

Minutes: Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Maules Creek Coal Community Consultative Committee
Held at the Boggabri Golf Club, Gunnedah Road, Boggabri NSW 2382

Wednesday 24 May 2017

Members Present: Peter Wilkinson (PWi) – WHC, Darren Swain (DS) – WHC, Scott Mitchell (SM) – WHC, Andrew Wright (AW) – WHC, Carolyn Nancarrow (CN) – Community, Anna Christie (AC) – Environmental Representative, Cr Robert Kneale (RK), Narrabri Council, Cath Collyer (CC) – Community, Jack Warnock (JW) – Community, Robyn Grover (RG) – Community (Alternate), Ros Druce (RD) – Community (Alternate), Simone Moodie – Community – Aboriginal Representative

Observers: Kirsten Gollogly (KG) – WHC

Independent Facilitator / Chair for CCC: David Ross (DR)

Independent Secretary: Debbie Corlet (DC)

Agenda Items	Who to Present
1. Apologies	DR
2. Declaration of pecuniary or other interests	DR
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings a. Discussion on minutes for 15 February 2017	DR
4. Business arising from the previous minutes a. Action list distributed	DR
5. Discussion on CCC Guidelines	DR
6. Correspondence	ALL
7. Questions and Answers Session	ALL
8. Company Reports and overview of activities: a. Progress at the mine b. Monitoring and environmental performance c. Community complaints and response to complaints d. Information provided to the community and any feedback e. Presentation by Andrew Wright – Environmental Specialist (Biodiversity)	PWi, DS, SM, AW
9. General Business	ALL
10. Next Meeting – 16 August 2017	ALL

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/By Whom
1.	<p>Welcome by David Ross</p> <p>DR explained that everyone will be receiving a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest form that will need to be read, signed and returned to DR today. DR will keep on file. Plus, DR will hand out a Code of Conduct to everyone.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Libby Laird (LL) – Community, Steve Eather (SE) – Community, Kerri Clarke (KC) – Environmental Rep.</p>	
3.	<p>Declaration of pecuniary or other interests</p> <p>DR advised he is paid a fee to chair these meetings as is DC for typing the Minutes. JW wanted a few things on record –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. March 2015, we purchased concrete and steel pipes – from Maules Creek or Boggabri Coal Contractor. 2. 2009 – competition with Whitehaven – groundwater entitlements in our zone. <p>SM made everyone aware that her son works for WHC. RD – Property falls into the ‘Zone of Affectation’ for acquisition by Maules Creek Coal Mine (MCCM).</p>	
4.	<p>Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings (15 February 2017)</p> <p>RK moved that the minutes be approved; seconded by CN.</p>	
5.	<p>Business arising from the previous minutes – Action List Distributed</p> <p>DR noted the actions he was responsible for (had forwarded responses on these previously to CCC members).</p> <p>DS handed out some sheets for distribution in response to questions from the last meeting.</p> <p>JW – can something like this be emailed prior to the meeting so we all have time to review properly and then a hard copy issued at the meeting?</p> <p>DS – apologised that members hadn’t received prior to the meeting. DS to send a copy to the new members.</p>	<p>ACTION 1 –DS to continue sending information via email prior to meetings. Hard copies to then be distributed at the meetings.</p>
6.	<p>Discussion on CCC Guidelines</p> <p>DR presented on the new CCC Guidelines and what’s going to happen from here.</p> <p>Community Rep Roles: There is an expectation on you to alert the community. Also asked the community reps that if they can’t attend an upcoming meeting to let DR know asap as it is up to DR to find the alternate.</p>	

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	<p>Regarding the roles DR explained:</p> <p>Council Role – the Council themselves appoint someone – in this case Cr Robert Kneale (RK)</p> <p>Chair Role – is to be independent. Facilitate discussion so that all get a go to talk.</p> <p>Whitehaven – provide CCC with timely, accurate & comprehensive reports on project. Provide management plans, monitoring and reviews, audits, reports on concerns plus responses to be given within 28 days.</p> <p>Observers – WHC Staff, government agencies, members of the public, can only participate if invited by the chair. Kirsten Gollogly has approval to be present as an observer.</p> <p>JW – At Narrabri Gas Project CCC, Government Agency representatives attend the monthly meetings. Would those Government Agencies responsible for monitoring Maules Creek Coal send representatives to the Maules Creek Coal CCC Meetings?</p> <p>DR – Stephen O’Donoghue (SOD) and Stephen Cox (SC) attended the November 2016 meeting. CCC Guidelines – DP&E may come but they don’t have an obligation to attend on a regular basis.</p> <p>AC – it is wasting people’s time putting questions to WHC when the questions really belong to the government. DR – they were quite responsive to that (DPE & OEH). Identify which CCC meeting they should come along.</p> <p>DR – Minutes are not a transcript. Draft is provided to the CCC within 1 week. CCC then has 1 week to come back with comments. We then aim to respond to your comments and incorporate them within three days.</p> <p>DS – how does that relate to our response within 28 days. How do we get those actions if we don’t get enough time from the minutes? DR –Is everyone comfortable with 28 days from the draft coming out –WHC would have 5 weeks to respond.</p> <p>RD – so you’re saying you’ll send a draft to everyone in the room. Wondering about the alternates. DR – at the final draft stage it will be sent to each in the room and to the alternates as well. Now that the February Minutes have been approved at this May meeting they will be uploaded to the WHC website.</p> <p>RK – asked about speaking to the public about the meetings? He wanted clarification. DR –if you get approached by the media– you can talk on behalf of the Council, your group or yourself personally. David, as chair, would talk on behalf of the CCC.</p> <p>Code of Conduct – comply with at all times. If you breach the Code there are verbal and then written warnings. 3 warnings allowed and then your time will be ended on the CCC. Not attending 3 straight meetings means you are</p>	

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	removed as well. Saying that, if you have health issues or something else reasonable, then that is different.	
7.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>N/A</p>	
8.	<p>Company reports and overview of activities</p> <p>a. Progress at the mine – Presentation by DS</p> <p>DS – MCC continues to ramp up to 13Mtpa. Safety 4.87 TRIFR at end of April 2017 – below NSW average. JW – If acronyms are used, could the acronym used, be fully expressed in the document (e.g. the Water Management Plan has a list of acronyms used – see Page 9 of 183).</p> <p>PW – explained that TRIFR stood for “Total Recorded Injury Frequency Rate”, the number of recordable injuries per million hours worked. So, from a mine with lots of new people – low injuries are great.</p> <p>DS – explained that their focus is on local employment with 34 local trainees trained on trucks from the beginning of 2017, a total of 133 from start-up generally from the local area.</p> <p>DS described where Maules Creek Mine employees live: 45% are from the Gunnedah Shire; 26% are from Narrabri Shire; 8% are Tamworth Region; and 21% stay locally and then commute on weekends. Employees are encouraged to move to the local community.</p> <p>JW – what is the proportion of people staying in Civeo? PW – only a handful. Contractors short term stay in the camp with incentives to move into the community.</p> <p>CN – read from the WHC website “implement an employee incentive scheme which will include policies on provision of financial assistance with emphasis on construction of new dwellings”.</p> <p>PW – housing available but we try and not encourage this to avoid staying in the camp. We supply some rental assistance for up to 3 months for those outside the area.</p> <p>DS noted that there are over 70 indigenous employees and over 70 female employees. Always targeting more.</p> <p>DS provided all with a copy of the Biodiversity Management Plan and noted that there had been Penalty</p>	

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	<p>Infringement Notices – regarding dust management.</p> <p>PW –EPA have issued a penalty notice of \$15,000 for a dust event. A WHC Supervisor was reprimanded and told that if done again that their employment will be terminated. We have told all supervisors. It was a mistake on the day and we acknowledge that. We have enforced to all employees.</p> <p>CC – brought on by numerous days and then numerous complaints and then the EPA were advised. PW – we did investigate ourselves and it was a 15-minute window that the Supervisor made a mistake.</p> <p>CC – note the dust during the night – time lapses. Not just to you but all the mines. This is an issue that is easy to note. On the mornings, the dust suppression hasn't been implemented.</p> <p>PW – we do take it extremely seriously. We are using more and more dust suppression. Certainly, following this incident we advise employees about their responsibility before their shift.</p> <p>DS – monitoring results have been sent out.</p> <p>JW – Was discussing the provision of information about monitoring of bores on the mine site. I wanted to ask if data from the Government network of bores in the adjoining areas could be reported on by Maules Creek Coal. I have found it difficult to access this information as the Department of Primary Industries Office of Water website behaves differently, depending on whether Google or Google Chrome browser is used. (I have since been able to access this information and print out hydrographs for all Telemetry monitored bores along Maules Creek). Can Maules Creek Coal provide regular reports (hydrographs) on these sites so the community can see any changes in the behaviour of the Maules Creek alluvium over time?</p> <p>CC – is there not a map that indicates where all the bores are? Put the names of the properties on the maps not just numbers.</p> <p>SMi – there are individual maps in the annual review. There is an updated one for 2016 which will come out soon.</p> <p>b. Monitoring and environmental performance</p> <p>RD – when I sent in a complaint about noise a few weeks ago – I asked for specific proof of noise. With WHC history I don't feel it is too difficult data to obtain – was I right or wrong? All I got back to say was "it was all good". PW – it is management data for managing the operation and we don't supply that external to the mine.</p>	<p>ACTION 2 – WHC to consider bore level report and forwarding to community member.</p>

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	<p>RD – you have these monitors there. What is so wrong with sharing that information and to delay concerns to the community as it will tell you the exact reading. PW – it is unattended monitoring.</p> <p>AC – maybe this is confusing for attended and unattended. You have a very sophisticated system there and at a computer you can sit there and see what is happening you can hear what is happening. It would breed immense goodwill if you would share that information.</p> <p>PW – early on we couldn't hear what was out there. We have more information out there now. We had complaints. And it wasn't us. Our people are watching the screen and if it is getting noisy we shut down.</p> <p>DR – can you consider any other options for the future? Not now – go away and talk and see if there are other alternatives.</p> <p>RD – transparency and sharing the data. WHC monitors our bore levels. Initially we got a full report on the bore levels – about a month or six weeks ago I spoke to the contractor to ask him what he was doing. Where does the information go? I gave the contractor my email address to pass on to WHC, I wrote it on the same form that he was recording on, and asked for a copy of the report. He said to ask WHC to send me the details on that bore?</p> <p>AC – now that you do have the technology to hear what is happening. Will you now put off the security guards posted at your front gate to monitor a machine? PW – in recent times we've had the ability to listen. Will consider this.</p> <p>c. Community complaints and response to complaints</p> <p>DS – explained the slide on the Community Complaints Summary – 41 complaints primarily related to air quality, noise, blasting.</p> <p>AC – what about the complaints addressed to the EPA. PW –the ones that they report to us are included.</p> <p>d. Information provided to the community and any feedback</p> <p>DS went through a list of donations that WHC makes to community groups. Aiming to purchase a Third Air Chair – helps with the elderly. Other community engagement includes assisting with Arts and crafts and The Boggabri</p>	<p>ACTION 3 – WHC to consider other options regarding the security guards re properties' monitoring.</p>

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	<p>Drovers' Campfire. Industry Award – Murray O'Keefe</p> <p>DS – upcoming - Continued focus on local employment. Anticipated utilisation of the shared access of the Kamilaroi Highway. Continue to support local community programs.</p> <p>CC – 9.5 to 9.8 rate – up by a 3 million tonne.</p> <p>PW – currently running at 10.5 million tonnes to July next year and then we'll see a jump and then another year we'll see another jump. First year is staggered. Upskilling a lot of people and training to spread their skills.</p> <p>e. Presentation by Andrew Wright (AW) – Environmental Specialist (Biodiversity)</p> <p>Andrew coordinates the Biodiversity offsets across Maules Creek and offsetting requirements across all mines.</p> <p>AW – offset strategy – Maules Creek mine – quantum biodiversity offset areas in the project approval in 2015. EPBC approval required direct offsets. Tylophora linearis was identified post approval.</p> <p>AC – EPBC approval had an independent review – yes but that was only a desktop approval? AW – that is not correct – there was field work done. The independent reviews are available on the website.</p> <p>AW – Tylophora management – commonwealth has asked for new research on this species. Translocation program undertaken in 2015. AC – not if it is flowering. Are you aware of a major flowering event that recently occurred? AW – it's very locally based.</p> <p>AC – are you aware of a significant flowering event? AW – it only grows in good conditions. Through projects like Maules Creek Mine that it has been identified. Now identified in 13 reserves in the north-west region of NSW.</p> <p>Andrew continued with his presentation: Root structure – can live underground – seasonable and then re-sprout aboveground. Seed Management – professional seed collection to complement our program. Targeted to supply seed to our revegetation program.</p> <p>RD – 2015 review. No white box on the list nor Yellow box? AW – comes down to the time of the seed collection.</p>	

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	<p>RD – shouldn't you be collecting seed throughout the year not just at clearance. AW – seed collection late 2015 it was dry. At the time, there was no seed. Last year seed was collected. Both on-site and offsite. Out into the district – Maules Creek – Yellow Box / White Box.</p> <p>RD – who does your seed collection? Is there an issue why you can't disclose this information? KG – we need to check.</p> <p>AW – they are professional seed collectors JW – we have obligations to plant trees as well as sow native seeds and we are talking to the same people.</p> <p>AC – can you put the common names as well on the list.</p> <p>AW – Revegetation – western offset properties and eastern property Tralee and Wollondilly.</p> <p>CC – in your vegetation – what distance and what level – how many trees and distance in between? AW – different – box land woodland – 10 metres apart.</p> <p>RD – have you got a rough estimate of the area? AW – approx. 1900 hectares.</p> <p>AC – offset areas are small portions of properties – Wollondilly has a small area as offsets. AW – no it's property by property specific, most of Wollondilly is the opposite (large area for offsets).</p> <p>AC – isn't it going to be mined. If we could visual these. AW – No the Wollondilly Offset is not going to be mined.</p> <p>CN – right at the end of the mining – it becomes a conservation area. AW – that is up to the Government.</p> <p>AW – Fire Management - to manage bushfires in our Biodiversity offset areas. Ecological burns are currently being undertaken at Kelso and Velyama Wollondilly area.</p> <p>CC – I think we have all learned lessons regarding the recent burning – there should have been community consultation. Important lesson for management is to communicate to the community. It's much easier if you had come to the RFS and community prior. Also consult regarding your management plans when changes need to be noted. The main structural changes to be informed to the CCC and then it can be discussed.</p>	<p>ACTION 4 – WHC to check on who does the seed collection and report back.</p> <p>ACTION 5 – Place common names of plants on lists.</p>

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	<p>DR – moving forward can we take people out to the site, next week if people are available. Are people interested? CC – I don't want to see it. I know the area. It is about getting the communication and responses back and information early. It will stop half the problems. AC – I agree with CC – allowing the community to go and visit some of the offsets.</p> <p>AW – we take that on notice. Back in early April 2017 the Zone RFS stated that they would consult with the local group. Fire Management was also described in the Draft Biodiversity Management Plan during consultation with the CCC in April / May 2016 which included in the change in the fire management regime.</p> <p>CC – you can miss a point in that huge document. If all mines have changes like that – this is in the new management plan- these are the main changes which are highlighted so it is easy to see.</p> <p>AW – it's not that Whitehaven didn't consult on Ecological Burns (consultation has been undertaken with the RFS and Community) but we can improve on this.</p> <p>AC – has the burn occurred? AW – no it hasn't. Zone RFS.</p> <p>RD – why do you feel the need to do this to these properties and what area are you burning? AW – management of the wild fires in summer. Areas are derived grasslands so the timing of the late autumn will aid revegetation of native species. Revegetation program – will aim to increase kangaroo grass to be the dominant species. Over 30 species in the revegetation mix.</p> <p>RD – what areas will be burnt? AW – this is a trial of 200 to 250 hectares over 4 properties – over Maules Creek. The offset area in its entirety is 12,000 hectares.</p> <p>RD – is this going to happen regularly. AW – the Biodiversity Management Plan outlines the need for annual Fire Management and goes into the strategy for revegetation.</p> <p>AC – I've spoken to an Ecologist and the Commander of the RFS – it can cause an increase in annual weed plants – or it could stimulate some perennial natives. If done correctly it is a very good technique. AW – grass loads – the grass is around 1 metre high.</p>	

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	<p>AC – from a fire consultation point of view – It is a good thing. The map I’ve received you can’t zoom in on the map so you can’t see the map. We need to see the detailed maps.</p> <p>AW – consultation has been progressing throughout and we’ll take that on board for future years.</p> <p>JW – this is going to be an ongoing exercise for us both ways. Assume a two-way communication. We do have in our midst experts using fire management – Australian Wildlife Conservancy and understand if they have the people that can visit us (attend CCC meeting). How they change the landscape for the good.</p> <p>DR – I can tell you that fire ecology has been a well know tool for managing biodiversity for many years.</p> <p>PW – we’ll certainly have progress reports on our offset areas.</p> <p>AW – we will pass information on so the Committee can disseminate.</p> <p>DR – I like the idea of the CCC being updated.</p> <p>CC – you obviously have a management plan for the Offset properties – you have several offset areas. Is it possible to describe the management and to make sure you bring it to the CCC – at least quarterly or six months prior.</p> <p>DS – generally speaking yes. We aren’t going to bring AW to every meeting but can supply progress.</p> <p>CC – the notification 6-months’ time. We know you are going to do certain things that you just inform us.</p> <p>AW – timing of works is different but we can nominate.</p> <p>Feral Animal Management</p> <p>AW - Implement monitoring programs specifically targeting feral pigs, foxes, wild dogs, feral goats. We use a monitor management approach. We try and target our programs.</p> <p>DR – did you want to ask specific questions JW or you happy now?</p> <p>JW – 9,000 / 10,000 hectares (Andrew said over 12,000) to manage – is a huge task. Given the location – this is going to be a major issue. How do you go about this – is there a team monitoring it.</p> <p>AW – we engage a consultant – quarterly for monitoring of weeds, feral animal presence and abundance and that drives our control programs.</p> <p>JW – in your team do you have a farmer / land manager – do you have these sorts of team members that are</p>	

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	<p>there every day and week?</p> <p>AW – it is over a 3-month period. 3-week program every 3 months that is put out across the 12,000 hectares. Camera traps, feed traps – there are many techniques that monitor. Set traps for another 3-week program – so monitoring or controlling.</p> <p>JW – is it possible over time – results of your monitoring so we can appreciate what you are doing with managing these resources.</p> <p>AW – it is in the annual review. We can take that on notice on how to provide that information.</p> <p>CC – But it is a very large extensive area. The management that you have put in place is like a snapshot of what is happening in that period. Are you sending those people out or do you focus on certain spots at a certain time?</p> <p>AW – one week in one intensive area. Not just Maules Creek but all the offsets.</p> <p>JW – do you solicit the neighbours to get everyone to do at the same time?</p> <p>AW – we have approx. 150 neighbours that get notified – they get engaged.</p> <p>AC – Boggabri Coal told us they were going to burn. Consultation is telling us when you are going to burn and planning – and how it might work better.</p> <p>DS – Boggabri don't have the ability to burn in the biodiversity management plan. What is your expectation?</p> <p>DR – the feral animal management plan. Reminder that in the Joint CCC there is a consultation on DS to start moving it in the next month or so.</p> <p>DS – LLS feral animal management meeting held last July – no Maules Creek land holders turned up. What we are hoping this time is that we get more engagement.</p> <p>AC – I don't think there was enough information and in time.</p> <p>DR – There is something on DS to organise something for the Green Flyer (with involvement of CN and Julie Heiler).</p> <p>AC – will 1,0000% object to the winter and spring clearing. None were allowed in 2014 with the legal challenge – WHC lodged consent that they would not do winter clearing.</p> <p>PW – in special circumstances we allowed to undertake winter clearing. They will be different. There can be an area that we were unable to clear – so we then apply in that clearing window.</p> <p>AC – that isn't acceptable.</p>	<p>ACTION 6 – WHC to consider options for provision of info on feral animal management.</p> <p>ACTION 7 – DR to keep in touch with DS with where feral animal management effort is at.</p>

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	<p>PW – a small area – we have one now. We weren't allowed to clear. It involved an ownership issue. Aboriginal land. There has been an agreement with the Aboriginal community.</p> <p>SMo – what Aboriginal community? PW – discussed with the Board of Red Chief.</p> <p>AC – due to a technicality – a travelling stock and is a matter of court proceedings. I'm glad I asked the question as this is incredibly serious. This is a no – go area.</p> <p>RD – official caution from Lands Department for clearing of Crown Lands. AW – Crown Lands noted that this activity was in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan.</p> <p>RD – after it was cleared. To buy these crown roads – you took upon yourselves and we'll call that a fire break. They had no prior notice and had not given you permission to clear that. Then there was communication that it could then be a fire management plan.</p> <p>AW – fire break maintenance was along previously cleared crown road. We would have had to go out and clear new ground into existing vegetation. It was existing cleared land – along our property boundary. We've met with crown lands and we are going to work together.</p> <p>RD – do you acknowledge that you cleared it before you had permission. AW – allowed Biodiversity Management Plan.</p> <p>AC– the court case – challenge to winter clearing in June 2014 through the Land and Environment Court – WHC undertook that it would not winter and spring clear? PW – correct in one sense – we have agreed to mid-February to end of April. However, in the Management Plan – special circumstances we can make application to do that but that needs to be approved.</p> <p>RD – is that in the new Management Plan or the old? PW – it is in both.</p> <p>SMo – Board of Red Chief in the Narrabri area – were any others approached. How did it come to Red Chief's decision? PW – we had our Aboriginal Liaison Manager and lawyers and lawyers associated with the Aboriginal community.</p> <p>AC – I have so many questions – the Briefing Note by Kerrie which has been responded to by WHC. Answers that</p>	

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	<p>are incomplete that we need more information about. The Independent Environment Audit as well. Fire Risk Assessment – what standard you use. There are too many issues that have arisen including light complaints.</p> <p>RD – can we pose questions to the Chair. DR – I'll talk to DS about this and what might be practical – over the next week. To find a way to capture priorities.</p> <p>AC – question about the unregulated water. Are you telling us you don't know the answer to these questions. DS – it is still in draft.</p> <p>AC – what is in draft? So, your saying you don't know the answers to these questions? PW – we are finalising our answers to you but we will come back to you.</p> <p>AC – OK. So, in the next week or so. PW – I assume so when we get the draft finalised.</p> <p>JW – Water Management generally by Maules Creek – how it's used / how its stored. Details of entitlements of various sources – how your tracking your water management plan. Have a regular reporting framework? DR – having someone from WHC coming to talk about water management.</p> <p>CN – could WHC meet with AC and others and have a proper meeting to get some clear answers prior to the August meeting.</p> <p>PW – yes, we'll consider that. We use the same amount of water as a 400-hectare cotton farm. I'm happy to present on water and have a separate discussion and come to the mine. JW – we are going to rely on the information that is going to come from you moving forward.</p> <p>JW – how is the community gaining tangible benefits from the mine – assuming you are here for another 20 years. What is a tangible benefit. Have been told that there is a Telstra tower going up – for improved internet. PW – I'll have to come back to you. Telstra systems are getting overloaded. I'm assuming Telstra is expanding.</p> <p>RD – area size was the last clearing? PW – some grassland – forest about 180 / 200.</p> <p>AC – when can we expect the clearing report? SMi – we don't provide a report.</p>	<p>ACTION 8 – WHC to consider meeting with AC and others to clear some outstanding questions prior to the August meeting.</p> <p>ACTION 9 – PW to find any further information on Telstra proposal</p> <p>ACTION 10 – WHC to consider options for provision of information on clearing</p>

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	<p>RD – so, we have to wait until the annual report which is next year? Is there a reason why we can't have a report? PW – we'll take that on notice.</p> <p>DR – will talk to DS about the actions that still need to be sorted out.</p>	
9.	<p>General Business</p> <p>DR – Thanked Andrew for coming. DS and I have also been talking about a site visit at some time. Plus, the Water Management Specialist coming to speak to us next visit. Site visit pushed to November.</p>	
10.	<p>Next meeting date to be agreed</p> <p>Next meeting Wednesday 16 August.</p>	

Meeting Closed: 5:08pm

Page No	Action No	Description	Date Raised
2	1	DS to continue sending information via email prior to meetings. Hard copies to then be distributed at the meetings.	24 May 17
5	2	WHC to consider bore level report and forwarding to community members. Maybe it can be emailed.	24 May 17
6	3	WHC to consider other options regarding the security guards on properties' monitoring machines.	24 May 17
8	4	WHC to check on who does the seed collection and report back.	24 May 17
8	5	Place common names of plants / seeds as well.	24 May 17
11	6	WHC to consider options for provision of info on feral animal management.	24 May 17
11	7	DR to keep in touch with DS with where feral animal management effort is at.	24 May 17
13	8	WHC to consider meeting with AC and others to clear some outstanding questions prior to the August meeting.	24 May 17
14	9	PW to find any further information on Telstra proposal.	24 May 17
14	10	WHC to consider options for provision of information on clearing.	24 May 17

Maules Creek Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #17

Environmental Monitoring Report For the Q1 period, January – March 2017

Noise Monitoring

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken at the six locations, as per the approved Noise Management Plan, on the 9th & 10th January, 15th & 16th February and the 15th & 16th March 2017 by an independent acoustic consultant. The measured noise level (LA_{eq} 15 minute) attributed to Maules Creek Coal Mine (MCCM) and applicable criteria for each location are shown in the tables below. The results show that mine operations did not exceed the applicable LA_{eq} 15 minute criteria during attended noise monitoring in Q1 2017.

Tables - LA_{eq}, 15minute GENERATED BY MCC AGAINST OPERATIONAL EVENING AND NIGHT NOISE CRITERIA – JANUARY TO MARCH 2017.

January Monitoring – Evening & Night Period

		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC LA _{eq}	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	10/01/2017	20:12	0.2	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	10/01/2017	20:27	0.2	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	9/01/2017	22:00	0.4	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	9/01/2017	22:15	0.2	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM2	9/01/2017	20:55	0.5	0	39	Yes	<20	Nil
NM2	9/01/2017	21:10	0.9	0	39	Yes	IA	Nil
NM2	10/01/2017	22:00	0.8	0	39	Yes	<20	Nil
NM2	10/01/2017	22:15	0.8	0	39	Yes	<20	Nil
NM3	9/01/2017	19:30	1.9	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	9/01/2017	19:45	1.5	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	10/01/2017	23:22	1.2	0	35	Yes	<25	Nil
NM3	10/01/2017	23:38	2.5	0	35	Yes	<25	Nil
NM4	10/01/2017	20:56	0.4	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM4	10/01/2017	21:11	0.6	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM4	9/01/2017	23:30	0.9	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM4	9/01/2017	23:49	0.4	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM5	10/01/2017	19:32	0.2	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM5	10/01/2017	19:47	0.1	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM5	9/01/2017	22:41	0.2	0	35	Yes	<25	Nil
NM5	9/01/2017	22:56	0.3	0	35	Yes	<25	Nil
NM6	9/01/2017	20:11	0.9	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	9/01/2017	20:26	0.3	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	10/01/2017	22:40	0.9	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	10/01/2017	22:55	0.8	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil

February Monitoring – Evening & Night Period

		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC LAeq	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	16/02/2017	20:30	0.8	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	16/02/2017	20:45	0.5	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	15/02/2017	22:45	0.4	0	35	Yes	25	Nil
NM1	15/02/2017	23:01	0.2	0	35	Yes	24	Nil
NM2	15/02/2017	21:07	0.3	0	39	Yes	IA	Nil
NM2	15/02/2017	21:23	0.8	0	39	Yes	IA	Nil
NM2	16/02/2017	22:00	1.9	0	39	Yes	24	Nil
NM2	16/02/2017	22:15	0.4	0	39	Yes	26	Nil
NM3	15/02/2017	19:40	1.3	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	15/02/2017	19:55	0.8	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	16/02/2017	23:27	0.3	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	16/02/2017	23:42	0.1	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM4	16/02/2017	21:13	0.7	0	NA	NA	<20	NA
NM4	16/02/2017	21:29	1	0	NA	NA	<20	NA
NM4	15/02/2017	22:00	0.5	0	NA	NA	<20	NA
NM4	15/02/2017	22:15	0.5	0	NA	NA	<20	NA
NM5	16/02/2017	19:45	0.4	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM5	16/02/2017	20:00	0.8	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM5	15/02/2017	23:26	0.6	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM5	15/02/2017	23:42	0.4	0	35	Yes	21	Nil
NM6	15/02/2017	20:24	0.3	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	15/02/2017	20:39	0.4	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	16/02/2017	22:45	0.7	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	16/02/2017	23:00	0.7	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil

March Monitoring – Evening & Night Period

		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC LAeq	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	15/03/2017	20:45	1.8	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM1	15/03/2017	21:00	1.9	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM1	16/03/2017	22:45	0.6	0	35	Yes	29	Nil
NM1	16/03/2017	23:00	0.3	0	35	Yes	29	Nil
NM2	16/03/2017	21:16	0.4	0	39	Yes	25	Nil
NM2	16/03/2017	21:30	0.6	0	39	Yes	29	Nil
NM2	15/03/2017	22:15	2.4	0	39	Yes	26	Nil
NM2	15/03/2017	22:30	2.2	0	39	Yes	25	Nil
NM3	16/03/2017	19:58	0.5	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	16/03/2017	20:14	0.3	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	15/03/2017	23:38	2	0	35	Yes	20	Nil
NM3	15/03/2017	23:54	2.4	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM4	15/03/2017	21:31	1.7	0	NA	NA	<25	NA
NM4	15/03/2017	21:47	1.7	0	NA	NA	<25	NA
NM4	16/03/2017	22:00	0.7	0	NA	NA	29	NA
NM4	16/03/2017	22:15	0.8	0	NA	NA	29	NA
NM5	15/03/2017	20:00	2.9	0	35	Yes	IA	Nil
NM5	15/03/2017	20:15	3.1	0	35	No	IA	NA
NM5	16/03/2017	23:30	0.7	0	35	Yes	29	Nil
NM5	16/03/2017	23:45	0.9	0	35	Yes	23	Nil
NM6	16/03/2017	20:39	0.6	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM6	16/03/2017	20:54	0.8	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM6	15/03/2017	22:57	1.3	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil
NM6	15/03/2017	23:12	2	0	35	Yes	<20	Nil

In addition to the 15 minute average for Day, Evening and Night, the Maules Creek Coal (MCC) EPL 20221 also has a '1 Minute - Night' criteria (LA1) that applies from 10pm to 7am Monday to Saturday & 10pm to 8am Sundays and Public Holidays. The results for the LA1 monitoring are shown below. The results show that mine operations did not exceed the applicable LA1 criteria during attended noise monitoring in Q4 2016.

Tables – LA1, 1minute GENERATED BY MCC AGAINST OPERATIONAL EVENING NOISE CRITERIA – JANUARY TO MARCH 2017.

January Monitoring – Night

L _{A1} (1min)		January						
		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC L _{A1} (1min)	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	9/01/2017	22:00	0.4	0	45	Yes	<20	Nil
NM1	9/01/2017	22:15	0.2	0	45	Yes	<20	Nil
NM2	10/01/2017	22:00	0.8	0	45	Yes	<20	Nil
NM2	10/01/2017	22:15	0.8	0	45	Yes	<20	Nil
NM3	10/01/2017	23:22	1.2	0	45	Yes	31	Nil
NM3	10/01/2017	23:38	2.5	0	45	Yes	32	Nil
NM4	9/01/2017	23:30	0.9	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM4	9/01/2017	23:49	0.4	0	NA	NA	<20	Nil
NM5	9/01/2017	22:41	0.2	0	45	Yes	<25	Nil
NM5	9/01/2017	22:56	0.3	0	45	Yes	25	Nil
NM6	10/01/2017	22:40	0.9	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	10/01/2017	22:55	0.8	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil

February Noise Monitoring – Night

L _{A1} (1min)		February						
		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC L _{A1} (1min)	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	15/02/2017	22:45	0.4	0	45	Yes	31	Nil
NM1	15/02/2017	23:01	0.2	0	45	Yes	32	Nil
NM2	16/02/2017	22:00	1.9	0	45	Yes	27	Nil
NM2	16/02/2017	22:15	0.4	0	45	Yes	30	Nil
NM3	16/02/2017	23:27	0.3	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil
NM3	16/02/2017	23:42	0.1	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil
NM4	15/02/2017	22:00	0.5	0	NA	NA	24	NA
NM4	15/02/2017	22:15	0.5	0	NA	NA	<20	NA
NM5	15/02/2017	23:26	0.6	0	45	Yes	24	Nil
NM5	15/02/2017	23:42	0.4	0	45	Yes	26	Nil
NM6	16/02/2017	22:45	0.7	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil
NM6	16/02/2017	23:00	0.7	0	45	Yes	IA	Nil

March Noise Monitoring – Night

L _{A1} (1min)		March						
		Time	Wind Speed	Rainfall	Criterion	Criterion	MCC L _{A1} (1min)	Exceedance
			m/s	mm	dB ³	Applies ¹	dB ^{2,4}	dB ^{4,5}
NM1	16/03/2017	22:45	0.6	0	45	Yes	40	Nil
NM1	16/03/2017	23:00	0.3	0	45	Yes	33	Nil
NM2	15/03/2017	22:15	2.4	0	45	Yes	36	Nil
NM2	15/03/2017	22:30	2.2	0	45	Yes	32	Nil
NM3	15/03/2017	23:38	2	0	45	Yes	25	Nil
NM3	15/03/2017	23:54	2.4	0	45	Yes	28	Nil
NM4	16/03/2017	22:00	0.7	0	NA	NA	33	NA
NM4	16/03/2017	22:15	0.8	0	NA	NA	40	NA
NM5	16/03/2017	23:30	0.7	0	45	Yes	33	Nil
NM5	16/03/2017	23:45	0.9	0	45	Yes	33	Nil
NM6	15/03/2017	22:57	1.3	0	45	Yes	23	Nil
NM6	15/03/2017	23:12	2	0	45	Yes	24	Nil

Evening $L_{Aeq15min}$ Night $L_{Aeq15min}$, Night L_{A1min}

Notes:

1. Noise emission limits do not apply during periods of rainfall or wind speeds greater than 3 metres per second (at 10 metres);
2. Estimated or measured $L_{Aeq,15min}$ attributed to MCCM;
3. NMA was acquired by MCCP, therefore criteria are no longer applicable as per the EPL and project approval. The NMP requires monitoring at this location and results have been provided for informational purposes;
4. Estimated or measured $L_{A1,1min}$ attributed to MCCM;
5. NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside those specified in Project Approval and criterion is not applicable. Since September 2016;
IA – Inaudible
NM – Not measurable

Wind Direction during Attended Monitoring

Wind direction data is collected from the MCCM Automated Weather Station (AWS). Wind data for the duration of the attended monitoring assessment, recorded at the MCCM AWS is presented in the table below.

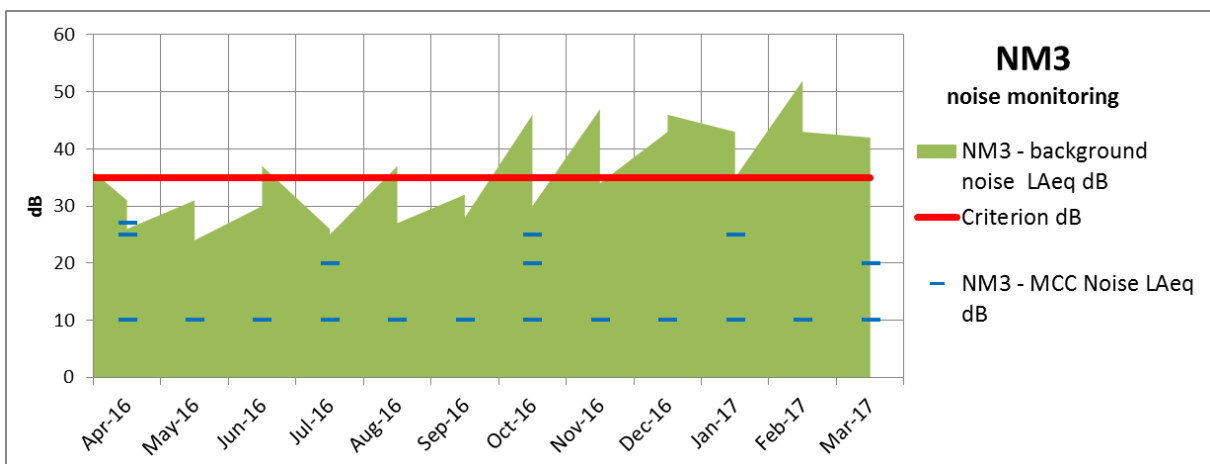
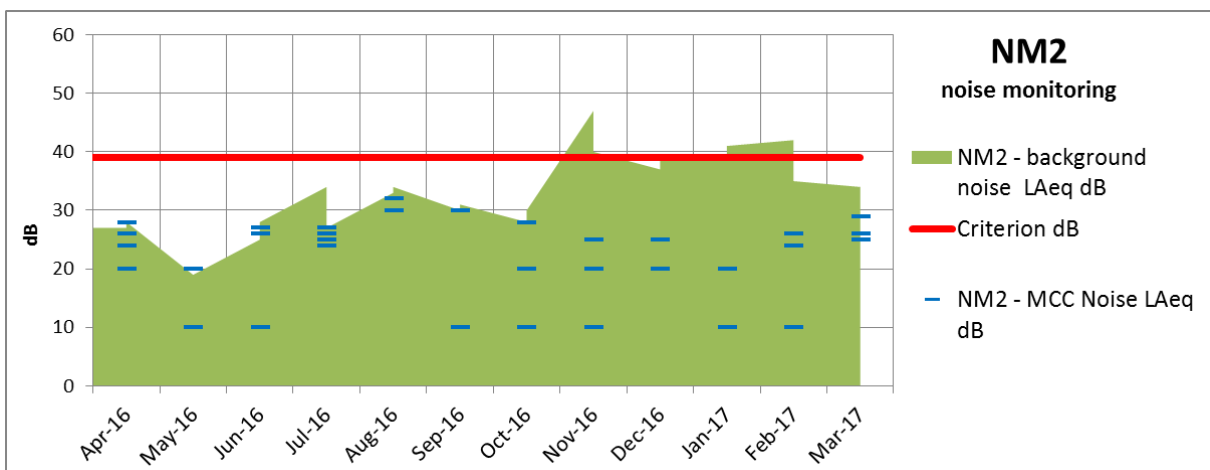
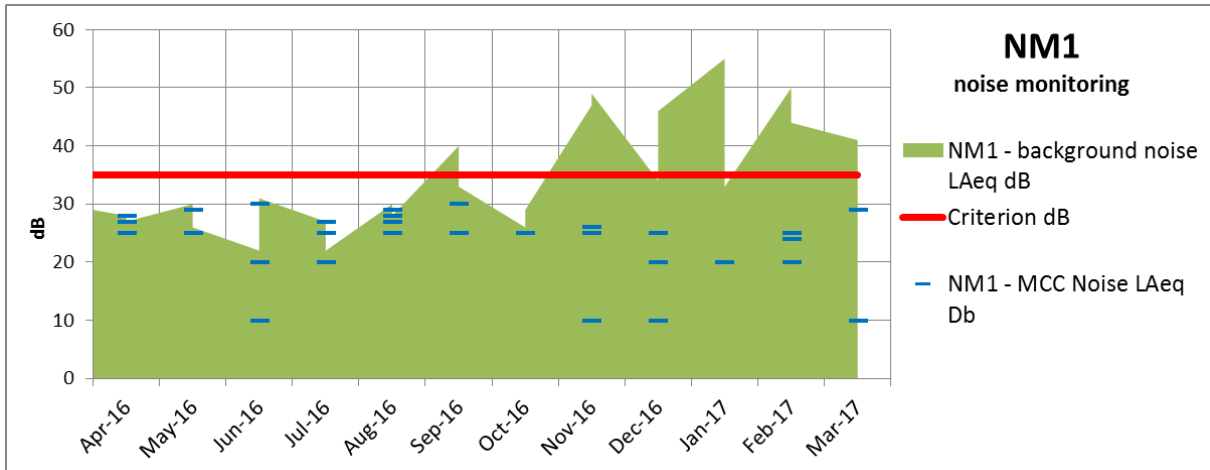
Table: Prevailing Wind Direction

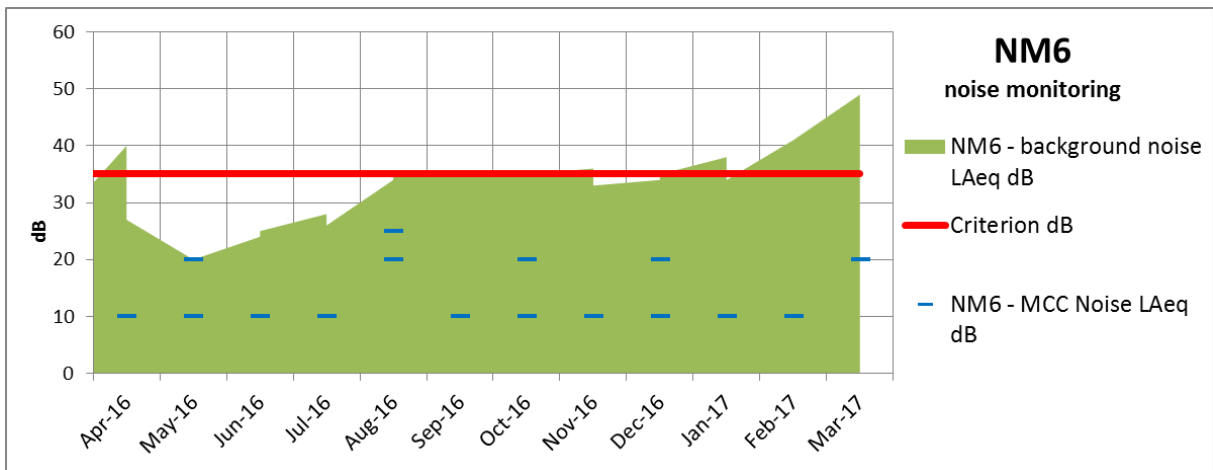
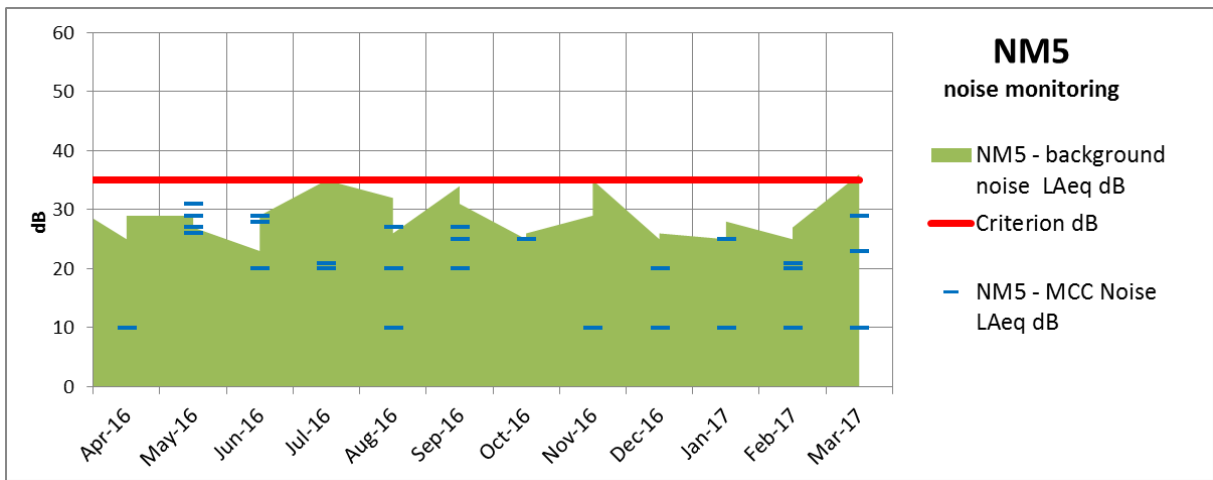
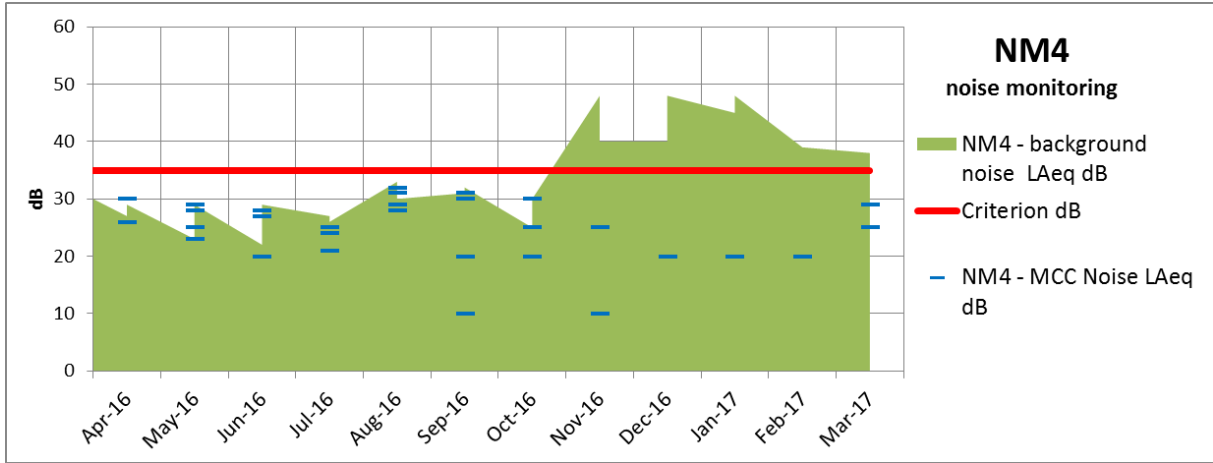
Date	Prevailing Wind Direction
9 th January	WSW
10 th January	ESE & W
15 th February	W
16 th February	E & W
15 th March	E
16 th March	NE

Attended Noise Monitoring

The following six (6) figures below show the 'attended' noise monitoring results recorded over the last twelve (12) months.

Green shading shows the LAeq 15 minute background noise, the blue dash is the portion of the LAeq 15 minute considered likely attributable to MCCM according to the acoustic engineer and the red line is the Project Approval criteria.





Blast Monitoring

There have been 32 blasts at MCCM during Q1 2017.

All blast monitoring results recorded within the reporting period have been within the applicable overpressure and ground vibration limits specified in the respective approvals. BM3 unit had a mechanical issue on the 27th and 28th resulting in 2 blast results not captured. The unit was promptly repaired and all monitoring results recorded at other monitoring locations on the 27-28 were within applicable limits.

Table – Blast Results Summary Quarter 1 2017

Location	Parameter	Units	Frequency	Number	Average	Max	100% Limit	Exceedance (Yes / No)
Operations Blasts	Noise	dB <small>(Lin Peak)</small>	All	32	97.47	106.90	120	No
	Vibration	mm/s		32	0.19	0.71	10	No

Air Quality

Total Depositional Dust

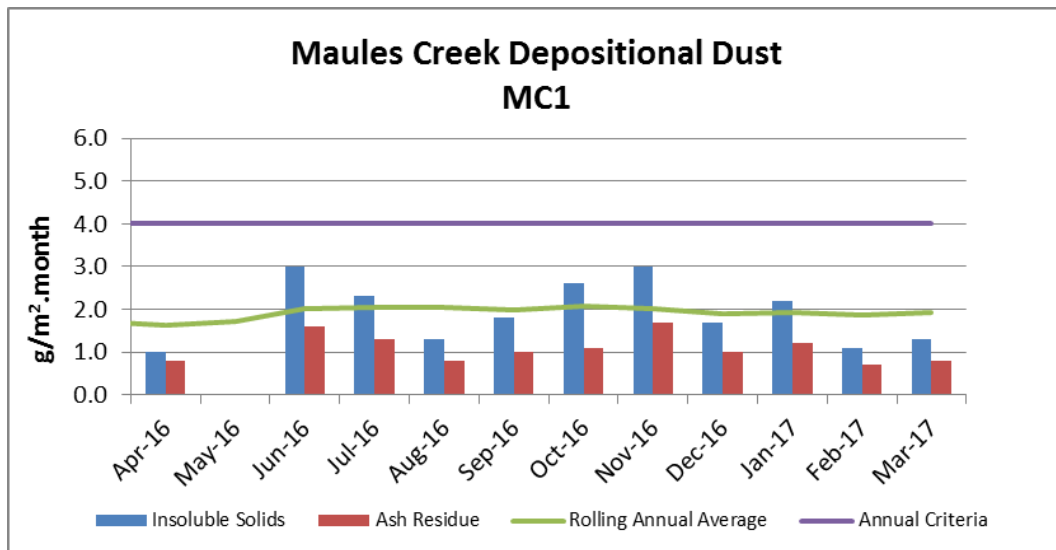
Table - Deposited Dust Monitoring Results*

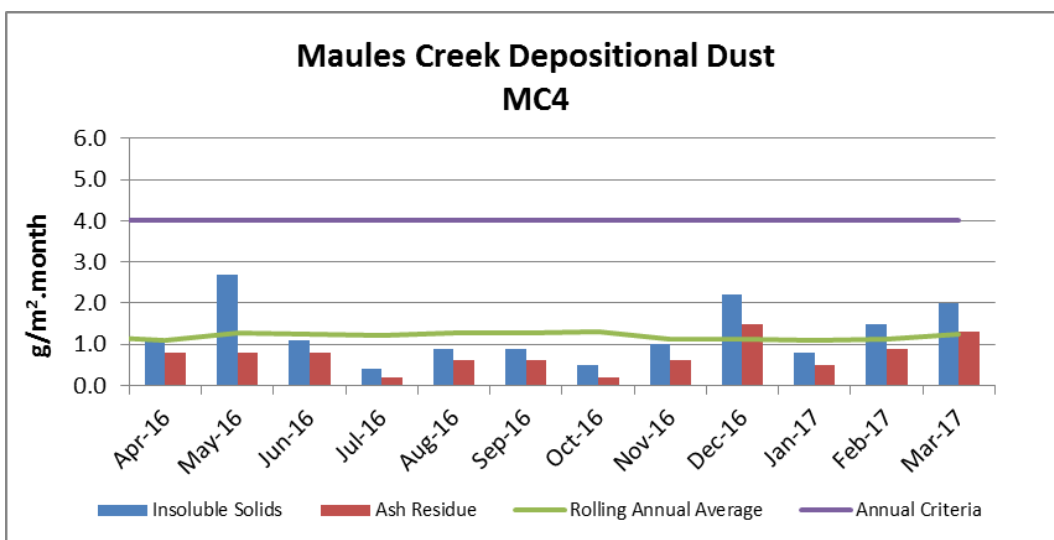
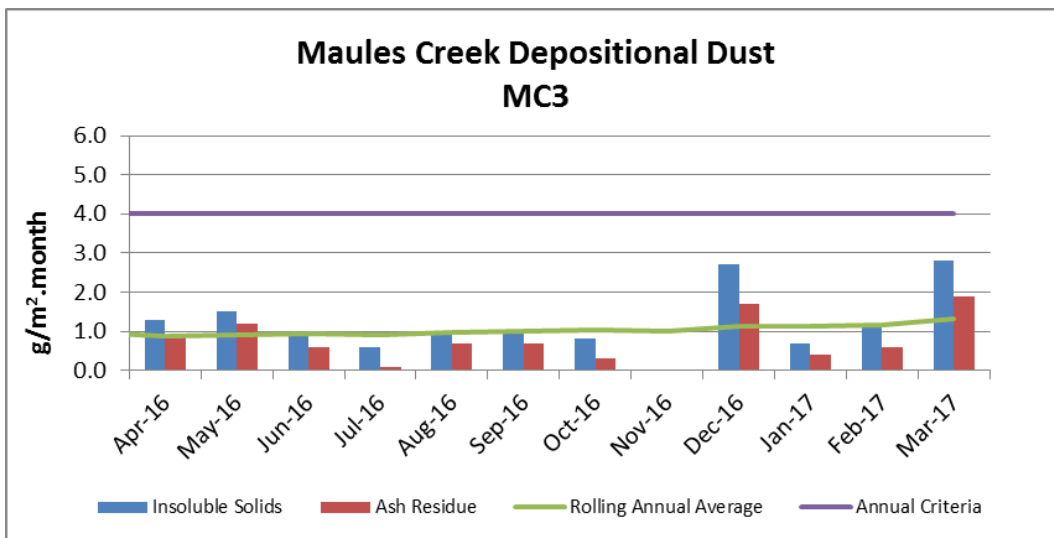
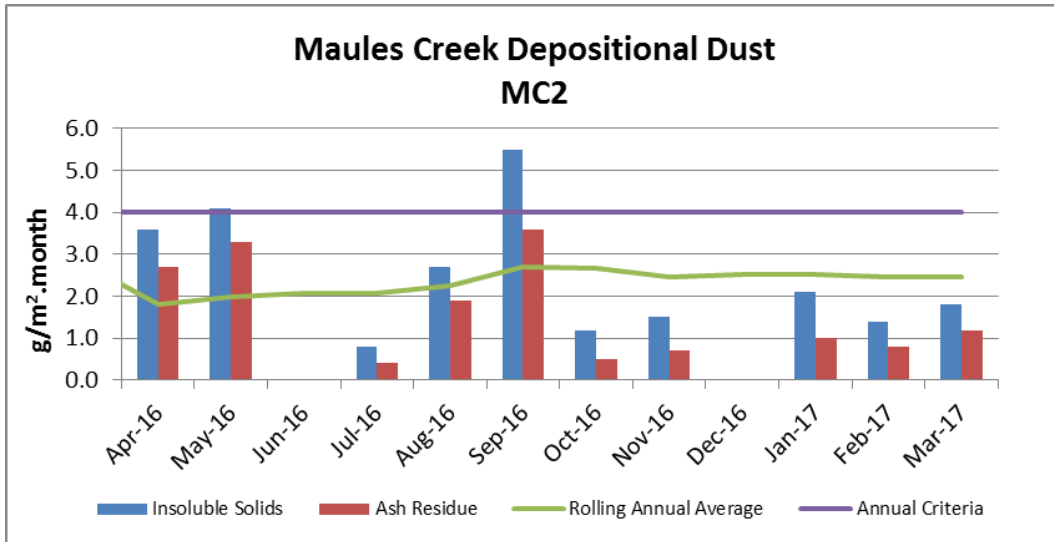
Month	MC1	MC2	MC3	MC4
Apr-16	1	3.6	1.3	1.1
May-16		4.1	1.5	2.7
Jun-16	3		1	1.1
Jul-16	2.3	0.8	0.6	0.4
Aug-16	1.3	2.7	1	0.9
Sep-16	1.8	5.5	1	0.9
Oct-16	2.6	1.2	0.8	0.5
Nov-16	3	1.5		1
Dec-16	1.7		2.7	2.2
Jan-17	2.2	2.1	0.7	0.8
Feb-17	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.5
Mar-17	1.3	1.8	2.8	2
Annual Avg	1.94	2.47	1.33	1.26
Project Avg 2010 - 2017	2.14	2.18	1.52	1.31

*Blank cells indicate sample periods where the sample has been contaminated and excluded from the results tables due to contaminated material (insect larvae, bird droppings, vegetation etc.).

The monthly rolling annual average remains below the relevant Project Approval criteria of 4gm/m²/month, as shown on the graphs below.

Deposited Dust Monitoring Figures (MC1 – MC4)

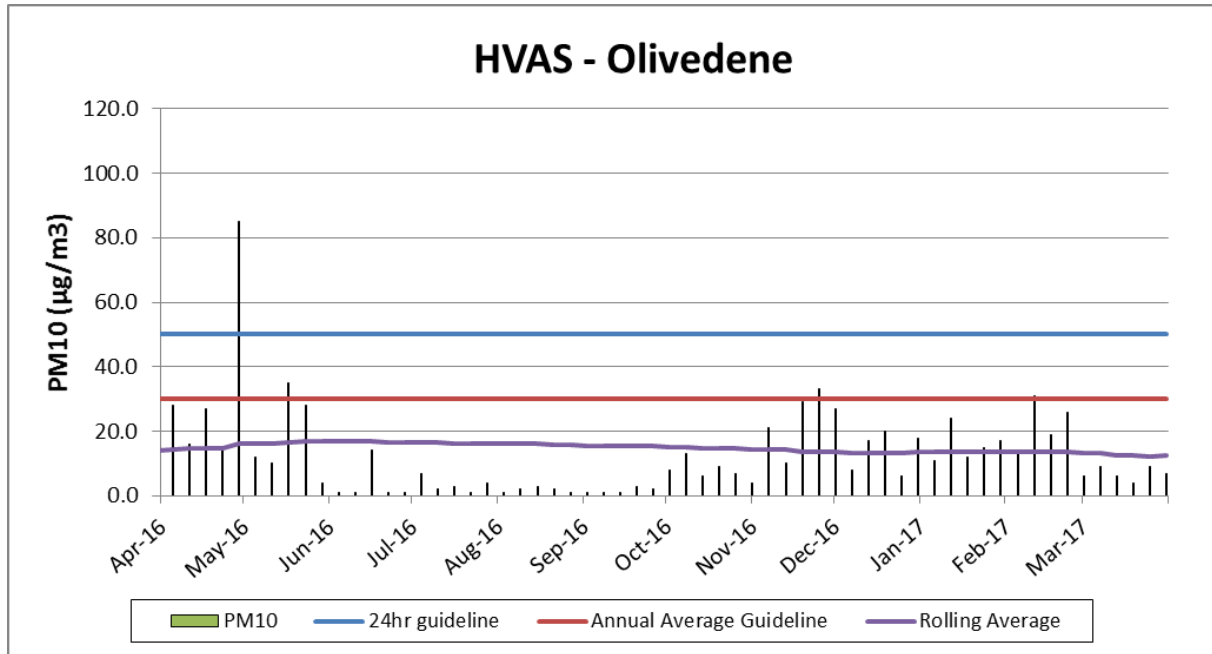




High Volume Air Sampling (HVAS)

The HVAS monitor is located on the property 'Olivedene,' a mine owned property on Therribri Road.

HVAS PM₁₀ Rolling Annual Average results during Q1 2017 remained well below the Annual Average Guideline 30 µg/m³.

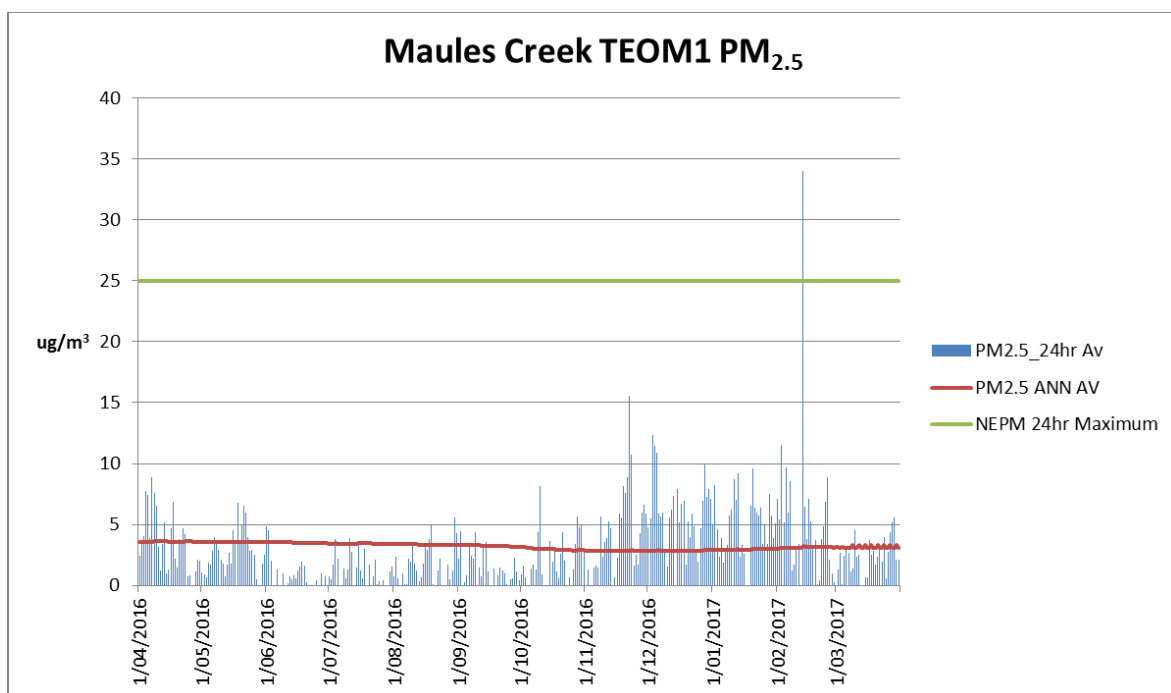
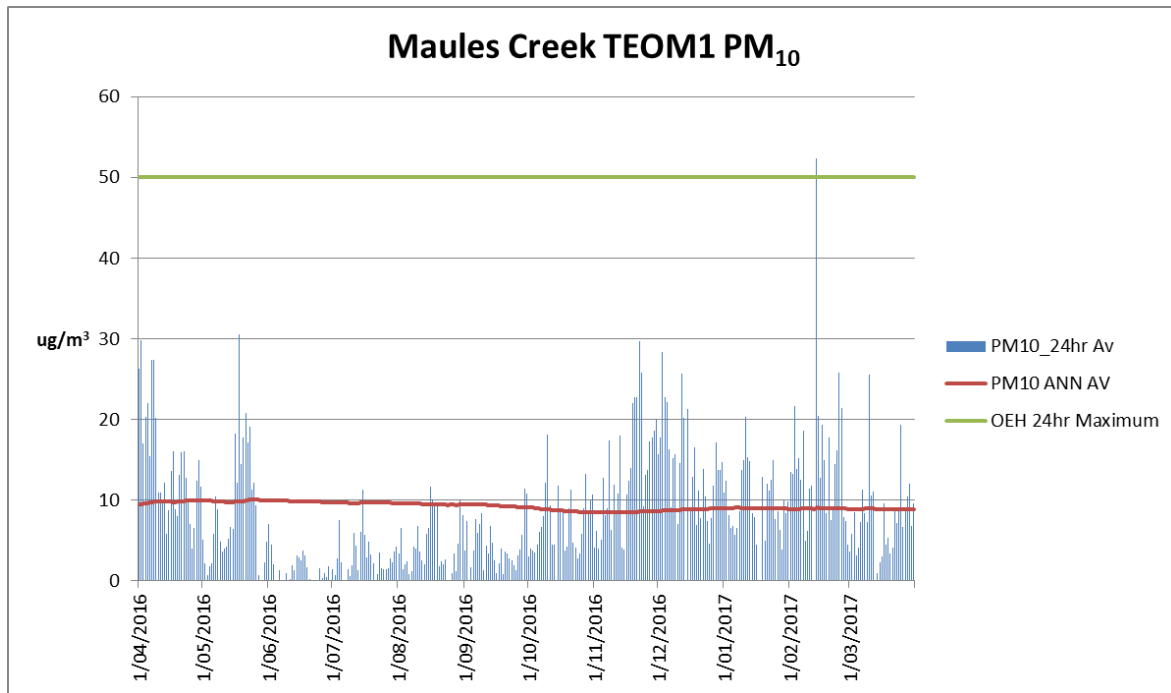


TEOM - PM₁₀ Results

The annual average for PM₁₀ results at the Maules Creek Coal TEOM remain significantly below the Project Approval annual average criteria of 30.0µg/m³ (at 31 March 2017) as shown in the following figure. The PM₁₀ results have remained below this criteria since the TEOM was commissioned in November 2011.

Elevated PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} results recorded by the TEOM on the 12th February 2017 were caused by a bushfire event in the local area.

TEOM Results Figures – Particulate Matter PM₁₀µg/m³ and PM_{2.5}µg/m³



Water Monitoring

Ground Water

Groundwater monitoring results in open / standpipe piezometers show levels to be currently stable. 'RB' and 'Reg' series bores were installed between Q4 2013 and Q1 2014. BCM01, BCM03, Reg10 are shallow bores which have been dry since construction in 2013.

Table 5 – Groundwater Level

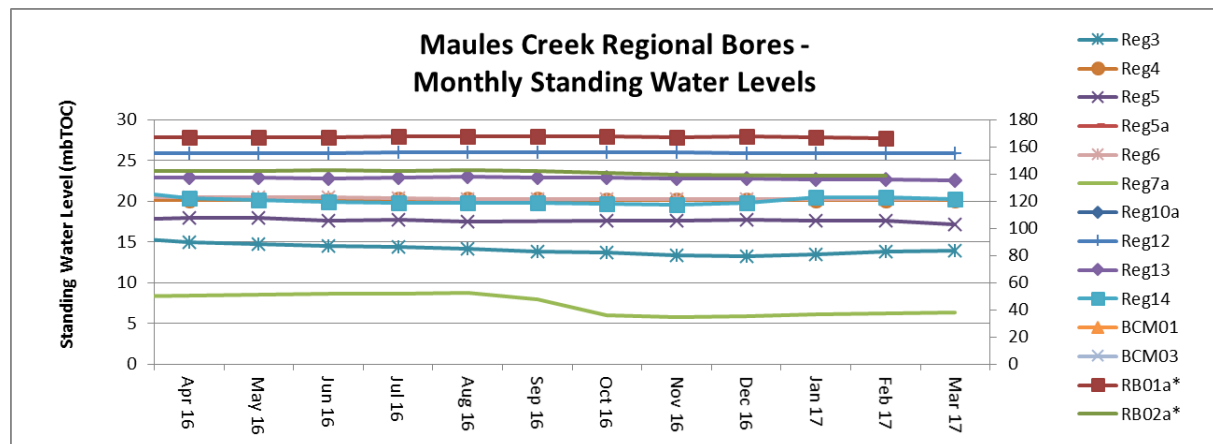
SWL	RB01a	RB02a	RB05a	Reg3	Reg4	Reg5	Reg5a	Reg6	Reg7a	Reg10a	Reg12	Reg13	Reg14	BCM01	BCM03
Apr-16	166.87	142.14	58.56	15	20.17	17.94		20.52	8.42		25.92	22.89	20.34		
May-16	166.97	142.13	58.62	14.75	20.16	17.92		20.42	8.48		25.91	22.9	20.14		
Jun-16	167.3	142.64	58.82	14.51	20.14	17.64		20.43	8.65		25.92	22.83	19.92		
Jul-16	167.35	142.51	58.41	14.37	20.19	17.7		20.33	8.62		25.97	22.92	19.79		
Aug-16	167.59	142.72	58.5	14.18	20.2	17.52		20.29	8.7		25.99	22.95	19.75		
Sep-16	167.64	141.85	58.62	13.77	20.2	**	**	20.27	7.96		26.02	22.93	19.75		
Oct-16	167.53	140.47	58.66	13.69	20.17	17.6		20.24	6.03		25.98	22.87	19.65		
Nov-16	167.31	139.47	58.67	13.39	20.13	17.64		20.24	5.76		25.96	22.75	19.6		
Dec-16	167.37	***	58.65	13.25	20.09	17.7		20.27	5.94		25.9	22.72	19.76		
Jan-17	166.82	138.7	58.07	13.43	20.1	17.65		20.24	6.06		25.9	22.64	20.53		
Feb-17	166.36	138.38	58.59	13.82	20.1	17.64		20.27	6.25		25.88	22.62	20.43		
Mar-17	*	*	59.05	13.91	20.14	17.14		20.3	6.34		25.91	22.6	20.23		

Blank cells indicate sample periods where bores were dry.

*Bore decommissioned due to progression of mining area

**Tracks were too wet to access bores

***Unable to sample



* RB01 & RB02 bore depths are listed on the secondary axis.

Acidity / Alkalinity (pH)

Baseline groundwater conditions are still being established, however, 2 bores (Reg4 and Reg13) show elevated pH levels (above pH 8.5) this has been determined to be as a result of low recharge volumes within these bores since installation.

Groundwater Lab Results pH

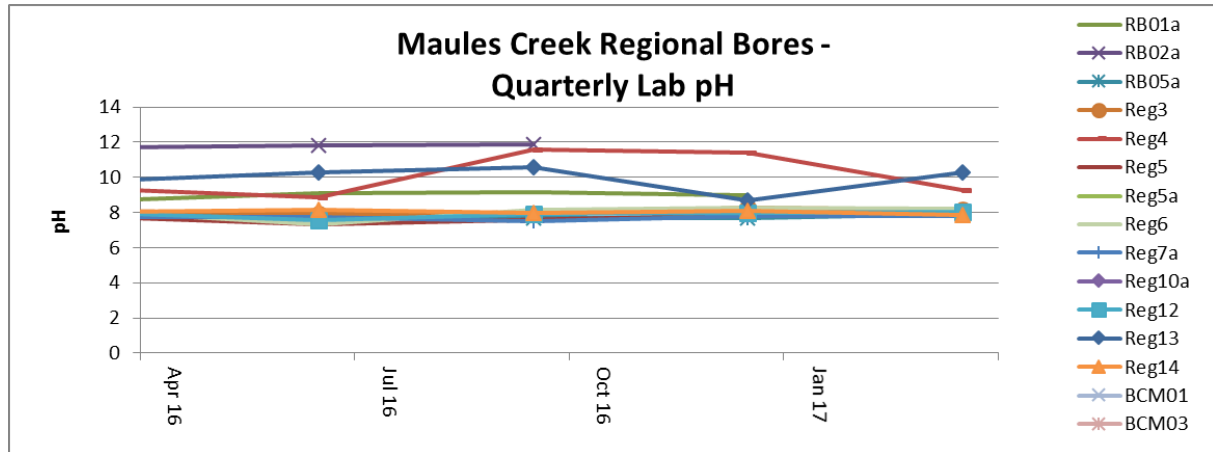
Lab pH	RB01a	RB02a	RB05a	Reg3	Reg4	Reg5	Reg5a	Reg6	Reg7a	Reg10a	Reg12	Reg13	Reg14	BCM01	BCM03
Jun-16	9.11	11.8	7.82	7.9	8.88	7.35		7.33	7.77		7.54	10.3	8.15		
Sep-16	9.17	11.9	7.68	7.9	11.6	**	**	8.16	7.49		7.89	10.6	7.96		
Dec-16	8.96	***	7.68	8.25	11.4	7.85		8.26	7.8		7.97	8.71	8.12		
Mar-17	*	*	7.89	8.17	9.26	7.97		8.23	7.81		8.05	10.3	7.88		

Blank cells indicate sample periods where bores were dry.

*Bore decommissioned due to progression of mining area

**Tracks were too wet to access bores

***Unable to sample



Electrical Conductivity

Laboratory Electrical Conductivity (EC) levels are all within historic groundwater EC range of 500 μ s/cm to 2,500 μ s/cm. With the exception of monitoring bore Reg13 which has a historic groundwater EC range of 2,000 μ s/cm to 4,700 μ s/cm.

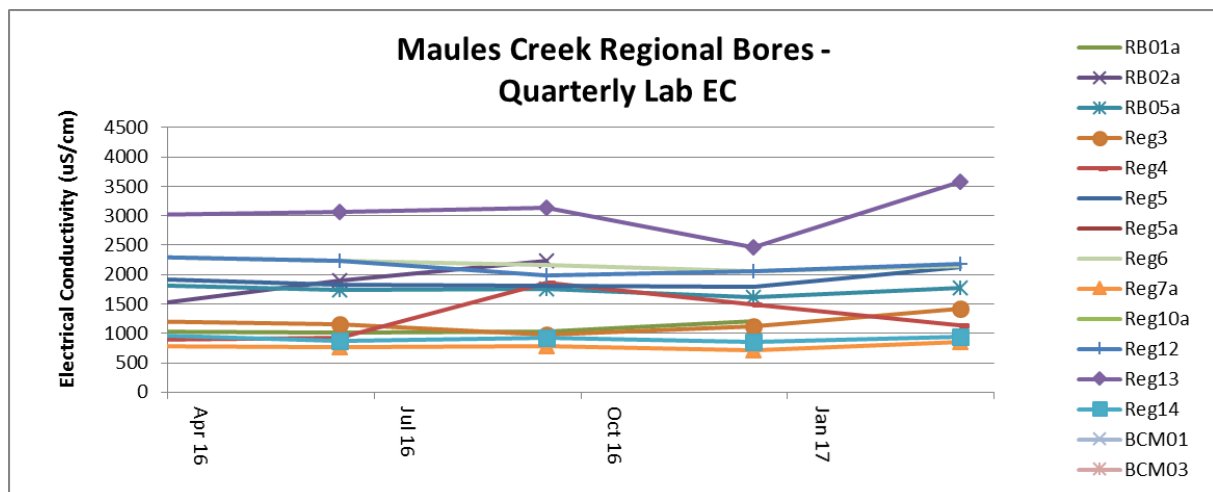
Lab EC	RB01a	RB02a	RB05a	Reg3	Reg4	Reg5	Reg5a	Reg6	Reg7a	Reg10a	Reg12	Reg13	Reg14	BCM01	BCM03
Jun-16	1010	1890	1740	1150	921	1830		2240	758		2240	3060	871		
Sep-16	1040	2240	1760	986	1860	**	**	2160	790		1980	3130	921		
Dec-16	1200	***	1620	1120	1500	1800		2050	714		2060	2460	856		
Mar-17	*	*	1780	1420	1140	2130		2140	860		2190	3570	938		

Blank cells indicate sample periods where bores were dry.

*Bore decommissioned due to progression of mining area

**Tracks were too wet to access bores.

***Unable to sample



Wet Weather Discharge Sampling

There were no wet weather licensed discharge events during Q1 2017 (January to March).

Surface Water – Creeks and Rivers

Routine surface water monitoring is conducted in surrounding creeks and rivers on a monthly basis. Results for parameters including pH, EC and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) are shown in the tables and figures below.

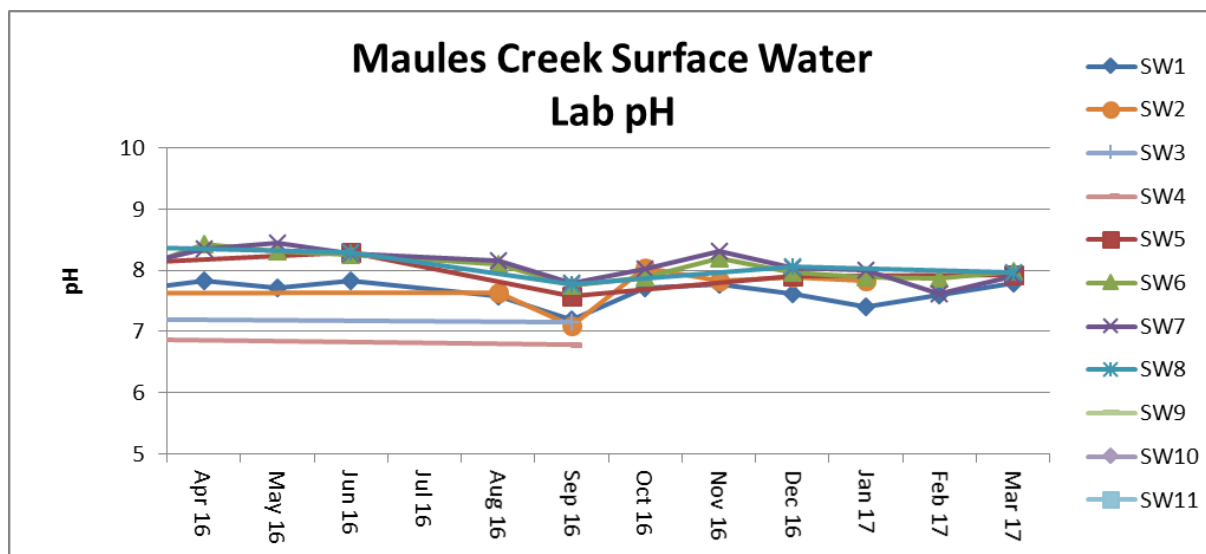
Acidity / Alkalinity (pH)

Laboratory pH in creeks and rivers surrounding MCCM are all trending within the ANZECC acceptable range for Irrigation, Ecosystem Health and Recreation. Back Creek and upper Maules Creek are ephemeral systems.

Lab pH	SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4	SW5	SW6	SW7	SW8	SW9	SW10	SW11
15/04/2016	7.83					8.43	8.35				
16/05/2016	7.72					8.32	8.45				
15/06/2016	7.83				8.3	8.25	8.28	8.29			
15/08/2016	7.58	7.64				8.1	8.16				
22/08/2016	7.66					8.1	8.19				
14/09/2016	7.2	7.09	7.15	6.78	7.57	7.75	7.8	7.77	*	*	*
13/10/2016	7.71	8.05				7.88	8.03				
7/11/2016	7.77	7.83				8.19	8.31				
12/12/2016	7.62	7.88			7.91	7.96	8.04	8.06			
10/01/2017	7.41	7.82				7.89	8				
10/02/2017	7.6					7.86	7.62				
14/03/2017	7.79				7.93	7.99	7.9	7.96			

Blank cells indicate sample periods where waterways were dry.

*Too wet to access monitoring locations



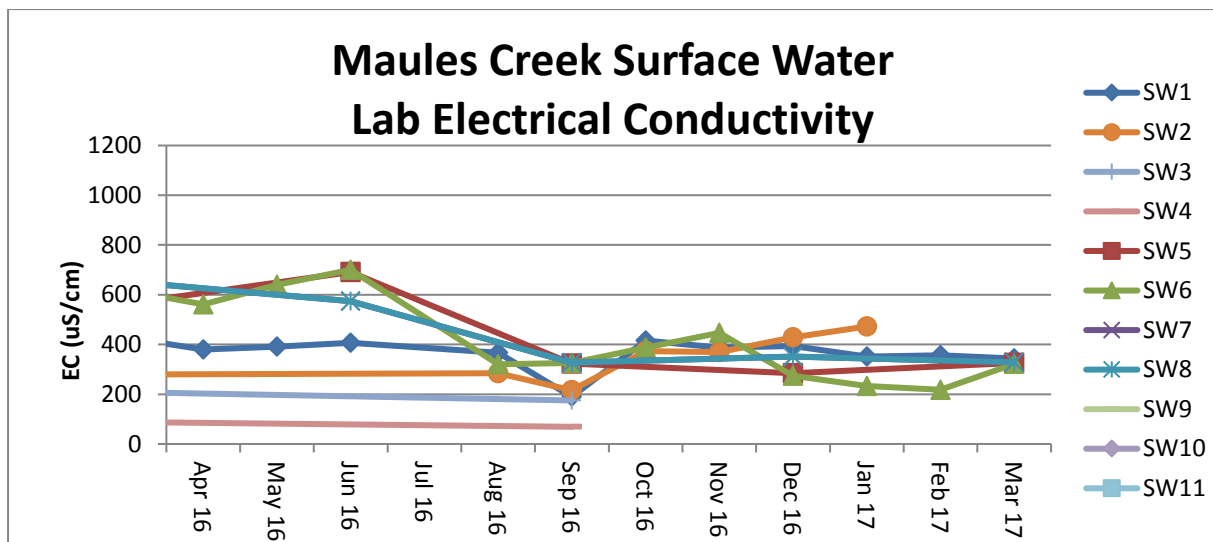
Electrical Conductivity

Surface water EC trends have remained consistent with SW5, SW6, SW7 and SW8 all historically variable. SW5, SW6, SW7 and SW8 are stations along the Namoi River which is subject to regulated and variable flow regimes.

Lab EC	SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4	SW5	SW6	SW7	SW8	SW9	SW10	SW11
15/04/2016	380					561	606				
16/05/2016	391					640	638				
15/06/2016	407				691	700	569	574			
15/08/2016	367	284				320	325				
22/08/2016	451					378	376				
14/09/2016	190	216	175	69	323	326	338	327	*	*	*
13/10/2016	416	373				387	385				
7/11/2016	388	370				447	461				
12/12/2016	394	428			285	274	292	352			
10/01/2017	351	472				233	143				
10/02/2017	357					218	222				
14/03/2017	343				325	322	324	328			

Blank cells indicate sample periods where waterways were dry.

*Too wet to access monitoring locations



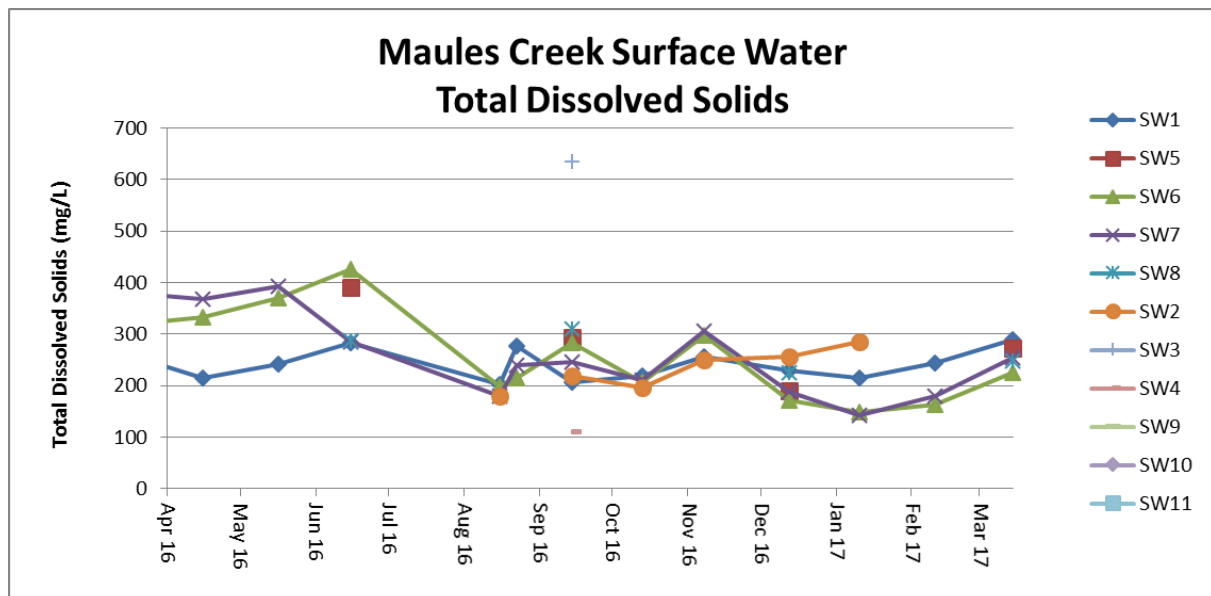
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

Surface water TSS trends have remained consistent with historical results. SW5, SW6, SW7 and SW8 are historically variable as they are located along the Namoi River which is subject to regulated and variable flow regimes.

TSS	SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4	SW5	SW6	SW7	SW8	SW9	SW10	SW11
15/04/2016	18					15	45				
16/05/2016	14					10	37				
15/06/2016	13				12	12	9	<5			
15/08/2016	<5	<5				20	24				
22/08/2016	5					29	26				
14/09/2016	270	104	142	16	117	84	91	105	*	*	*
13/10/2016	<5	15				34	37				
7/11/2016	<5	<5				22	25				
12/12/2016	9	118			47	51	48	48			
10/01/2017	13	7				48	57				
10/02/2017	23					40	50				
14/03/2017	5				42	46	33	46			

Blank cells indicate sample periods where waterways were dry.

*Too wet to access monitoring locations



Rehabilitation

No final landform areas are available for rehabilitation since the commencement of mining in August 2014.

Community Complaints

41 complaints were received during Q1 2017. Please refer to the Community Complaints Register published on the Whitehaven Coal Maules Creek website.