



22 July 2026

HVO North and South Open Cut Coal Continuation Projects (SSD-11826681 & SSD-11826621)

Net Zero Commission Meeting Questions

- 1) In your 2024 annual report you say that NSW is not on track to meet its GHG emission reduction targets.
 - (a) Is your conclusion based on the sum of projections for all sectors?
 - (b) Does the Government's framework require all sectors to make equal reductions?
 - (c) What are the implications if a sector does not make those reductions?
 - (d) Has the availability of offsets been factored in? If not, why not?
- 2) The NSW Government has said that it expects 'overall emissions from the (coal mining) sector will decline consistent with NSW's targets'.
 - (a) What is the baseline against which this expectation should be measured for the coal sector?
 - (b) How is the coal sector performing against that baseline?
 - (c) Is it useful to differentiate between the open cut and underground coal sectors (or thermal vs metallurgical coal)?
 - (d) What assumptions about further mining approvals have been made – especially about those mines for which current approvals extend far enough into the future that they may not yet have signalled their intentions regarding possible extension applications to the relevant agencies?
- 3) The Applicant has proposed to use offsets. What are the prerequisites for offsets to be counted against the State's Net Zero targets?
- 4) To what extent, if any, would approval of the HVO application, in the form that it now comes before the IPC, impact on the State's commitment to achieving the NSW Government's policy goal of net zero carbon emissions in NSW by 2050?