

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS AND COMPLIANCE

There was no level 3 incident recorded with significant impact on the physical/biological environment with extensive or long-term impairment of ecosystem function or surface/ground water resource (2016/17: 0 Level 3 incident). There were no non-monetary sanctions for non-compliance with applicable environmental regulations registered in the year. Established community liaison forums between Tongaat Hulett and interested parties addressed environmentally-related complaints raised during the year.

A single level 2 incident, with moderate impact on the physical environment was recorded at one of the operations following a spillage of a chemical onto the ground (2016/17: 0 Level 2 Incidents). Immediate corrective action was taken to contain spillage and clean up the contaminated area. The incident was reported to local environmental health inspectorate.

A total of 300 level 1 environmental incidents were recorded in the year resulting in minor impact on the physical environment but with no significant impairment of ecosystem function, surface or ground water resource (2016/17: 425). The majority of these incidents were related to product or substance spillage/leakage mainly at sugar and starch operations.

A total of 104 level 1 stakeholder complaints were recorded in the year (2016/17: 142). The majority of these complaints were related to odour emissions being caused by disruptive production processes. In most cases, these complaints were immediately responded to and addressed while in other cases action is continuously being taken to address underlying issues.

INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ASSURANCE

Environmental Resources Management (ERM) has provided independent third-party assurance over selected sustainability content of the 2018 Integrated Annual Report. The assurance was conducted in line with the AccountAbility AA1000 Assurance Standard (Revised, 2008) (Type 2 Moderate level). The engagement was conducted using the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles Standard (2008) criteria and those of the GRI Standards. For the detailed assurance statement refer to: www.tongaath.com/2018/ermassurance.pdf

