

Forico has achieved formal accreditation to various nationally and internationally recognised accreditation systems regarding product stewardship and environmental management practices. Of relevance to this PER are:

- AS/NZS ISO14001:2016 – Environmental Management Systems; and
- FSC-STD-40-003, FSC-STD-40-004, FSC-STD-40-005, FSC-STD-50-001– Chain of Custody for Certified Wood and Forest Products.

The Environmental Management Systems certification applies across all Forico's operations. SCS Global issued the original audit certificate in July 2018. Recertification was undertaken in June 2024, and the certification was issued in July 2024 and valid through July 2027 ().

The Chain of Custody standards are also integral to operations at Surrey Hills, providing a trail of supply to link the resources processed to sustainably managed source forest. All wood processed at the Surrey Hills Mill has been sourced from plantations that meet the Forico sustainable management criteria, with a chain of custody trail to provide a transparent mechanism to track all material inputs. This certification was updated to the newer FSC

standard (FSC-STD-40-003, FSC-STD-40-004, FSC-STD-40-005, FSC-STD-50-001) through the audit process in May 2025. The certificate, expiring in June 2027, is attached as Appendix C.

The environmental policies and certification processes provide accountable processes for market certainty, and regulatory oversight.

3.3.2 Surrey Hills Mill Environmental Management Plan

As a practical implementation tool for environmental improvement at the Surrey Hills Mill site, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) was prepared and adopted in 2020. The objectives of the EMP are as follows:

- Encourage best practice environmental management through commitment, planning, review and continuous improvement;
- Prevent and minimise adverse impacts on the environment;
- Identify the potential for, and respond to, environmental incidents, accidents and emergency situations and take corrective action;
- Identify and control possible environmental hazards associated with the operations at the site;
- Define responsibilities for personnel in maintaining environmental integrity;
- Provide a description of all monitoring procedures required to identify and respond to impacts on the environment;
- Implement complaint reporting procedures and maintain records of complaints and response to complaints;
- Provide key information for the induction of new employees and site sub-contractors; and
- Ensure ongoing relevant environmental training and awareness programmes are provided.

Forico intend to regularly update upon this document to achieve continual environmental performance improvements. The current EMP is currently under review, with an updated EMP expected to be implemented in the 2026 – 2027 reporting year.

3.3.3 Community engagement

A key pillar of all of Forico's operations is social responsibility. This includes Forico staff through commitments to health and safety, but also the communities in which Forico works. Forico strives to engage with local communities and provide a transparent and accountable operational framework, including active engagement through various sustainability reporting initiatives. These reporting initiatives are available from the Stakeholder Engagement page of the Forico website (www.forico.com.au).

One major element of Forico's recent community engagement has been meaningful engagement with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. To this end, Forico's first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) commenced in January 2021. The Forico RAP encompasses a broad range of initiatives to develop and strengthen relationships with Aboriginal community members and build Forico's internal knowledge and practices to recognise the significance of the original custodians of the land where Forico works.



Figure 2 Artwork by Aunty Judith-Rose Thomas for Forico RAP

The other pillar of Forico's operations is social responsibility. This includes not only Forico's people, with commitments to health and safety, but also the communities in which Forico works. Forico continue to engage with local communities, and provide a transparent and accountable operational framework, including active engagement through sustainability reporting, and using Forico's website to communicate up to date works in local community areas.

On a broader community basis, any feedback or complaints received by the public across Forico's operations are documented and followed up, with any relevant Surrey Hills Mill-related issues summarised in Section 10 of this AER.

4. Legal and Policy Requirements

4.1 Relevant Acts and instruments

The principal environmental obligations for the Forico Surrey Hills Mill are those legislated under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA). Tasmania enacts the requirements under EMPCA through a suite of interrelated legislation which forms a framework for Tasmania's resource management and planning systems, comprising the following:

- *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*;
- *Tasmanian Planning Commission Act 1997*;
- *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020*;
- *State Policies and Projects Act 1993*;
- *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*;
- *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*; and
- *Major Infrastructure Development Approvals Act 1999*.

Other legislative instruments and policies have relevance to operational aspects of the Surrey Hills Mill, including:

- (Commonwealth) *Biosecurity Act 2015*;
- (Commonwealth) *Export Control Act 2020*;
- *Biosecurity Act 2019*;
- State policies under the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* including:
 - State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997; and
 - National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999 as amended May 2013. Note: National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) are automatically adopted as State Policies under section 12A.
- Tasmanian Environment Protection Policies made under section 96K of EMPCA, including:
 - Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality) 2004; and
 - Environment Protection Policy (Noise) 2009.

4.2 Proceedings and infringements

In relation to the Surrey Hills Mill, no proceedings or infringements were recorded during the reporting period from 01/07/2025 – 30/06/2026, with:

- No proceedings (or prosecutions) issued under Tasmanian or Commonwealth environmental legislation, or the environmental provisions of other legislation;
- No infringement notices issued under EMPCA; or
- No enforcement action taken under any other Tasmanian or Commonwealth environmental legislation, the environmental provisions of other legislation, or the environmental provision of council by-laws.

5. Surrey Hills Mill Operations

5.1 Site description

The Surrey Hills Mill site is located at 2753 Ridgley Highway, Hampshire, within title references 164460/1 and 101903/1 (Figure 3). The area is zoned as a Rural under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Burnie. Located approximately 30 km south of Burnie in the northwest of Tasmania, the surrounding area is dominated by plantation forest. The nearest residential zone is the township of Hampshire, located approximately 4 km to the northeast.

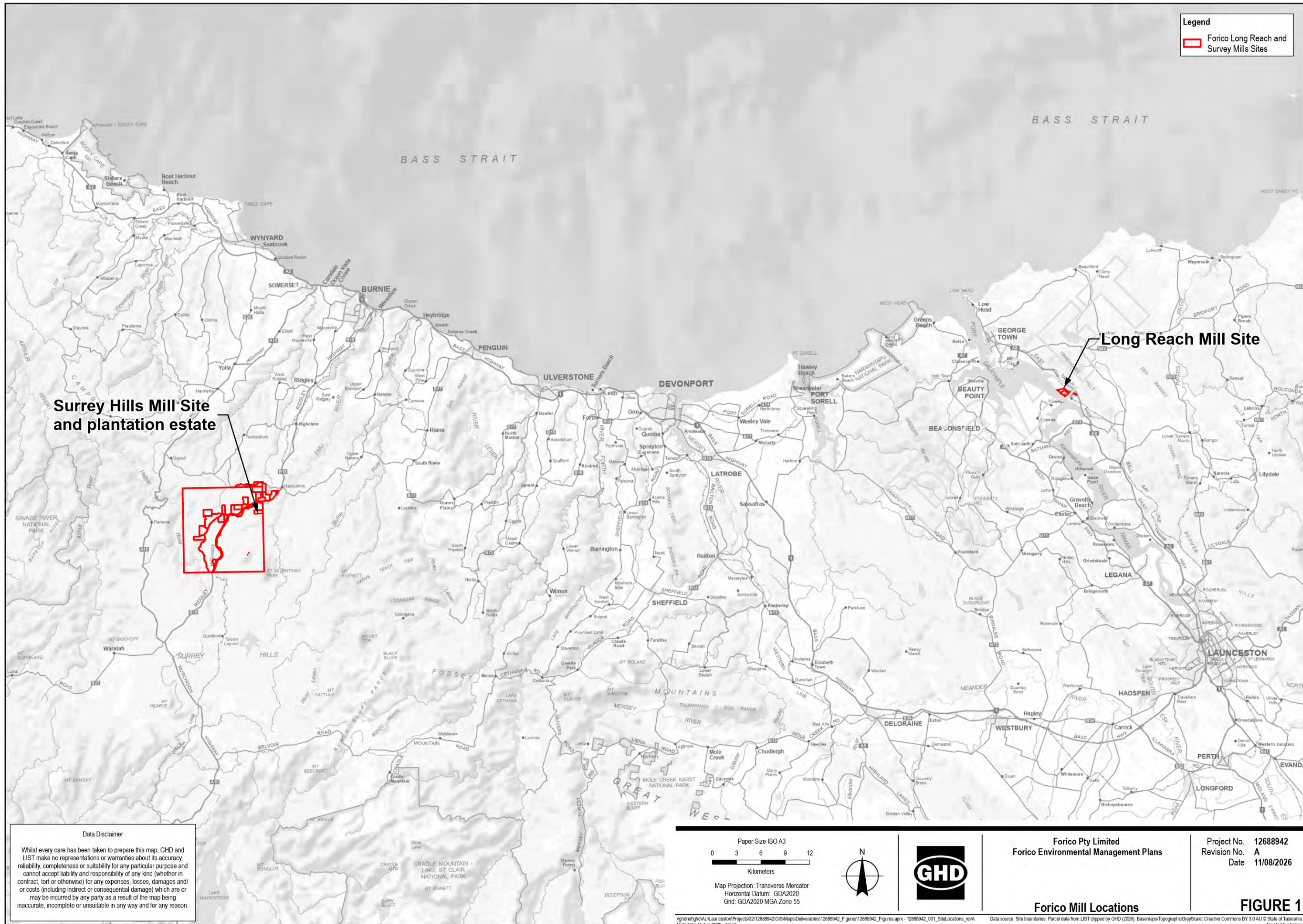
The site consists of the Surrey Hills Mill Industrial Site and the Surrey Hills Mill Irrigation Area.

The facility resumed operations in July 2015 and has the capability to operate on a 24/7 year-round basis. Under current wood supply and product demand conditions, production at Surrey Hills Mill operates 16 hours a day, with log supply operating 24 hours over a five-day week. The scale of operation is currently regulated to a maximum production quantity of 1,600,000 tonnes per annum.

Product is sourced from Forico's managed plantation estate, inclusive of 88,000 ha of plantations dispersed across the northern Tasmania (managed by Forico's Strategic Resources, Land Management and Plantations Teams). The estate is dominated by commercial plantation species, predominately *Eucalyptus nitens*, which serve as the primary export product from the Surrey Hills Mill site, along with a smaller fraction of *Eucalyptus globulus* and *Pinus radiata*.

The Surrey Hills Mill site is located on an undulating landform at 500 m elevation. Its climate is temperate, with a median annual rainfall of 1,422 mm. Rainfall is higher in winter periods, with an average of 123.8 mm in July, and lower in summer periods, with an average of 44.9 mm in January. Annual temperature averages range between 16.9°C and 9.3°C for the site.

The site's geology, as per an analysis undertaken in 2015, is described as Tertiary basalt (tholeiitic to alkalic) sediments overlying older Cambrian-related rocks. Sediments are predominantly brown mudstones, claystone, and weather varieties (silty and baked clays). Surface soils are typically strongly weathered clay silts or silty clays, with gravelly varieties of these present.



5.2 Site activity profile

The woodchip production process and site material flows for the Surrey Hills Mill are described below, along with key activities within the site.

5.2.1 Woodchip production process

Forico's woodchip production process is defined as a vertically integrated process that functions as a 'from seed to port' system.

The process involves the culturing and management of hardwood production trees over an approximately 15 year grow out phase and softwood production trees for approximately 28 years. Trees are then harvested, de-barked, and transported to Forico processing facilities. Logs are then mechanically chipped to a form that complies with product technical specifications for chip form and size to meet market requirements and suitability for bulk shipping transport.

5.2.2 Site material flows

The scope of Forico's processing flow includes the input of raw materials (comprised of debarked logs in round form), processing into the final product of uniform size bulk woodchips. Residual by-products mostly comprise wood particles that are either too small (fines) or too large (reject chips) in relation to customer specifications (see Figure 4).

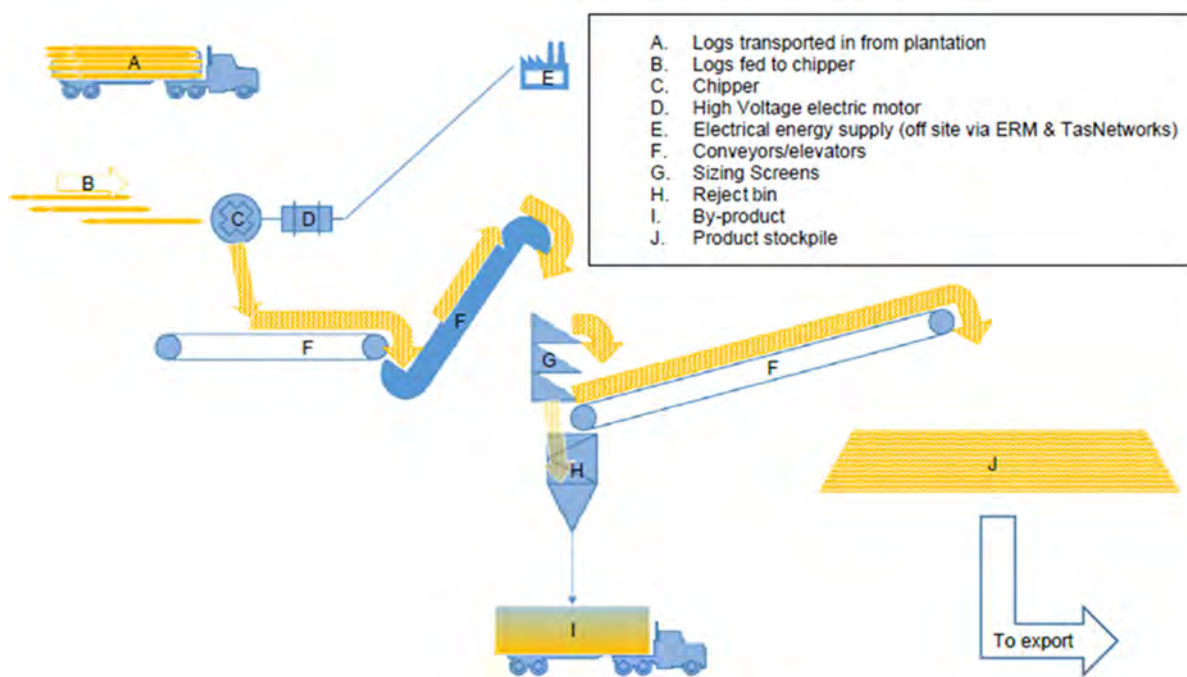


Figure 4 Forico Surrey Hills Mill conceptual process flow

5.2.3 Key activities

The facility currently accepts on average 100 log truck consignments per day, and approximately 80 trucks per day transporting woodchips to the wharf facility at the Port of Burnie, owned by TasPorts. Transport of logs into the site and transport of woodchips for export is undertaken by external contractors.

Access into the site and forestry estate is limited through a staffed boom gate, with site security provided during the times when the Mill is closed. Incoming trucks are weighed in, with the log source recorded and correlated with gatehouse data on accepted supply areas. A Logmeter undertakes a 3D scan of the load, providing data on volume in addition to mass. This new technology has significantly improved the quality of input materials and reduced the carbon footprint of transporting heavier logs with high moisture content. The payment for transport is

based on volume, providing a direct incentive for Forico's harvest and haulage contractors to dry logs in the forest to enhance log transport efficiency.

De-barked logs in round form are unloaded onto the concrete log yard. This concrete apron was installed in 2018 and includes provision for drainage controls to minimise hydrocarbon-spill pollution risk. Logs are brought into the chipper area, then fed into the mill. Chips are moved via conveyors to sizing screens, separating the product into chips for export, residual bark, and fines. Contaminated chips are stockpiled for use in landscaping applications, with bark and fines stockpiled separately for various reuse applications (described further in Sections 6.2 and 6.2.1 on waste management).

5.3 Level of activity for reporting period

Activity level metrics for the monitoring period are tabulated below for:

- Annual totals for chip production; and
- Fresh water consumption

Table 1 Annual Totals (t) for hardwood chip production, Surrey Hills Mill 2025-2026

Output	Value for reporting period	Monthly average
Total chip production (t)	817,925	68,160

**Condition Q1 of EPN 7476/4 regulates the scale of the activity to 1.6 million tonnes per year of woodchips produced.*

Table 2 Annual Totals (t) for hardwood chip production, Surrey Hills Mill over the last four years

Output	2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
Total chip production (t)	817,925	636,800	675,492	791,668

Table 3 Annual totals (kL) for freshwater consumption, Surrey Hills Mill 2025-2026

Output	Value for reporting period	Monthly average
Freshwater consumption (kL)	290	24

Table 4 Annual totals (kL) for freshwater consumption, Surrey Hills Mill over the last four years

Output	2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
Freshwater consumption (kL)	290	589	557	739

5.4 Operating hours

The mill site's production operates on a five-day week, with two eight-hour shifts per day and a scheduled maintenance period each week. Delivery of logs and transport of the woodchips is undertaken by a specialist transport contractor with permanently assigned trucks operating on a 24 hour / 5 day basis for log delivery and 24 hour / 7 day basis for woodchip transport.

The Mill site production operation hours are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Operational shift hours

Day	Operating hours
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	6am-10pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

5.5 Site key environmental values

The key environmental values present at the site include:

- Catchments of Loudwater River and Emu River, with associated Protected Environmental Values (PEVs); and
- Amenity of a rural forestry-based area.

Both the Loudwater and the Emu Rivers exhibit similar in-stream characteristics in the area of the Surrey Hills Mill, with basaltic boulders and cobbles dominating the substrate and in-stream vegetation dominated by trailing aquatic sedges (e.g. *Isolepis fluitans*) and mosses. Aquatic fauna is dominated by invertebrates including those of the *Baetidae*, *Leptophlebiidae*, *Rhyacophiloidea*, *Chironomidae* and *Amphipoda* taxons.

5.6 Description of emissions

The Surrey Hills Mill has a relatively simple environmental footprint. Each major environmental aspect and its corresponding actual or potential impact are described below under three environmental emission categories of atmospheric, water and land/soil.

5.6.1 Atmospheric emissions

Emissions of pollutants, such as nitrous oxides (NOx), Particulate Matter (PM10, PM2.5) etc are associated with diesel powered mobile plant and equipment at the Surrey Hills Mill site. A further minor atmospheric emission is metal fume associated with casting metal babbitts onto chipper knives in the site's knife sharpening room.

Emissions of greenhouse gases from the site can be attributed to mobile plant. It is considered the contribution of the Surrey Hills site is relatively minor and it is noted that according to the 2025 Natural Capital Report, Forico sequesters more carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2-e) than it emits.

Noise from the chipping is produced from chipper knife impact on logs and motor noise. While the local noise levels within the site boundary can be elevated from this chipper noise, the remote location of the facility results in negligible noise impacts to the closest sensitive receptors residences in the township of Hampshire.

Overall, the Surrey Hills Mill facility has a relatively benign emission profile regarding atmospheric emissions as outlined in the 2025 Natural Capital Report.

5.6.2 Water emissions

Environmentally relevant water emissions from the Surrey Hills Mill site are a function of rainfall on hardstand surfaces, leading to leaching of wood-based stockpiles of product (chip) or wastes and subsequent organic enrichment and eutrophication of those stormwaters. Additionally, the use of hydrocarbons for lubrication and fuel by mobile plant are matters for routine management of the site, which are well managed by engineering controls and management practices.

The Surrey Hills Mill's management practice is to capture and combine leachates and stormwaters into a single network and then dispose of the organically enriched liquor via an irrigation network. This then leads to an indirect groundwater outflow, likely (in part at least) moving to the Loudwater River as a subterranean flow.

All liquors captured by the combined drainage network, including on-site detention and holding ponds, are diverted to the irrigation area. A portion of the liquor and nutrients disposed by this process is expected to be taken up by the plantation stock and soil microbes within the irrigation plot.

5.6.3 Contaminated land

Instances of contaminated soils and or land at Surrey Hills Mill is related to past practices and uses of the site, rather than current operations. Localised hydrocarbon contamination from legacy infrastructure was identified in 2015. The sources of contamination were two radial cranes that were decommissioned and removed during the Recommissioning Project in 2015. The hydrocarbons were used in hydraulic power packs that transmitted fluid power throughout the crane gantries. This resulted in one confirmed and a second likely circular contaminated zone identified on the Surrey Hills Mill site. A Soil Investigation study was undertaken in May 2025 and confirmed

there is minimal remaining soil contamination on site and there are no restrictions on the site for further commercial activities.

6. Environmental Performance

6.1 Environment related procedural or process changes

Opportunities to improve environment related procedures or processes during the 2024-2025 reporting period were:

- A consultant was engaged to revise and update the site Environmental Management Plan. It is anticipated this revision will be completed in the 2026 – 2027 reporting period.

6.2 Generation and management of solid and liquid waste

The Surrey Hills Mill generates two key waste streams:

- Wood based process material by-products, including fines, reject chips and bark; and
- Non-process wastes, such as oils, packaging, tyres etc.

By-products are detailed here to align with the definition of 'waste' under EMPCA.

Data collected on waste disposal for the full reporting period are provided below as annual totals. Veolia Environmental Services (Aust) Pty Ltd are the main non-process waste service provider for the Surrey Hills Mill site.

6.2.1 Process waste (by-products)

Wood based by-products include fines, reject chips and bark. Fines are the most significant by-product waste by volume and are segregated at the screening phase of the chip production process. The reject chips can be generated at any time due to suspected contamination, sacrificial use for bulk product handling, biodegradation etc. Bark is a generic term that refers to miscellaneous woody debris generated, mostly by log handling. This is a minor waste stream as true log de-barking is undertaken at point of harvest in the forest estate and so does not occur on the Surrey Hills Mill site.

Annual totals of major wood-based waste streams are summarised below in Table 6. These include fines, bark, and reject chips.

Table 6 Total wood-based process waste generated for 2025-2026

Wood process waste	Value for the reporting period (gmt)
Total waste fines generation	19,257.71
Total waste bark generation	5,949.54
Total waste reject chip generation	771.3

6.2.2 Non-process wastes

Non-process wastes (solid and liquid) include wastewater, oils, packaging, and hydrocarbon-contaminated materials. Waste disposal metrics for the reporting period are provided below as annual totals for both liquid and solid waste. Scrap metal is measured in tonnes generated, waste oil in litres of oil recovered and/or removed, general solid waste is documented in m³, and wastewater discharge to irrigation is measured in kL. Annual totals of non-processing waste are shown in Table 7.

No consignments of scrap metal were removed from the site in this reporting year. It continues to be stockpiled for recycling.

General solid waste is stored in skip bins on the site, and Veolia regularly removes it for disposal at the Dulverton Regional Landfill. Tasmania Oil reprocesses waste oil in Wivenhoe.

Table 7 Annual totals of non-processing waste metrics

Material description	Value for reporting period
Scrap metal for processing and recycling (t)	0
Solid General to Dulverton Regional Landfill (m ³)	72
Wastewater discharge to irrigation system (kL)	680
Oil to oil recycling facility (L)	1950

Wastewater is reused on site for irrigation. Discharge of waste water has decreased markedly from 5,128kL in the 2021 – 2022 reporting period. A total of 682kL was discharged to irrigation in the current reporting period.

Table 8 Annual wastewater discharge to irrigation system for the 2025-2026 and 2024-2025 reporting periods

Variable	2025-2026	2024-2025
Wastewater discharge (kL)	682	695

6.2.3 Controlled and special wastes

Veolia are engaged (under commercial ECM Set ID 70049002) to handle and dispose of controlled waste substances, including general landfill waste, sludge, sanitary waste, and waste oils from the Surrey Hills Mill site. A consolidated summary of the Surrey Hills Mill site controlled waste disposal is provided below in Table 9.

Veolia operate a Liquid Treatment Plant for waste oil recovery which itself is regulated under EPN 9596/1. Veolia are registered waste handlers, holding Certificate of Registration No. CWTEMP129TA.

No consignments of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) have been removed from the site. To Forico's knowledge, there has been no ACM identified on the site.

Table 9 Waste removed from Surrey Hills Mill by Veolia for 2025-2026 reporting period

Waste type	2025-2026 reporting period
General Landfill (t)	10.2
DAF Sludge (t)	0
Cardboard (t)	0.91
Sanitary (t)	0.11
Oily Water (t)	0
Total (t)	11.22

6.2.4 Re-use/waste minimisation initiatives

The Surrey Hills Mill site seeks to continually optimise production processes to reduce total process waste. The challenge of reducing process waste and diverting stockpiled fines to reuse options is ongoing. As a clean and uniform product, the fines present a potential opportunity for use as an energy or compost production input. However, this relies on a viable facility located at a distance that renders the material cost-effective from a handling and transport perspective. To date, no single solution has been identified to fully utilise ongoing production of fines, or the accumulated stockpile.

Table 10 Wood waste destination for the nominated reporting periods

Wood process waste	2025-2026
Fines to stockpile (t)	11,162

Wood process waste	2025-2026
Fines to reuse (direct off-site) (t)	4844
Fines to reuse (off-site from stockpile) (t)	1608
Bark to stockpile (t)	5949
Waste chips direct off-site (t)	800

Forico's approach is to first identify opportunities to reduce the waste generation. This is linked to production throughput but is largely controlled by chip product specifications and can only be mitigated to some extent by continual product sampling and subsequent adjustment of some process parameters.

In the 2023-2024 AER, it was stated that, HIF Tasmania had announced a commercial-scale e-fuels facility to be constructed near the SHM. The project remains in the permitting and design phase and may be re-sited. Once operational, this facility is expected to use wood process waste generated as feedstock into the e-Fuel production process.

Discussions remain ongoing with other commercial operators seeking wood process waste for inclusion in industrial processes. These reuse opportunities include incorporating wood process waste streams into kiln and boiler fuel and for feedstock into the production of alternative fuels. At this stage, no further progress has been made.

In addition to exploring potential new end uses, Forico continue to supply fines and wood process waste products for reuse as animal bedding and as a feedstock into the Dulverton Organics Compost Facility, which has been using the wood process wastes in co-composting with high nutrient wastes (e.g. sewage sludge and dairy effluent).

While several viable options are being progressed, there remains no single sustainable solution for wood waste generated by the Surrey Hills Mill to date. A trial of fines use in plantation silviculture concluded in the 2024 – 2025 reporting period. A final decision on the ongoing suitability of using fines in broadscale plantation establishment is likely to reflect that while the results of the composting trial were favourable, the cost is not commercially viable.

6.3 Legacy soil contamination

Contamination of soil had occurred at the site from historic use by prior operators of the Surrey Hills Mill. This localised hydrocarbon contamination was identified during the site's 2015 Recommissioning Project. The source(s) of contamination were determined to be two radial cranes that were decommissioned and removed during the Recommissioning Project in 2015. The hydrocarbons used in hydraulic power packs for the crane gantries resulted in one confirmed and a second likely contaminated zone being identified on the Surrey Hills Mill site.

As detailed in the 2022-2025 PER, the soil remediation project was completed, with final data submitted to the EPA. A soil contamination investigation was undertaken in May 2025 at the North Crane Mound, and it was found that no soil samples exceeded the Health Screening Levels (HSL) or the Ecological Screening Levels. This means that the site is available to be used for commercial development and there are no requirements for the removal of any soil.

Hydrocarbon remediation works have concluded at the site.

A soil investigation was undertaken in 2025 to determine if any residual hydrocarbon contamination was present. No soil samples exceeded Health Screening Levels (HSL) or Ecological Screening Levels. This means the site is able to be used for commercial development and there is no risk to ecologically sensitive receptors from the soil. This report is attached to this AER in Appendix E.

No further investigations regarding soil contamination were completed during the 2025-26 reporting period.

6.4 Environmental incidents of non-compliance

Environmental incidents recorded at the Surrey Hills Mill in the 2025 – 2026 reporting period are detailed below in Table.

Table 11 *Environmental incidents at Surrey Hills Mill 2025 - 2026*

Date	Incident description	Response
22/12/2025	While moving an IBC containing oil it was punctured with a forklift tine. Approximately 800lt of oil spilled onto a gravel hardstand area.	Once the move was stopped and the forklift made safe, absorbent spill booms and materials were immediately deployed. A waste contractor was contacted to collect the waste material. The contractor arrived the following day to complete the clean-up. The EPA was notified of the event on the day it occurred. A brief report with photos before and after the spill clean-up was sent to the EPA Regulating Officer.
13/10/2025	Groundwater sampling event was missed for the Q1 2025-2026 reporting period.	Due to extenuating circumstances, the groundwater sampling event for Q1 of the 2025 – 2026 reporting period was missed. Measures to prevent a reoccurrence have been implemented, including strengthening of scheduling requirements and investigation if additional personnel can be trained in water sampling.

7. Environmental Monitoring Results

Site water monitoring currently operates through two main components of the Surrey Hills Mill:

- Surface water monitoring (Surface run-off sampling at the Station Road composting site, and surface run-off collection infrastructure on-site); and
- Groundwater monitoring (Site contamination and water quality for irrigation activity).

The Surrey Hills Mill site is required to submit a report detailing the monitoring of the following aspects of site operations annually as a requirement of EPN 7476/4. Monitoring requirements and conditions for these criteria are detailed in Table 12.

Table 12 Environmental Monitoring Requirements and Conditions for the Surrey Hills Mill

Monitoring point and parameters	Frequency
Groundwater Monitoring for irrigation Area (Condition M2 in EPN 7476/4)	
Irrigation Monitoring Bores (DB5 and TPB)	
Standing Water Level (m above AHD),	Quarterly
Oxygen-Reduction Potential (mV),	Quarterly
Conductivity (µS/cm)	Quarterly
pH	Quarterly
Effluent Emissions (Condition E1 in EPN 7674/4)	
Polluted stormwater discharged from the Land	
Free from grease, oils, solids and discolouration	
Discharge limits for water:	
– pH between 6.5 and 8.5	
– Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) <40 mg/L	
– Total Suspended Solids (TSS) <60 mg/L	
– Oil and grease <10 mg/L	

7.1 Groundwater monitoring

The Surrey Hills Mill site drainage and monitoring layout can be seen below in Figure 5.

Previously, groundwater was monitored at the Surrey Hills Mill using five (5) groundwater monitoring bores. The three (3) primary bores (A, B and C) were in place to check for evidence of hydrocarbon contamination near the decommissioned radial cranes. Following soil remediation works completed in 2020, the requirement for ongoing monitoring (Condition M3) is no longer in place.

The remaining two (2) bores provide surveillance of any impact on the groundwaters associated with the irrigated plantation area. The irrigation program utilises a combination of stormwater, process water, and leachate waters from the Mill activity. Quarterly monitoring requirements (as per Condition M2 of EPN 7674/4) for irrigation bores DB5 and TPB, provide evidence for management control of any localised effects from the reuse of this water.

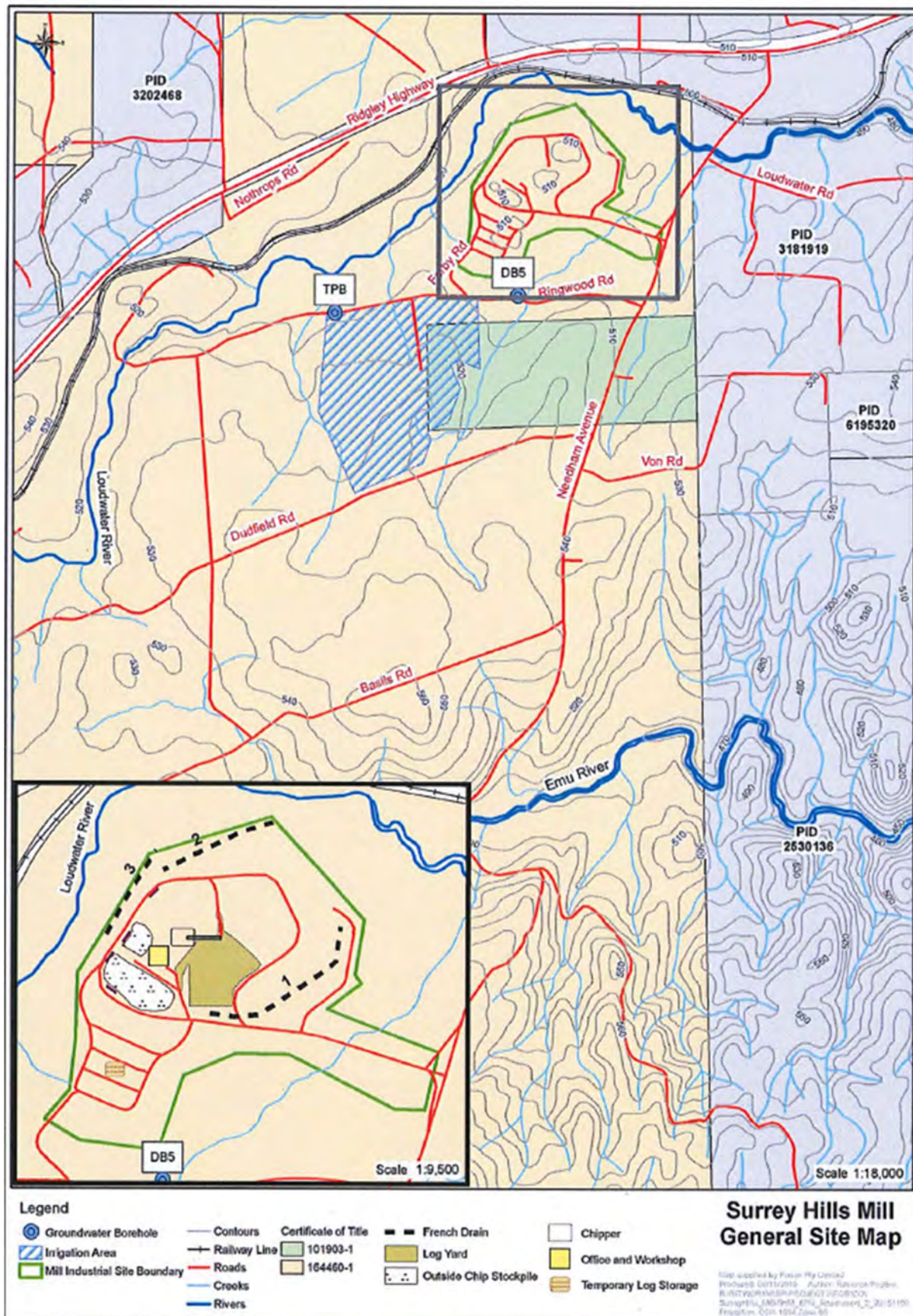


Figure 5 Site layout and monitoring locations

7.2 Groundwater monitoring for irrigation bores

The results of the groundwater sampling results collected for this reporting period are presented below in Table 13 for irrigation bore DB5, and Table 14 for irrigation bore TPB. Locations of the irrigation bores are shown in Figure 5.

Table 13 Laboratory analyses of groundwater samples for Irrigation Bore DB5 from 13/10/25-30/06/26

DB5 Monitoring Data					
Analyte	pH	Temperature	Conductivity (spCond)	Oxygen – Reduction Potential (ORP)	Standing Water Level (SWL)
Units	pH	°C	µS/cm	mV	(m) above height datum (AHD)
Date					
13/10/25	5.7	10	77.4	209.8	506.7
22/12/25	5.3	11.7	88.7	180.6	505.6
31/03/26	5.4	12.8	81.9	49.3	505.1
30/06/26	5.7	10.3	80.2	120.7	506.3

Table 14 Laboratory analyses of groundwater samples for Irrigation Bore TBD from 13/10/25-30/06/26

TBD Monitoring Data					
Analyte	pH	Temperature	Conductivity (spCond)	Oxygen – Reduction Potential (ORP)	Standing Water Level (SWL)
Units	pH	°C	µS/cm	mV	(m) above height datum (AHD)
Date					
13/10/25	5.9	10.5	119.8	102.8	505.8
22/12/25	5.9	11.4	131.2	67	505
31/03/26	6.1	11.4	131.7	15.5	504.5
30/06/26	6.1	10.7	118.9	-8.7	505.6

Groundwater monitoring parameters for the 2025-2026 reporting period and the 2024-2025 reporting period as specified in Condition M2 of EPN 74764/4 are shown in Figure 6, Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9 and Figure 10. A thick black line designates the start of the current reporting period.

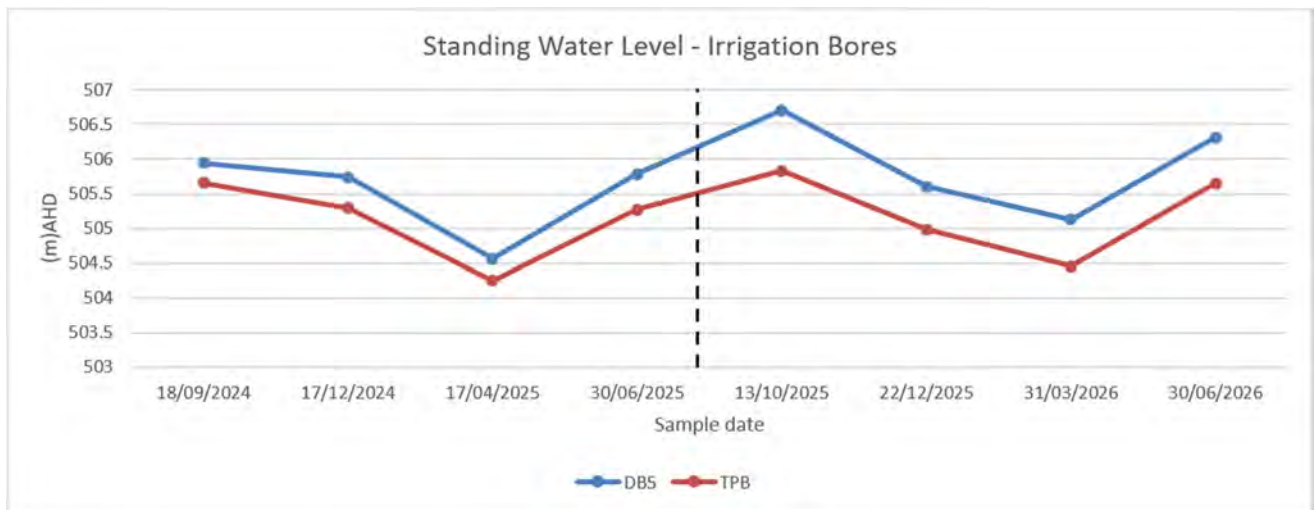


Figure 6 Groundwater standing water level (m AHD)

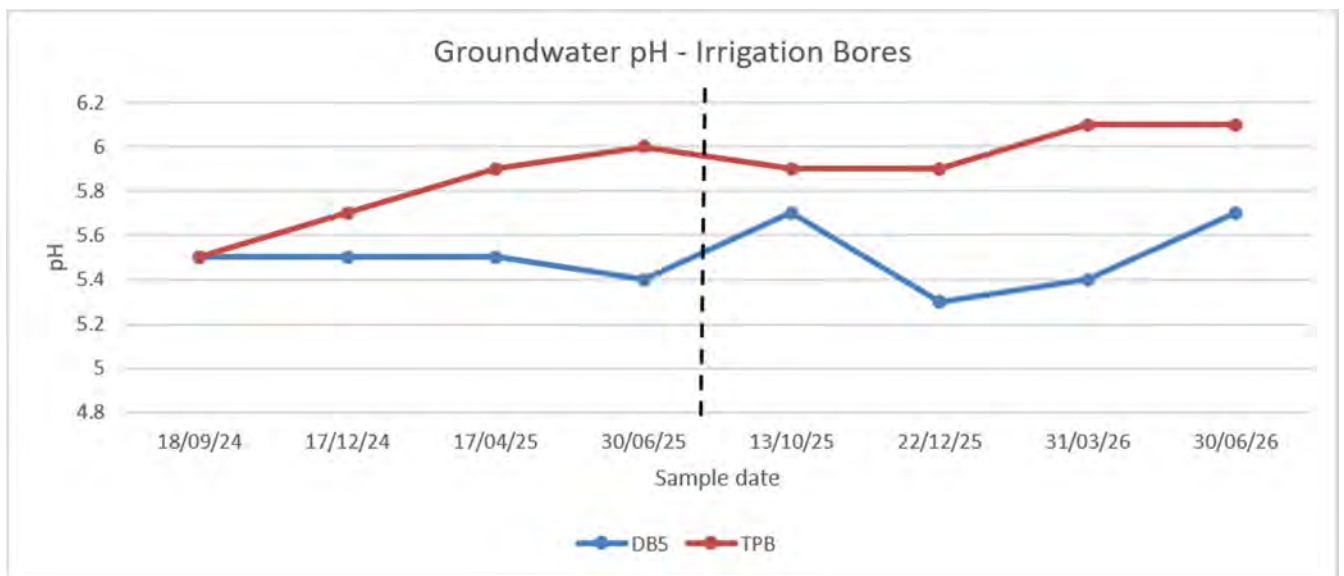


Figure 7 Groundwater pH at Surrey Hills Mill irrigation bores

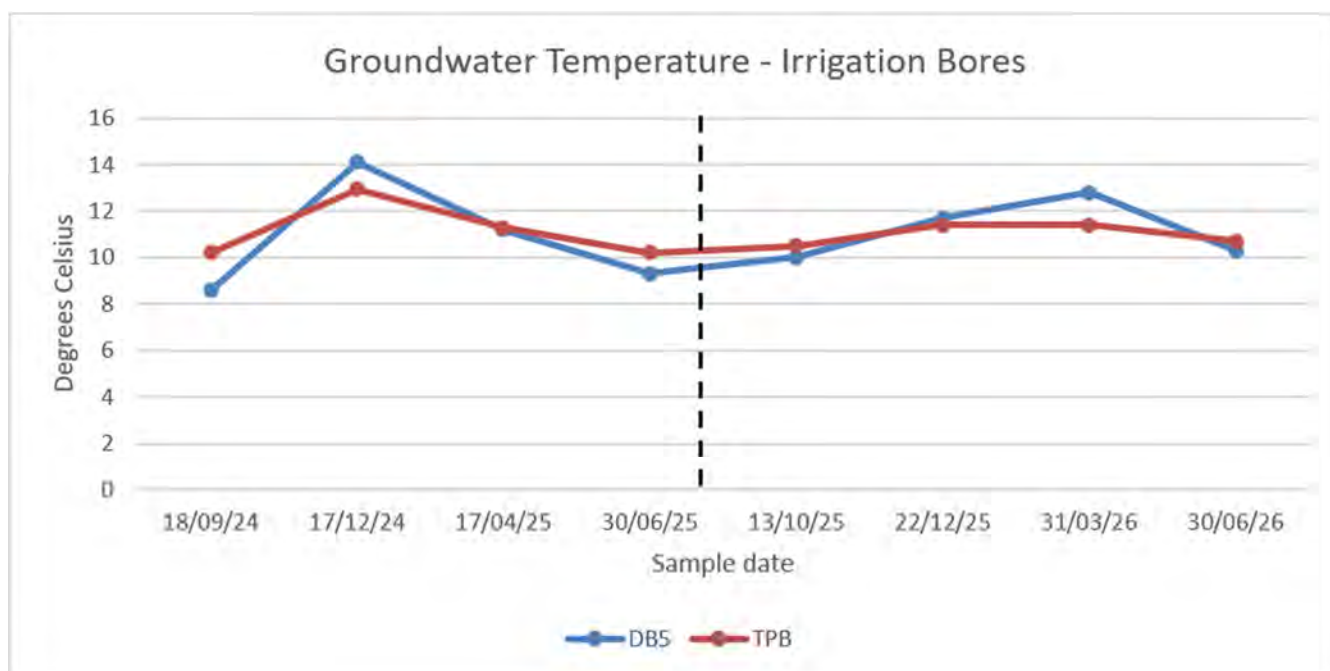


Figure 8 Groundwater temperature at Surrey Hills Mill irrigation bores

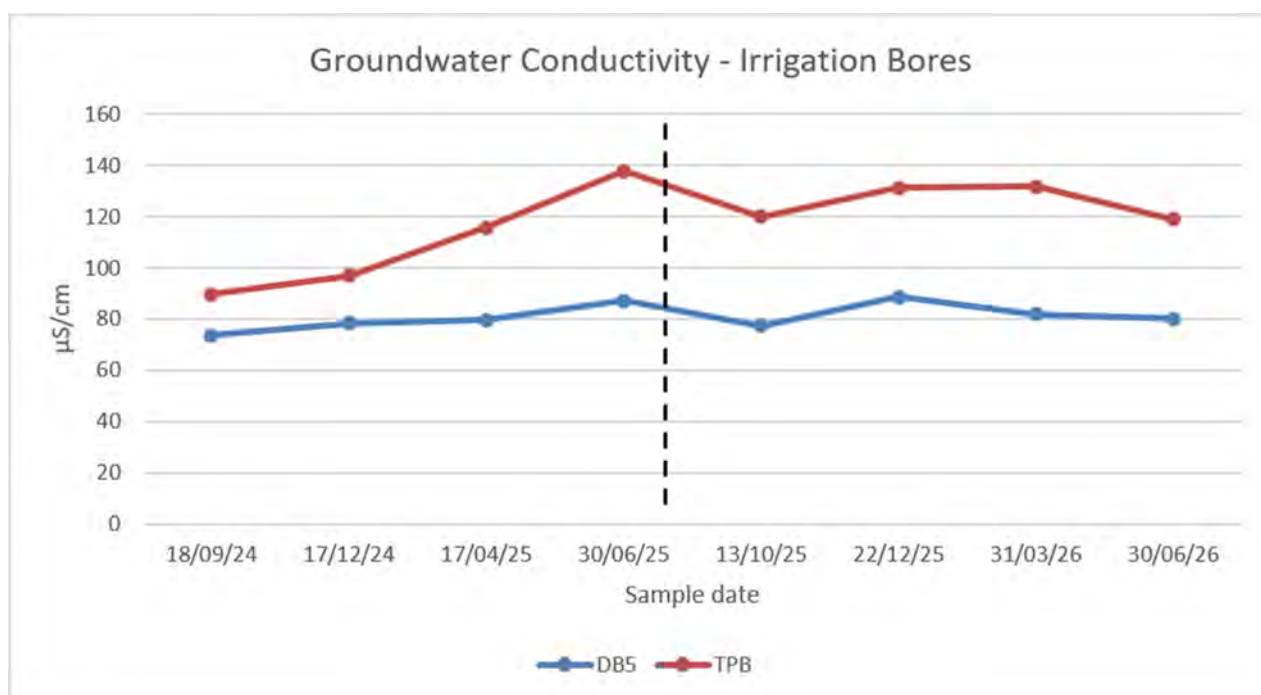


Figure 9 Groundwater Conductivity at Surrey Hills Mill irrigation bores

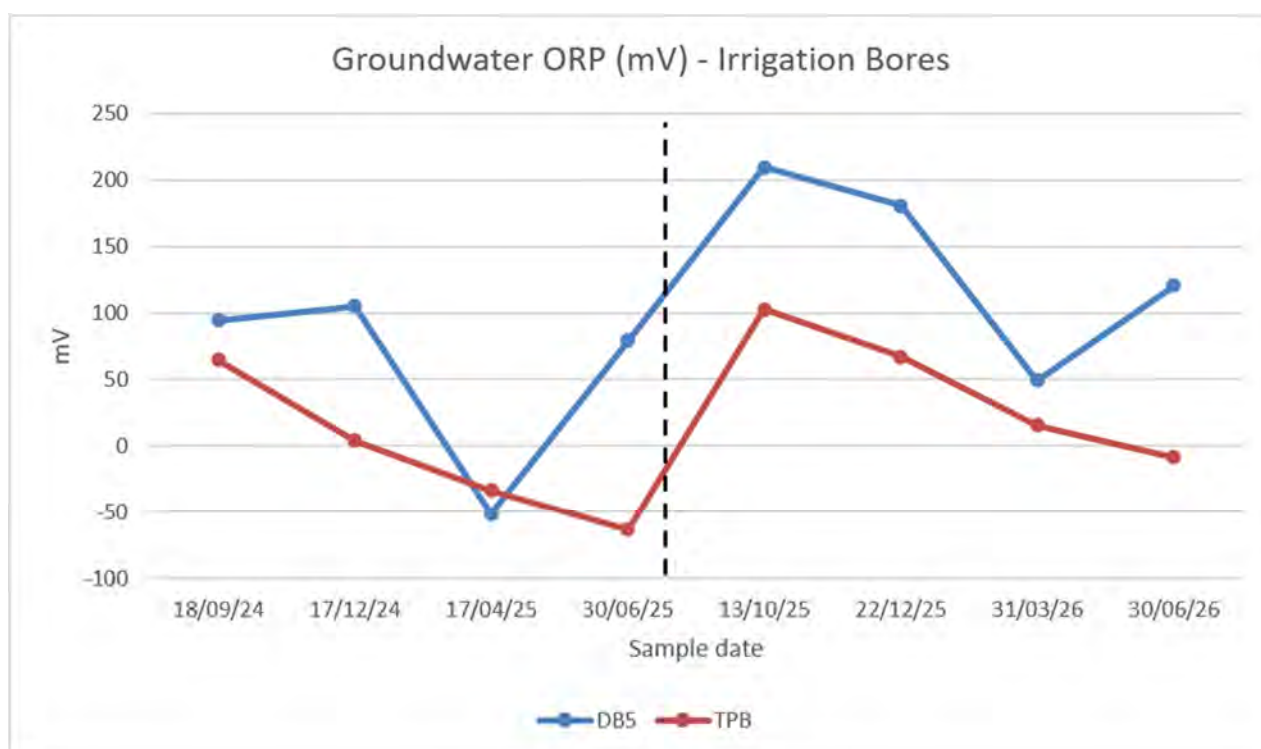


Figure 10 Groundwater Oxygen-Reduction Potential at Surrey Hills Mill irrigation bores

7.3 Interpretation of groundwater monitoring results

Oxygen Reduction Potential (ORP) showed an increasing trend during the first half of the reporting period with values declining toward the end of the reporting period. A reduction in ORP can be associated with increased organic matter in the water. While it is possible this was influenced by the composting trial undertaken at the SHM, this has not been confirmed. As the trial has now concluded, fluctuations in ORP will be monitored during the 2026-2027 reporting period.

In previous reporting periods, groundwater conductivity showed an upward trend. In the 2025-2026 this appears to have stabilised. Further fluctuations will be monitored during the 2026-2027 reporting period.

Groundwater SWL, pH, and temperature are below identified LORs/upper limits of groundwater criteria for the site and are consistent with the levels observed in prior reports.

7.4 Surface water monitoring

There is no direct release of wastewater from the site, with wastewater from the Surrey Hills Mill site used in the forestry irrigation plot area, and as such has the quality tested as part of the irrigation bore sampling programme.

8. Hazardous substances

The Surrey Hills Mill site utilises fuel drums for mobile refuelling operations stored in the fuel storage facility. A spill kit is within the storage facility, which is also fully bunded to capture all hydrocarbons in the event of a leak or spill.

All lubrication and hydraulic oils are stored within the enclosed oil storage facility, providing adequate security to contain any spillages as per conditions H1, H2 and H3 of EPN 7476/4. There is an oil and fuel spill recovery kit within the oil storage facility. Waste such as oily rags are stored in a separate bin for disposal through a licenced waste contractor. Used oil containers are also stored in the oil storage facility for collection from the supply companies.

Fuels, oils, and chemicals are carefully managed to minimise spill risk. The site features bunded containment areas and all loading aprons have been converted to impervious concrete hardstand. Hardstand areas surrounding containment areas feature two triple-interceptor drains that in the event of spillage, all material is captured and drained to a sump so as not to contaminate soil or water. The site operates under an updated and approved Environmental Procedure document for the Purchase and Disposal of Oils, and emergency/spill procedures.



Figure 11 Oil fuel spill recovery kits



Figure 12 Hazardous materials/storage

9. Atmospheric emissions

Overall, the Surrey Hills Mill facility has a relatively benign or insignificant emission profile regarding atmospheric emissions.

Dust emissions are not significant at the site, given the concrete apron installed at the log yard and the use of well-maintained hardstand areas. There is some dust generation from the woodchipping process, particularly from the wind-blowing fine particulates from the woodchip and fines stockpiles. Whilst this is not a significant environmental hazard within the surrounding plantation estate, it does create some irritation for site personnel in some wind conditions.

There is also the potential to create dust through the transport of woodchips and fines. It is a regulatory requirement that trucks leaving the site utilise effective covers to prevent product spillage or dust (Condition A1 of EPN 7476/4).

Measures as implemented at the site and detailed in the site EMP include the following:

- Minimise impacts on staff from dust emissions;
- Implement on-site traffic and operational controls to prevent unnecessary dust generation;
- Limit vehicles to specified routes around the site and ensure adherence to speed limits;
- Dust masks are available for staff needing to work outside in windy conditions;
- Dust suppression techniques (such as watering) to maintain moist conditions on exposed areas, stockpiles and unsealed roadways when necessary; and
- All vehicles carrying loads of materials that may be subject to dispersal by wind or spill (e.g. woodchips and fines) use effective control measures such as tarpaulins or load dampening.

10. Register of Public Complaints

Forico maintains and tracks the views of the various stakeholders on the business, including a register of public complaints. No public complaints were received during the 2025 – 2026 reporting period.

11. Environmental Commitment Performance

Table 15 Environmental commitments for the 2025-2026 reporting period

Commitment target	Status	Progress commentary
Analyse the viability of alternative timber processing options to substantially improve timber recovery Target: Determine if any new processes can feasibly be implemented at Surrey Hills	Ongoing	A new wood processing line is in the early stages of the design and approvals process. It is anticipated this will recover considerably more timber and reduce process waste on site.
Improve energy efficiency through renewal of power factor correction units Target: Complete renewal of all power factor correction units in Mill by the end of 2025.	Ongoing	This process is still ongoing, with energy efficiency measures being implemented across the site including the renewal of power factor correction units.
Reuse / Recycling of overhead chipper bins Target: When removing the overhead chip bins, investigate opportunities for repurposing or recycling the steel.	Ongoing	The overhead chipper bins are still in situ. Opportunities for re-use, re-purposing or recycling are ongoing.
Continue to explore and develop opportunities for reuse and recycling of wood waste products from the Mill Target: Continue to explore beneficial reuse options with third party bio-fuel, composting or material reuse partners. In particular, seek to expand opportunities to utilise fines as a resource.	Ongoing	An eFuel facility has been proposed to be constructed in the vicinity of the Burnie Port. This facility remains in permitting and design phase. Additional siting options for this facility are being investigated. Fines are provided to agricultural enterprises for use in animal husbandry, this remains the key reuse option at the Surrey Hills Mill. While this is a viable re-use option, transport costs can be a prohibitive factor.

Appendix A

Forico Environmental Sustainability Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

1 Purpose

Forico Pty Limited (Forico) is an integrated asset management company that is committed to sustainability, including responsible environmental management throughout all our business activities in Tasmania. We believe that the wood fibre we grow on the estate, from carbon dioxide it sequesters to downstream value adding processes we undertake, enhances economic, social and natural capital values for Tasmania.

As such we undertake our business activities consistent with our Sustainable values and environmental aspiration to be nature positive and provide overall ecosystem benefits from our management of the land estate and business activities.

2 Scope

Our Environmental Sustainability Policy applies to all aspects of our operations, from Seed to Market.

3 Procedural Principles

Forico will achieve a balance between economic viability, social contribution and environmental and cultural heritage responsibility through:

- **Leadership** – Promoting sound environmental stewardship principles within our own company and encouraging others to do likewise.
- **Best Practice** – Implementing, managing and regularly reviewing a robust integrated business management system that complies with the FSC® Certification Scheme, the PEFC recognised RW Certification Scheme and the ISO14001 Certification Scheme, which are routinely audited and verified by expert third parties.
- **Adding Value** – Growing, producing, and processing quality wood fibre products from plantation sources through managing the entire forest estate for sustainable outcomes.
- **Low Impact** – Protecting the environment, preventing pollution, the avoidable generation of waste, and optimising energy use throughout our chain of production and processing from a life cycle perspective.
- **Conservation** – Identifying, maintaining and enhancing natural forest and landscapes for ecosystem services.
- **Biodiversity** – Protection and enhancement of flora and fauna in the natural landscapes and production forests we manage on the estate.
- **Meaningful Communication** – Proactively engaging and communicating in an open and transparent fashion with interested and affected stakeholders.
- **Competent Workforce** – Ensuring our employees have adequate resources and appropriate skills through targeted training and awareness programmes.

- **Shared Responsibility** – Ensuring our suppliers and contractors share Forico's commitment to sustainability and responsible environmental management and are similarly trained and aware.
- **Challenging Ourselves** – Setting challenging objectives and targets to address any significant environmental aspects, compliance obligations, and other identified risks and opportunities that may arise through our commitment to continual improvement to enhance our environmental performance; and
- **Compliance** – Complying with all relevant legislation, regulatory frameworks, permits, codes of practice and our other voluntary commitments.

4 Definitions

RW – Responsible Wood.

FSC® – Forest Stewardship Council.

ISO14001 – An internationally recognised standard for environmental management systems that is applicable to any business or organisation, regardless of size, location or income.

PEFC – Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes.

5 References

- [Forico website \(www.forico.com.au\)](http://www.forico.com.au).
- [Forico Forest Management Plan](#).

Checked and Confirmed Compliance with Statutory Requirements ☒

Authorisation:	Board Approval ☒ CEO Approval ☐ Other ☐
Name and Signature: Chief Executive Officer	Name: Evangelista Albertini Signature: 
Date:	13 May 2025
Date to be Reviewed:	May 2027

Signatures:

<u>Board</u>		I hereby state that I have found no errors in the contents of this controlled quality document. The document has been approved by the Board and is ready for release.
<u>Controlled</u>		
<u>Document</u>		
<u>Approval:</u>		
Name:	Evangelista Albertini FORICOalberte	Title:
		
		2025-06-16 10:57:21 (UTC+00:00)
Electronically Signed in		Timestamp

Appendix B

**Certificate of Approval for AS/NZS ISO-
14001-2016**

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

SCS Global Services does hereby attest that an independent assessment was conducted on behalf of:



Forico Pty Limited

16 Techno Park Drive, Kings Meadows, Tasmania 7249, Australia

Has been assessed by SCS Services and found to be in conformance to the following standard:

AS/NZS ISO 14001-2016

For the following scopes:

- Business activities of Forico Pty Limited including office functions, seedling propagation and growing, log receipt and processing, stockpiling and ship loading of forest products.



The validity of this certificate will be maintained with annual surveillance audits and recertification audits every three years.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Continued from page 1

The following five (5) sites are included in the scope of certification:

- Main office: 16 Techno Park Drive, Kings Meadows TAS 7249 Australia
- Somerset Nursery: 20 McKays Road, Somerset TAS 7322 Australia
- Ridgley Office: 15-17 Circular Road, East Ridgley TAS 7321 Australia
- Long Reach Mill: 3523 East Tamar Highway, Long Reach TAS 7253 Australia
- Surrey Hills Mill: 2753 Ridgley Highway, Hampshire TAS 7321 Australia



SCS Global Services, 2000 Powell Street, Suite 600
Emeryville, CA 94608 USA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Coyo-Huhn". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Scott Coyo-Huhn, Vice President, EBC Division

Appendix C

**Certificate of Approval for Chain of
Custody Forest and Tree-based Products
(FSC-STD-40-003, FSC-STD-40-004, FSC-
STD-40-005, FSC-STD-50-001)**

SCS Global Services does hereby certify that an independent audit has been completed and conformity to the applicable standard(s) has been confirmed for:

Forico Pty Limited

16 Techno Park Drive, Kings Meadows, Tasmania 7249, Australia

This multi-site certificate covers the production of hardwood and softwood fibre products using the transfer and percentage systems. It also covers a due diligence system for the control of wood sourced from the Tasmanian region.

The facility(s) are hereby Chain of Custody certified to sell products as:

FSC 100%, FSC Mix

The assessment has been conducted by SCS Global Services in accordance with the protocols of the Forest Stewardship Council® A.C. (FSC®).

FSC Standard: FSC-STD-40-003, FSC-STD-40-004, FSC-STD-40-005, FSC-STD-50-001

Certificate Code: SCS-COC-701535

Trademark License Code: FSC-C104643

CW Code : SCS-CW-701535

Valid from: 27/05/2025
(DD/MM/YYYY)

Expiry date: 30/06/2027
(DD/MM/YYYY)



**The mark of
responsible forestry**



This certificate itself does not constitute evidence that a particular product supplied by the certificate holder is FSC-certified (or FSC Controlled Wood where applicable). Products offered, shipped or sold by the certificate holder can only be considered covered by the scope of this certificate when the required FSC claim is clearly stated on sales and delivery documents. The scope of this certificate is considered accurate on the date of issuance. The current validity and scope, including the full list of products, shall be verified on <http://info.fsc.org>. The certificate shall remain the property of SCS, and this certificate and all copies or reproductions of this certificate shall be returned to SCS immediately upon request. Where a certificate covers more than one site, the covered products and processes/activities are performed by the network of Participating Sites, and not necessarily by each of them.



Maggie Schwartz, Vice President, Natural Resources
SCS Global Services
2000 Powell Street, Ste. 600, Emeryville, CA 94608 USA

Certification Addendum

Forico Pty Limited

Certificate Number: (SCS-COC-701535)

This addendum contains the additionally certified locations approved by SCS Global Services to participate in the use of the FSC® Chain of Custody Certification.

Additional Locations

Forico Pty Limited: 16 Techno Park Drive, Kings Meadows, Tasmania, 7249, Australia, (SCS-COC-701535-)

Forico Pty Limited , Long Reach Mill: 3523 East Tamar Highway, Long Reach, Tasmania, 7253, Australia, (SCS-COC-701535-B)

Forico Pty Limited, Surrey Hills Mill: 2753 Ridgley Highway, Hampshire, Tasmania, 7321, Australia, (SCS-COC-701535-C)



Appendix D

**Environment Protection Notice (EPN) No
7476/4**



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION NOTICE No. 7476/4

Issued under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*

Issued to: **FORICO PTY LIMITED**
ACN 169 204 059
10 TECHNO PARK DR
KINGS MEADOWS TAS 7249

Environmentally Relevant Activity: **The operation of a woodchip mill (ACTIVITY TYPE: Woodchip Mills)**
SURREY HILLS WOODCHIP MILL, 2753 RIDGLEY HWY
HAMPSHIRE TAS 7321

GROUND S

I, Wes Ford, Director, Environment Protection Authority, (the Director), being satisfied in accordance with section 44(1)(d) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA) that in relation to the above-mentioned environmentally relevant activity that it is desirable to vary the conditions of a permit (see table below) hereby issue this environment protection notice to the above-mentioned person as the person responsible for the activity.

Permit No.	Date Granted	Granted By
5937	16 February 1994	Director of Environmental Control

PARTICULARS

The particulars of the grounds upon which this notice is issued are:

- 1 The permit conditions need to be varied to reflect current or updated terminology and/or to clarify the meaning of the conditions.
- 2 The permit conditions refer to *The Environment Protection Act 1973* which has been repealed and replaced by the EMPCA. It is necessary to vary condition(s) remove references to the repealed Act.
- 3 A regulatory limit which sets the maximum scale or throughput of the activity is needed because any increase in scale or throughput may result in additional environmental impacts or emissions that were not considered at the time of granting of the permit.
- 4 Conditions are needed to bring the permit into accordance with the development and planning requirements under the EMPCA and the *Land Use and Planning Approvals Act 1993*.
- 5 A condition requiring notification of a change of ownership of The Land is needed because this Notice may affect title to land and the new owner's interests may be affected by pollutants emitted or disturbed by the activity.

- 6 It is necessary to add a condition requiring a public complaints register to be maintained so that the Director can appraise the frequency and characteristics of complaints which may indicate nuisance should any complaints be received.
- 7 It is necessary to add a condition requiring the submission of a publicly available Annual Environmental Review to inform the Director and the public of the environmental performance of the activity.
- 8 The permit does not have specific and measurable limits for effluent quality for water being discharged from The Land. A condition is needed to control emissions from the activity and to impose limits upon those emissions to reflect current State Policies or Environment Protection Policies.
- 9 Conditions are required to ensure that infrastructure to manage water traversing and discharged from The Land is maintained so that the infrastructure functions as designed and effectively controls water to minimise environmental harm and/or nuisance.
- 10 The permit does not contain conditions in relation to dealing with environmentally hazardous substances. Environmentally hazardous substances are likely to be stored and handled on The Land and current best practice environmental management necessitates conditions to be added for the storage and handling of environmentally hazardous substances.
- 11 The permit does not have a condition requiring the provision of spill kits. It is desirable to add a condition requiring provision, in suitable locations, of spill kits appropriate for the environmental hazardous substances held on The Land for use in any incident to minimise the emissions of a pollutant into the environment.
- 12 Monitoring and reporting requirements set out in the permit conditions need to be varied to reflect current best practice environmental management and to require accurate measurement of emissions and their impact upon the receiving environment and to consistently inform the Director of the results of monitoring.
- 13 The permit does not contain conditions in relation to the adequate management of the activity and/or The Land should the activity temporarily suspend operations. It is necessary to add a condition requiring management of the activity during temporarily suspended operations.
- 14 It is desirable to add a condition to require management and monitoring of the contaminated soil temporarily stockpiled on the North Crane Mound on The Land to reduce environmental liabilities.
- 15 Permit conditions G4 and G5 need to be removed to reflect that specific requirements are no longer applicable because they reference documents relating to the activity that have been superseded or are now redundant.
- 16 It is necessary to remove permit conditions G6, E1, N1 and N2 because they detail requirements that have been fulfilled and/or are no longer required.
- 17 It is necessary to remove condition S1 because the requirement is a legal obligation under the EMPCA and Regulations thereunder and references a document relating to the activity that has been superseded or is now redundant.

DEFINITIONS

Unless the contrary appears, words and expressions used in this Notice have the meaning given to them in Schedule 1 of this Notice and in the EMPCA. If there is any inconsistency between a definition in the EMPCA and a definition in this Notice, the EMPCA prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

REQUIREMENTS

The person responsible for the activity must comply with the varied permit conditions as set out in Schedule 2 of this Notice.

INFORMATION

Attention is drawn to **Schedule 3**, which contains important additional information.

PENALTIES

If a person bound by an environment protection notice contravenes a requirement of the notice, that person is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding 1000 penalty units in the case of a body corporate or 500 penalty units in any other case (at the time of issuance of this Notice one penalty unit is equal to \$154.00).

NOTICE TAKES EFFECT

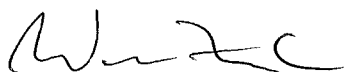
This notice takes effect on the date on which it is served upon you.

APPEAL RIGHTS

You may appeal to the Appeal Tribunal against this notice, or against any requirement contained in the notice, within 14 days from the date on which the notice is served, by writing to:

The Chairperson
Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal
GPO Box 2036
Hobart TAS 7001

Signed:



DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Date:

20/5/16

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Attachments

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Schedule 1: Definitions

Activity means any environmentally relevant activity (as defined in Section 3 of EMPCA) to which this document relates, and includes more than one such activity.

Authorized Officer means an authorized officer under section 20 of EMPCA.

Director means the Director, Environment Protection Authority holding office under Section 18 of EMPCA and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.

DRP means Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan.

EMPCA means the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

Emu River Weir means the weir located on the Emu River at E 394712, N 5426583.

Environmental Harm and **Material Environmental Harm** and **Serious Environmental Harm** each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 5 of EMPCA.

Environmental Nuisance and **Pollutant** each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 3 of EMPCA.

Environmentally Hazardous Material means any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment and includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals but excludes sewage.

Person Responsible is any person who is or was responsible for the environmentally relevant activity to which this document relates and includes the officers, employees, contractors, joint venture partners and agents of that person, and includes a body corporate.

Product means woodchips.

Reporting Period means the 12 months ending on 30 June of each year.

Stormwater means water traversing the surface of the land as a result of rainfall.

Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual means the Noise Measurement Procedures Manual referred to in regulation 4 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Miscellaneous Noise) Regulations 2014*.

The Land means the land on which the activity to which this document relates may be carried out, and includes: buildings and other structures permanently fixed to the land, any part of the land covered with water, and any water covering the land. The Land falls within the area defined by:

- 1 the areas demarcated as Mill Industrial Site Boundary and Irrigation Area in Attachment 1 of this Notice; and
- 2 falls within the boundaries of Titles of Reference 164460/1 and 101903/1.

Waste has the meaning ascribed to it in Section 3 of EMPCA.

Schedule 2: Conditions

Maximum Quantities

Q1 Regulatory limits

- 1 The activity must not exceed the following limits (annual fees are derived from these figures):
 - 1.1 1,600,000 tonnes per year of product.
 - 1.2 5.8 megalitres per day of water drawn from the Emu River weir.

General

G1 Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents

A copy of these conditions and any associated documents referred to in these conditions must be held in a location that is known to and accessible to the person responsible for the activity. The person responsible for the activity must ensure that all persons who are responsible for undertaking work on The Land, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with these conditions to the extent relevant to their work.

G2 Incident response

If an incident causing or threatening environmental nuisance, serious environmental harm or material environmental harm from pollution occurs in the course of the activity, then the person responsible for the activity must immediately take all reasonable and practicable action to minimise any adverse environmental effects from the incident.

G3 No changes without approval

- 1 The following changes, if they may cause or increase the emission of a pollutant which may cause material or serious environmental harm or environmental nuisance, must only take place in relation to the activity if such changes have been approved in writing by the EPA Board following its assessment of an application for a permit under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, or approved in writing by the Director:
 - 1.1 a change to a process used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
 - 1.2 the construction, installation, alteration or removal of any structure or equipment used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
 - 1.3 a change in the quantity or characteristics of materials used in the course of carrying out the activity.

G4 Change of ownership

If the owner of The Land upon which the activity is carried out changes or is to change, then, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 30 days after becoming aware of the change or intended change in the ownership of The Land, the person responsible must notify the Director in writing of the change or intended change of ownership.

G5 Complaints register

- 1 A public complaints register must be maintained and made available for inspection by an Authorized Officer upon request. The public complaints register must, as a minimum, record the following detail in relation to each complaint received in which it is alleged that environmental harm (including an environmental nuisance) has been caused by the activity:
 - 1.1 the time at which the complaint was received;
 - 1.2 contact details for the complainant;

- 1.3 the subject-matter of the complaint;
 - 1.4 any investigations undertaken with regard to the complaint; and
 - 1.5 the manner in which the complaint was resolved, including any mitigation measures implemented.
- 2 Complaint records must be maintained for a period of at least 3 years.

G6 Annual Environmental Review

- 1 Unless otherwise specified in writing by the Director, a publicly available Annual Environmental Review for the activity must be submitted to the Director each year within three months of the end of the reporting period. Without limitation, each Annual Environmental Review must include the following information:
- 1.1 a statement by the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer or equivalent for the activity acknowledging the contents of the Annual Environmental Review;
 - 1.2 subject to the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*, a list of all complaints received from the public during the reporting period concerning actual or potential environmental harm or environmental nuisance caused by the activity and a description of any actions taken as a result of those complaints;
 - 1.3 details of environment-related procedural or process changes that have been implemented during the reporting period;
 - 1.4 a summary of the amounts (tonnes or litres) of both solid and liquid wastes produced and treatment methods implemented during the reporting period. Initiatives or programs planned to avoid, minimise, re-use, or recycle such wastes over the next reporting period should be detailed;
 - 1.5 details of all non-trivial environmental incidents and/or incidents of non compliance with permit or environment protection notice conditions that occurred during the reporting period, and any mitigative or preventative actions that have resulted from such incidents;
 - 1.6 a summary of the monitoring data and record keeping required by these conditions. This information should be presented in graphical form where possible, including comparison with the results of at least the preceding reporting period. Special causes and system changes that have impacted on the parameters monitored must be noted. Explanation of significant deviations between actual results and any predictions made in previous reports must be provided;
 - 1.7 identification of breaches of limits specified in these conditions and significant variations from predicted results contained in any relevant DPEMP or EMP, an explanation of why each identified breach of specified limits or variation from predictions occurred and details of the actions taken in response to each identified breach of limits or variance from predictions;
 - 1.8 a list of any issues, not discussed elsewhere in the report, that must be addressed to improve compliance with these conditions, and the actions that are proposed to address any such issues;
 - 1.9 a summary of fulfilment of environmental commitments made for the reporting period. This summary must include indication of results of the actions implemented and explanation of any failures to achieve such commitments; and
 - 1.10 a summary of any community consultation and communication undertaken during the reporting period.

Atmospheric

A1 Covering of vehicles

Vehicles carrying loads containing material which may blow or spill must be equipped with effective control measures to prevent the escape of the materials from the vehicles when they leave The Land or travel on public roads. Effective control measures may include tarpaulins and load dampening.

Effluent Disposal

E1 Effluent emissions

- 1 Polluted stormwater that will be discharged from The Land must be collected and treated prior to discharge to the extent necessary to prevent serious or material environmental harm, or environmental nuisance; and
- 2 All effluent emissions, including polluted stormwater, discharged from The Land must be visually free from grease, oil, solids and unnatural colouration; and
- 3 The pH of effluent discharged from The Land must be between 6.5 and 8.5; and
- 4 The concentration in the effluent discharged from The Land of the parameters listed in Column 1 of Table 1 below must not exceed the limits in Column 3 when measured in the units in Column 2.
- 5 **Table 1: Discharge limits for water discharged from The Land**

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Parameter	Units	Emission limit
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	mg/L	40
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	60
Oil & Grease	mg/L	10

E2 Maintenance of settling ponds and drainage lines

Sediment settling ponds and open rip rap drainage lines on The Land must be periodically cleaned out to ensure that the design capacity and functionality is maintained. Sediment removed during this cleaning must be securely deposited such that sediment will not be transported off The Land by surface run-off.

Hazardous Substances

H1 Storage and handling of hazardous materials

- 1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, all environmentally hazardous materials, including all chemicals, fuels, and oils, held on The Land in volumes exceeding 250 litres must be stored and handled in accordance with the following:
 - 1.1 Any storage facility must be contained within a spill collection bund with a net capacity of whichever is the greater of the following:
 - 1.1.1 at least 110% of the combined volume of any interconnected vessels within that bund; or
 - 1.1.2 at least 110% of the volume of the largest storage vessel; or
 - 1.1.3 at least 25% of the total volume of all vessels stored in that spill collection bund; or
 - 1.1.4 the capacity of the largest tank plus the output of any firewater system over a twenty minute period.

- 1.2 All activities that involve a significant risk of spillages, including the loading and unloading of bulk materials, must take place in a bunded containment area or on a transport vehicle loading apron.
- 1.3 Bunded containment areas and transport vehicle loading aprons must:
 - 1.3.1 be made of materials that are impervious to any environmentally hazardous material stored within the bund;
 - 1.3.2 be graded or drained to a sump to allow recovery of liquids;
 - 1.3.3 be chemically resistant to the chemicals stored or transferred;
 - 1.3.4 be designed and managed such that any leakage or spillage is contained within the bunded area (including where such leakage emanates vertically higher than the bund wall);
 - 1.3.5 be designed and managed such that the transfer of materials is adequately controlled by valves, pumps and meters and other equipment wherever practical. The equipment must be adequately protected (for example, with bollards) and contained in an area designed to permit recovery of any released chemicals;
 - 1.3.6 be designed such that chemicals which may react dangerously if they come into contact have measures in place to prevent mixing; and
 - 1.3.7 be managed such that the capacity of the bund is maintained at all times (for example, by regular inspections and removal of obstructions).

H2 Hazardous materials (< 250 litres)

Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, each environmentally hazardous material, including chemicals, fuels and oils, held on The Land in discrete volumes not exceeding 250 litres, but not including discrete volumes of 25 litres or less, must, as far as practical and to the reasonable satisfaction of the Director, be located within bunded areas or spill trays which are designed to contain at least 110% of the volume of the largest container.

H3 Spill kits

Spill kits appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled on The Land must be kept in appropriate locations to assist with the containment of spilt environmentally hazardous materials.

Monitoring

M1 Dealing with samples obtained for monitoring

- 1 Any sample or measurement required to be obtained under these conditions must be taken and processed in accordance with the following:
 - 1.1 Australian Standards, NATA approved methods, the American Public Health Association Standard Methods for the Analysis of Water and Waste Water or other standard(s) approved in writing by the Director;
 - 1.2 samples must be tested in a laboratory accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA), or a laboratory approved in writing by the Director, for the specified test;
 - 1.3 results of measurements and analysis of samples and details of methods employed in taking measurements and samples must be retained for at least three (3) years after the date of collection;
 - 1.4 measurement equipment must be maintained and operated in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and records of maintenance must be retained for at least three (3) years; and

- 1.5** noise measurements must be undertaken in accordance with the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual.

M2 Groundwater monitoring for the irrigation area

- 1** Field measurement of groundwater in irrigation area monitoring bores TPB and DB5, as shown in Attachment 1 of this Notice, must be undertaken at the frequency specified in Column 3 of Table 2 below for the parameters specified in Column 1 and must be reported annually to the Director in the units specified in Column 2.
- 2 Table 2: Irrigation area groundwater monitoring requirements**

Column 1 Parameters	Column 2 Units	Column 3 Frequency
Standing water level	M (above height Datum)	Quarterly
Oxygen-Reduction Potential	mV	Quarterly
Conductivity	µS/cm	Quarterly
pH	pH units	Quarterly

M3 Surface water and groundwater monitoring for the former crane mounds

- 1** Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director the following monitoring must be undertaken.
- 2** Representative samples must be collected at the former north crane mound surface water monitoring locations NCM Surface Sample 1 and NCM Surface Sample 2, as shown in Attachment 2 of this Notice, at the frequency specified in Column 3 of Table 3 below and analysed for the parameters specified in Column 1 using the method specified in Column 4 and must be reported annually to the Director in the units specified in Column 2.
- 3 Table 3: Surface water monitoring requirements for the former north crane mound**

Column 1 Parameters	Column 2 Units	Column 3 Frequency	Column 4 Method
pH	pH units	6 monthly	Field measurement
Conductivity	µS/cm	6 monthly	Field measurement
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	mg/L	6 monthly	Laboratory Analysis
Total Residual Hydrocarbons (TRH) (F1 & F2)	µg/L	6 monthly	Laboratory Analysis

- 4** Representative samples must be collected at the former south crane mound groundwater monitoring bores A, B and C, as shown in Attachment 2 of this Notice, at the frequency specified in Column 3 of Table 4 below and analysed for the parameters specified in Column 1 using the method specified in Column 4 and must be reported annually to the Director in the units specified in Column 2.

5 Table 4: Former south crane mound groundwater monitoring requirements

Column 1 Parameters	Column 2 Units	Column 3 Frequency	Column 4 Method
pH	pH units	Quarterly	In field measurement
Conductivity	µS/cm	Quarterly	In field measurement
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	Quarterly	Laboratory Analysis
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/L	Quarterly	Laboratory Analysis
Total Residual Hydrocarbons (TRH) (F2 & F3)	µg/L	Quarterly	Laboratory Analysis
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Quarterly	Laboratory Analysis

Rehabilitation**R1 Notification of cessation**

Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the permanent cessation of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to cease or has ceased.

R2 DRP requirements

Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) for the activity must be submitted for approval to the Director within 30 days of the Director being notified of the planned cessation of the activity or by a date specified in writing by the Director. The DRP must be prepared in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Director.

R3 Implementation of the DRP

Following permanent cessation of the activity, rehabilitation of The Land must be carried out in accordance with the most recent Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) approved by the Director.

R4 Temporary suspension of activity

- 1 Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the temporary suspension of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to suspend or has suspended.
- 2 During temporary suspension of the activity:
 - 2.1 The Land must be managed and monitored by the person responsible for the activity to ensure that emissions from The Land do not cause serious environmental harm, material environmental harm or environmental nuisance; and
 - 2.2 If required by the Director a Care and Maintenance Plan for the activity must be submitted, by a date specified in writing by the Director, for approval. The person responsible must implement the approved Care and Maintenance Plan, as may be amended from time to time with written approval of the Director.
- 3 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, if the activity on The Land has substantially ceased for 2 years or more, rehabilitation of The Land must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of these conditions as if the activity has permanently ceased.

Waste Management**WM1 Stockpiled Contaminated Soil Management Plan**

- 1 Within 18 months of the date of issue of this Notice, or by a date otherwise specified in writing by the Director, a Stockpiled Contaminated Soil Management Plan for the treatment, reuse, or disposal of contaminated soil located on the former north crane mound must be submitted to the Director for approval.
- 2 The plan must be prepared in accordance with any reasonable guidelines provided by the Director.
- 3 Without limitation, the plan must include details of the following:
 - 3.1 details of how the stockpiled contaminated soil will be treated, reused or disposed of;
 - 3.2 a table containing all of the major commitments made in the plan;
 - 3.3 an implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan; and
 - 3.4 a reporting program to regularly advise the Director of the results of the plan.
- 4 The person responsible must implement and act in accordance with the approved plan.
- 5 In the event that the Director, by notice in writing to the person responsible, either approves a minor variation to the approved plan or approves a new plan in substitution for the plan originally approved, the person responsible must implement and act in accordance with the varied plan or the new plan, as the case may be.

Schedule 3: Information

Legal Obligations

LO1 EMPCA

The activity must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* and Regulations thereunder. The conditions of this document must not be construed as an exemption from any of those requirements.

LO2 Change of responsibility

If the person who is or was responsible for the activity ceases to be responsible for the activity, they must notify the Director in accordance with Section 45 of the EMPCA.

Other Information

OI1 Waste management hierarchy

- 1 Wastes should be managed in accordance with the following hierarchy of waste management:
 - 1.1 waste should be minimised, that is, the generation of waste must be reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable, having regard to best practice environmental management;
 - 1.2 waste should be re-used or recycled to the maximum extent that is practicable; and
 - 1.3 waste that cannot be re-used or recycled must be disposed of at a waste depot site or treatment facility that has been approved in writing by the relevant planning authority or the Director to receive such waste, or otherwise in a manner approved in writing by the Director.

OI2 Notification of incidents under section 32 of EMPCA

Where a person is required by section 32 of EMPCA to notify the Director of the release of a pollutant, the Director can be notified by telephoning 1800 005 171 (a 24-hour emergency telephone number).

ATTACHMENT 2

Former Crane Mounds Monitoring Locations

(Source: Cromer, W. C. (2015). *Surrey Hills Mill: surface water and groundwater monitoring program for the former South Crane Mound*. Unpublished report for Forico Pty Ltd by William C. Cromer Pty Ltd, 28 July 2015)

