



# MEDIA STATEMENT

20 December 2019

## Boral responds to dust infringement penalty at Berrima Cement

Boral has accepted a penalty infringement notice (PIN) from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) following an incident at its Berrima Cement Works in the Southern Highlands in late June 2019.

The incident, which involved dust depositing in the neighbouring village of New Berrima, was caused by the failure of several dust collection bags within one of the site's two cement mills.

Rajeev Ramenkutty, Boral Cement's Executive General Manager said: "As soon as we became aware of the issue, the Berrima team identified that three of the 144 collection bags in the dust collector had prematurely failed. These were immediately replaced, with the remaining collection bags all replaced in the following days as a precautionary measure."

"Boral communicated with residents about what had taken place and we moved to correct the situation by arranging detail cleaning of the vehicles affected.

"Boral self-reported the matter to the EPA and has worked with the Authority toward a satisfactory resolution and preventative actions to help mitigate against a similar situation from occurring.

"Managing dust is a challenge for all industrial sites, especially in times of drought and in locations like New Berrima where multiple other sources are present in the local area. However, we take very seriously our obligations to protect the amenity of neighbours from the effects of our activities."

Mr Ramenkutty said Boral had introduced a number of measures to further minimise the risk of fugitive dust and to assist with better anticipation of factors that could cause a similar event. He said Boral would also be conducting a feasibility trial in early 2020 of 'real time' air quality monitoring, which should facilitate a more timely response should similar conditions arise in future.

"We will continue to work with the local community and continue to seek further improvements based on the feedback of our neighbours," added Mr Ramenkutty.

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