

# EPA Media Release



## Low level Hazelwood open cut mine fire smoke advisory

**0900 Tuesday 18 March 2014**

EPA Victoria has issued a low level smoke alert for the Latrobe Valley today (Tuesday) as a result of the Hazelwood open cut mine fire smoke.

A low level alert means that it is likely residents will see brief periods of significant smoke impacts during the day with visibility reduced to between 10 – 20 kilometres due to high particle concentrations in the air.

The Victorian Chief Health Officer Dr Rosemary Lester advises the elderly, children and those with existing heart or lung conditions to limit prolonged or heavy physical activity.

“Where possible this sector of the community should also limit the time spent outdoors.” Dr Lester said.

“Anyone with a heart or lung condition should take their medication as prescribed by their doctor.

“People with asthma should follow their asthma management plan.

“Everyone should keep informed about fire activity in their immediate area. Anyone with concerns about their health should seek medical advice or call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24.”

For more information on the Hazelwood open cut mine fire:

- **Smoke and health:** [www.health.vic.gov.au](http://www.health.vic.gov.au)
- **Health and medical advice:** NURSE-ON-CALL 1300 60 60 24
- **Air quality:** [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au) or 1300 372 842 (1300 EPAVIC)
- **Fire warnings and advice:** [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au)
- **Hazelwood fire information:** [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

### Media inquiries:

**Air quality 03 9695 2704**

**Health 03 9096 8803**

