

## **Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #10**

**Meeting Held:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**Venue:** The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

**Commencement Time:** 3:00pm

### **1. Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)  
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mrs Pam Burns (Community Rep)  
Mr Rod Barnes (Community Rep)  
Mr Tony Heinrich (Project Manager)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)  
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)  
Miss Jill Scealy (Environmental Officer – Whitehaven)

**Apologies:** Mr Warren Nicholls (Community Rep)

### **2. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record on the motion of Mrs Pam Burns and Clr Colleen Fuller.

### **3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

3.1. Danny Young advised that the Environmental Assessment (EA) was with the Department of Planning (DoP) for adequacy assessment and that DoP had requested additional work on the geotechnical assessment. Whitehaven is currently working on this and expects to have the final EA submitted in mid February for Department endorsement for exhibition. Following this endorsement, another newsletter will be issued to surrounding landholders. The EA will be on exhibition for a period of 28 days with copies available from the Council and Department of Planning website. A notification of the exhibition period will be in the local paper.

3.2. Jill Scealy stated that John Molloy (Project Manager – Toll Resources) had advised the Tarrawonga Coal Mine CCC that morning that there wasn't such a need for hardstand bays now that the drivers are using facilities at the Vickery depot as well as the Tarrawonga and Rocglen mines. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the agenda.

- 3.3. Danny Young advised that he had not yet spoken to Rod Barnes about replacement of the corridor of trees that will be removed with the Wean Road upgrade that currently provide a visual screen between the mine and Rod's house. Danny said it will be some time before we remove the trees but he would discuss the issue with Rod in the near future.
- 3.4. Jill Scealy advised that Ken Bates (Tarrawonga CCC Chair) had advised the Tarrawonga CCC that morning that a letter had been issued to Gunnedah Shire Council in December 2010 regarding safety concerns with the Bluevale/Kamilaroi highway intersection upgrade. Colleen Fuller advised the Tarrawonga CCC at the time that the RTA Traffic Committee that she is a member of had not seen the letter and she committed to following up its whereabouts.

#### **4. Mine Progress Report**

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.2 million BCM of overburden was moved and 231,800 tonnes of coal was mined.

#### **5. Review of Environmental Performance**

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the environmental monitoring report.

Rod Barnes noted that noise from the mine has generally been ok lately but sometimes it's quite loud. He said Saturday morning was particularly noisy and Tony Heinrich said that the excavator had been working at surface that morning which would have been the likely contributor to greater noise generation.

#### **6. Complaints/Complaints Hotline**

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report.

#### **7. General Business**

- 7.1. Rod Barnes raised an issue on behalf of Warren Nicholls regarding another step in the waste dump since the last meeting. Tony Heinrich confirmed that the dump had increased in height by 10m but it was still below the approved height. Tony said the mine didn't want to go any higher but delays with the extension approval meant that they weren't able to dump to the north.

Danny Young and Jill Scealy explained that the approved top height of the dump is the same height as the highest point in the adjacent Vickery State Forest. Danny said if you drive along Wean Road towards the mine you can see that the dump is still lower than the ridge in the State Forest.

Tony also explained that the dump will be battered back to provide a more subtle slope. He said that he will contact Warren to discuss his concerns.

7.2. Rod Barnes raised an issue on behalf of Warren Nicholls regarding litter along Wean Road. He said that Warren had commented that some of it appeared to be from service vehicles (eg. oily rags). Tony said that some of the traffic may not be related to Rocglen (as people take a shortcut through Riorden Road to get to other mines) but he would reiterate to his contractors and employees to secure their loads and not to litter. Tony also said that Warren should contact the mine if he notices a build up of litter on the road.

7.3. Rod Barnes asked whether Wean Road would be returned to its original alignment once the mine finishes. Tony Heinrich said that the deviation will remain as the final void will be where the current road alignment is.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Meeting closed 3:30pm



J Sturgess  
Chairman

# Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #10

## Environmental Monitoring Report October – December 2010

### Noise Monitoring

#### **Attended Noise Monitoring**

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010, as required for operational noise monitoring under the Noise Monitoring Program, with results outlined below:

RCM Noise Monitoring Results – 14 December 2010 (Day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	11:20 am	38	1.5 m/s - ESE	Birds & insects (38), RCM (<20)
Costa Vale	11:56 am	39	1.5 m/s - ESE	Birds & insects (39), RCM (30)

RCM Noise Monitoring Results – 14 December 2010 (Evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	9:35 pm	50	3 m/s, E	Wind in trees (48), insects (47), RCM inaudible
Costa Vale	9:10 pm	51	3 m/s, E	Birds & insects (51), RCM inaudible

RCM Noise Monitoring Results – 14 December 2010 (Night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	10:31 pm	47	3 m/s - NE	Wind (46), insects (40), RCM inaudible
Costa Vale	10:05 am	46	3.5m/s - NE	Insects & frogs (46), RCM inaudible

The results indicate that, under the operational and atmospheric conditions at the time, noise emissions from the mine did not exceed the criterion of 35 dB(A) at either monitoring location.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from the mine must not exceed 45 dB(A) L<sub>1</sub> (1 min) between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine.

During the night time measurement circuit the L<sub>1</sub> (1 min) noise from the mine did not exceed 45 dB(A) at either monitoring location.

Following recent complaints pertaining to noise levels at the “Surrey” property, a real time noise monitor has been placed at the property for an extended period. A full review of results from that monitoring will be undertaken in the near future and outcomes advised at the next CCC meeting.

### **Road Noise Monitoring**

No monitoring has occurred since the last CCC meeting. Results from the upcoming round of monitoring will be provided at the next CCC meeting.

### **Unattended Noise Monitoring**

Unattended noise monitoring was carried out in September 2010 at both the “Costa Vale” and “Surrey” properties with results provided in the following tables. Unattended monitoring provides noise levels from all sources and does not distinguish mine related noise from other noise sources.

#### **Costa Vale**

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
10-Dec-10	52.8	61.0	57.0	35.2	41.7	38.0
11-Dec-10	50.1	57.0	50.1	33.0	34.7	33.5
12-Dec-10	48.3	49.4	43.1	34.0	35.2	32.3
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>

#### **Surrey**

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
10-Dec-10	57.6	46.8	43.3	32.5	31.2	32.3
11-Dec-10	44.5	43.8	46.6	31.0	31.0	31.3
12-Dec-10	46.4	42.1	49.0	31.5	27.2	32.5
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>

### **Blast Monitoring**

#### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 65 blasts (until the end of the reporting period). All blasts during this report period have been compliant within the limits of 115dB and 5mm/s.

To date, the highest overpressure recorded is 119.9 dBL recorded at “Costa Vale” on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The highest ground vibration recorded is 1.50 mm/s recorded at “Roseberry” on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

## **Air Quality**

### **Deposited Dust Results**

The deposited dust results ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{month}$ ) obtained for the site over the last 12 months are as follows:

**Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

Month	BD2 - Glenroc	BD3 - Belah	BD4 - Surrey	BD5 - Stratford	BD6 - Roseberry	BD7 - Roseglass	BD8 - Yarrowonga
January 2010	1.7	2.8	1.4	2.2	2.5	1.5	1.3
February 2010	2.3	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.4	3.1	1.7
March 2010	4.3	3.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.8
April 2010	1.8	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	4.0	1.0
May 2010	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2
June 2010	1.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.4
July 2010	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
August 2010	1.0	0.4	0.4	2.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
September 2010	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.8	1.5	0.8
October 2010	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6
November 2010	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.2	1.3
December 2010	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.7
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>

Deposited dust levels have continued to remain at low levels since the last CCC meeting and have been relatively consistent over the last 12 months. The annual average at all sites remains well below the concentration threshold of  $4\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{month}$ .

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual averages for PM<sub>10</sub> levels up until the end of December 2010 remain below the annual average limit of  $30\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , as follows:

Glenroc:  $11.98\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
Surrey/Roseberry:  $8.9\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

The 24hr criterion of  $50\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was not breached at either Glenroc or Roseberry during the period.

The highest PM<sub>10</sub> readings at each site are as follows:

Glenroc:  $113\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (14<sup>th</sup> December 2009)  
Roseberry:  $101\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (8<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date is presented in the following table. Standing Water Level (SWL) graphs are also provided.

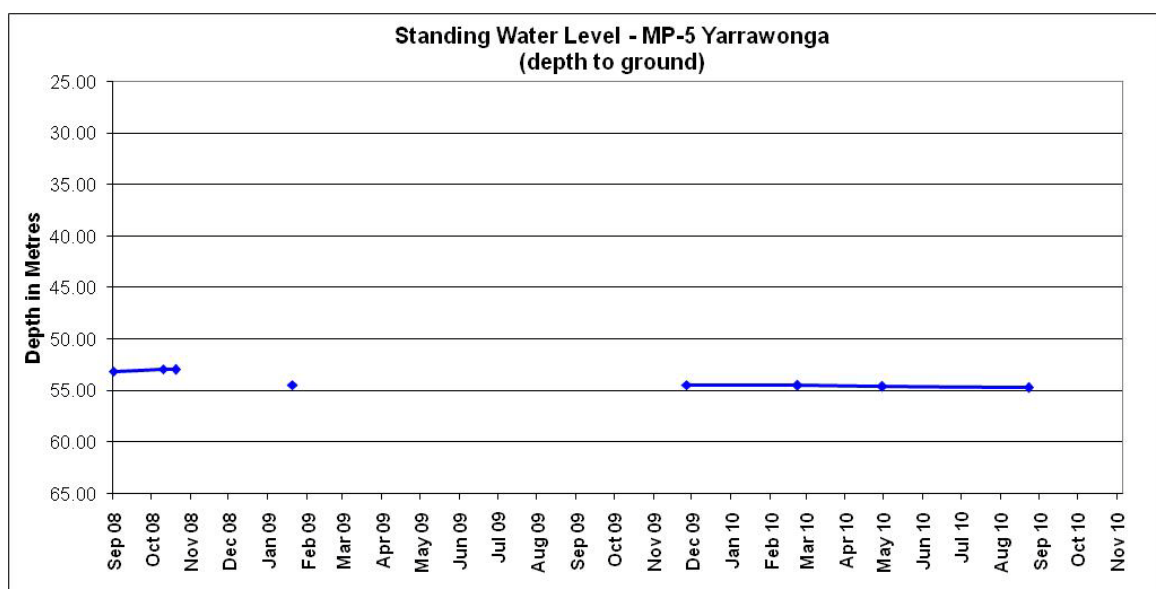
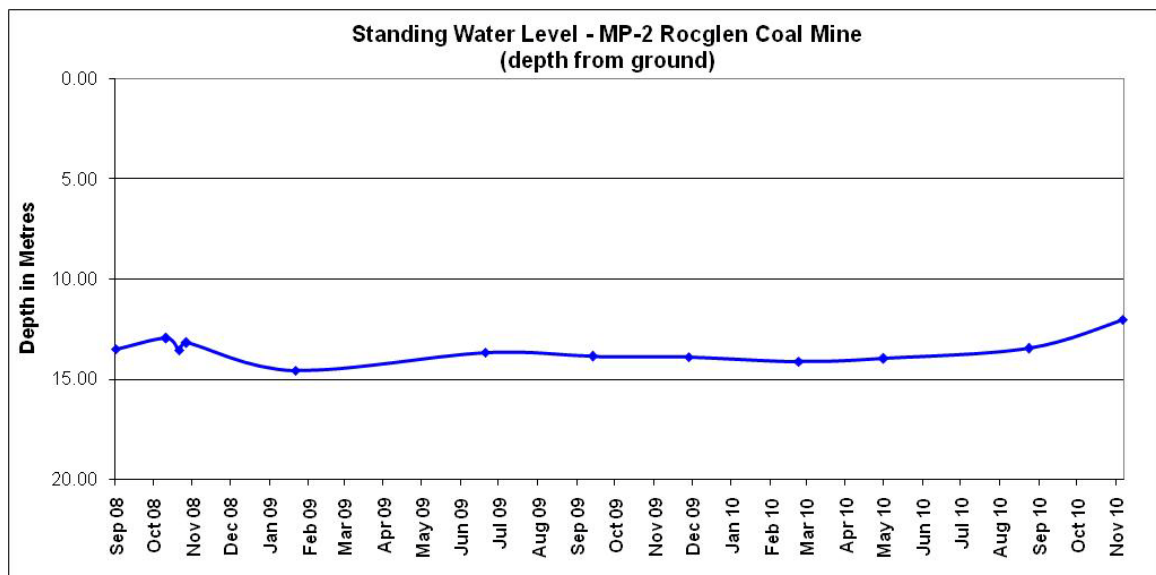
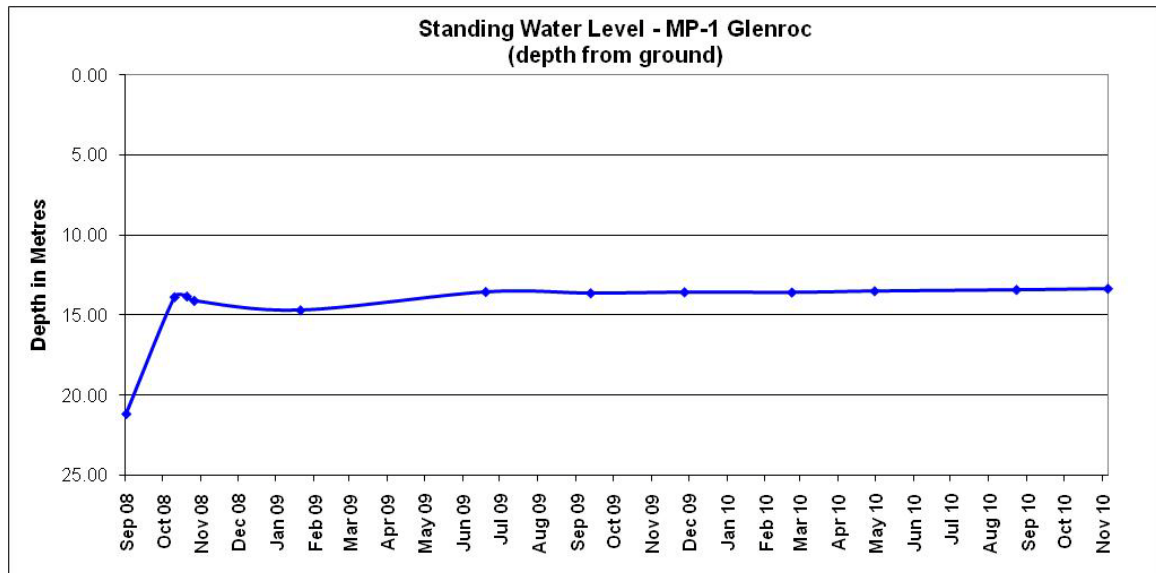
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct µs/cm
<b>MP1</b>	September 08	21.14		
	13 October 08	13.87		
	23 October 08	13.83		
	29 October 08	14.10	7.6	2360
	23 January 09	14.69		
	22 June 09	13.55	7.8	2250
	15 September 09	13.63		
	30 November 09	13.57	7.85	2250
	25 February 10	13.58		
	3 May 10	13.5	8.06	2100
	26 Aug 10	13.42	8	1650
	8 November 10	13.35	7.36	2080
<b>MP2</b>	September 08	13.53		
	13 October 08	12.98		
	23 October 08	13.56		
	29 October 08	13.20	7.3	4180
	23 January 09	14.60		
	22 June 09	13.70	7	5210
	15 September 09	13.88		
	30 November 09	13.90	6.99	4560
	25 February 10	14.14		
	3 May 10	14	7.37	4760
	26 August 10	13.48	7.07	5060
	8 November 10	12.04	6.72	3720
<b>MP3</b>	September 08	11.81		
	13 October 08	9.06		
	23 October 08	17.36		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	18.3 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 2010	Dry		
<b>MP4</b>	September 08	22.62		
	13 October 08	23.02		
	22 October 08	23.17		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	24.16 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		

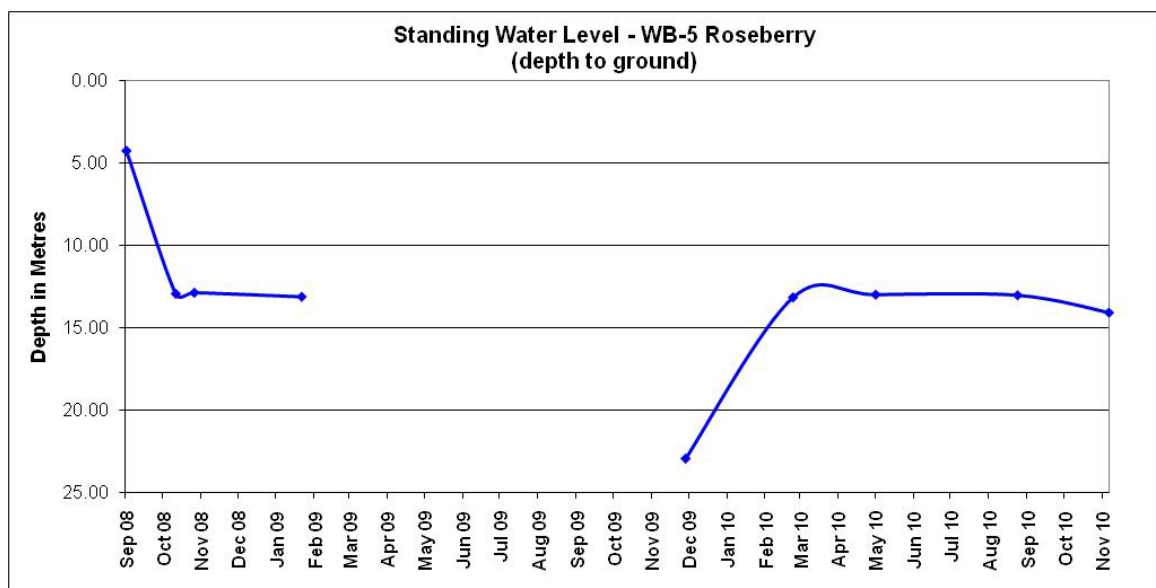
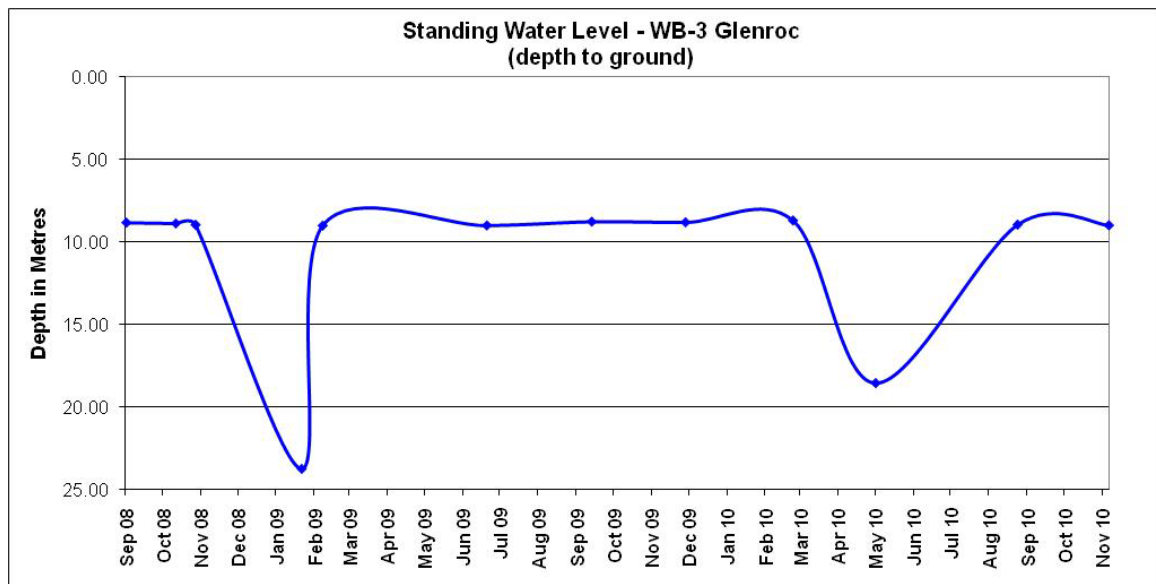
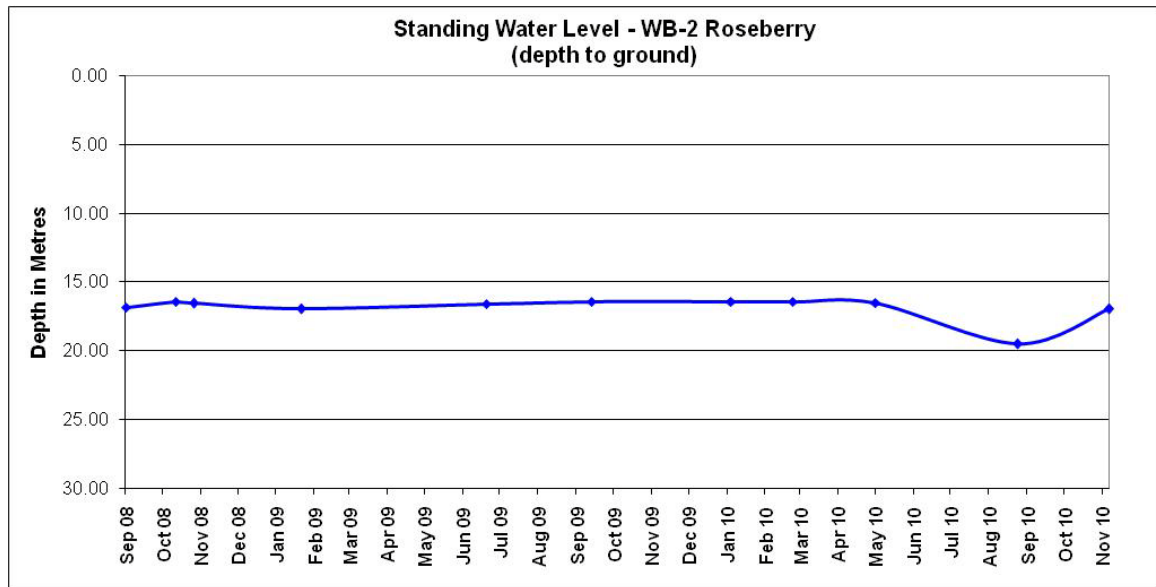
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 10	Dry		
<b>MP5</b>	September 08	53.13		
	13 October 08	52.9		
	23 October 08	52.96		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	54.44 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	54.4	Insufficient water to sample	
	25 February 10	54.48		
	3 May 10	54.6		
	26 August 10	54.69		
	8 November 10	Insufficient water to sample		
<b>WB1</b>	13 October 08	8.95		
	28 October 08	8.85	7.9	1996
	NO ACCESS			
<b>WB2</b>	September 08	16.87		
	13 October 08	16.49		
	28 October 08	16.60	7.7	3430
	23 January 09	17.00		
	22 June 09	16.65	7.2	3160
	15 September 09	16.45		
	6 January 09	16.45	7.51	2010
	25 February 10	16.48		
	3 May 10	16.56	7.84	2190
	26 August 10	19.54	7.4	3000
	8 November 10	17.00	7.3	2410
<b>WB3</b>	September 08	8.82		
	13 October 08	8.87		
	29 October 08	8.95	7.2	4480
	23 January 09	23.72		
	10 February 09	9.0		
	22 June 09	8.99	7.5	4380
	15 September 09	8.76		
	30 November 09	8.8	7.74	3890
	25 February 10	8.69		
	3 May 10	18.53	7.88	4000
	26 August 2010	8.94	8.28	3260
	8 November 2010	8.98	8.02	2360
<b>WB4</b>	Casing Sealed	No Access		
	26 August 2010	Unable to dip	7.83	3650
<b>WB5</b>	September 08	4.23		
	13 October 08	12.92		
	28 October 08	12.85	7.2	8400
	23 January 09	13.1		
	22 June 09	No Access	6.6	7930
	15 September 09	No Access		
	30 November 09	22.93	7.06	4880
	25 February 10	13.14		
	3 May 10	12.97	7.43	6720
	26 August 10	13.01	7.47	7480
	8 November 10	14.06	7.86	5810

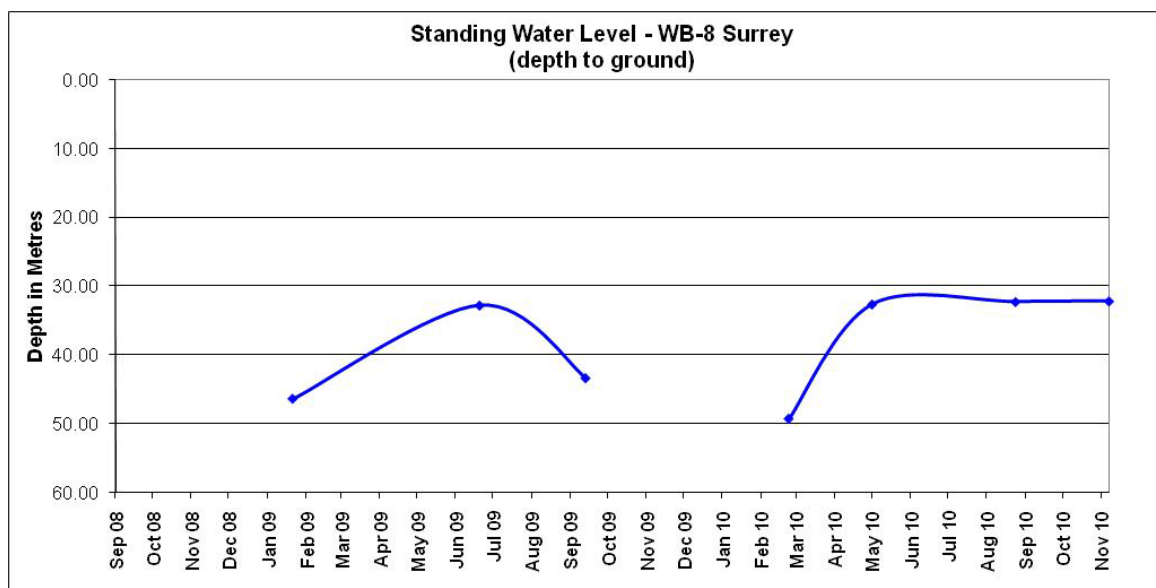
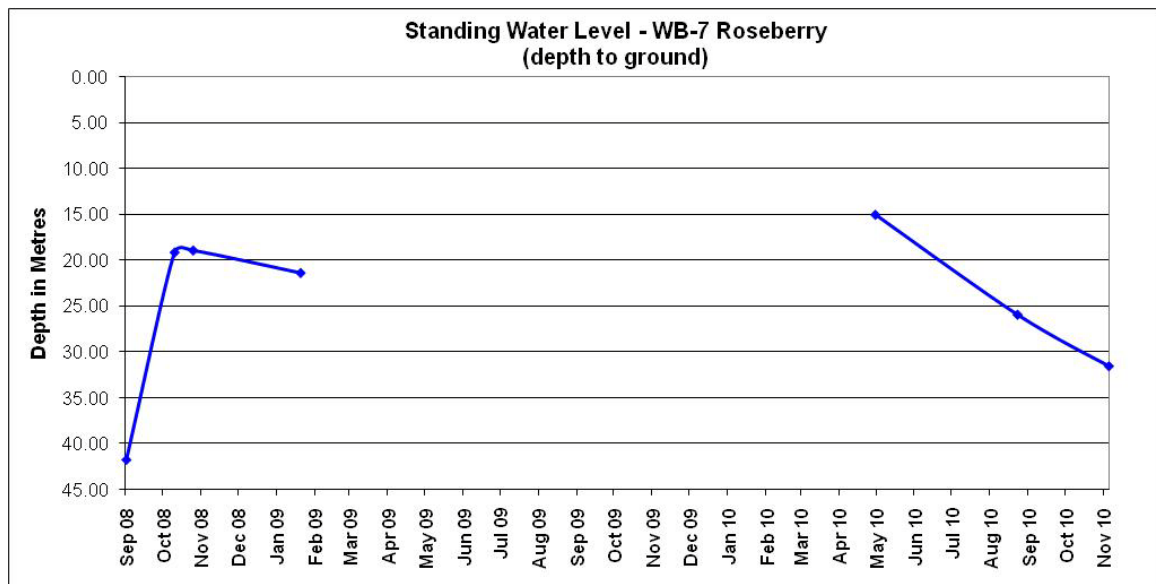
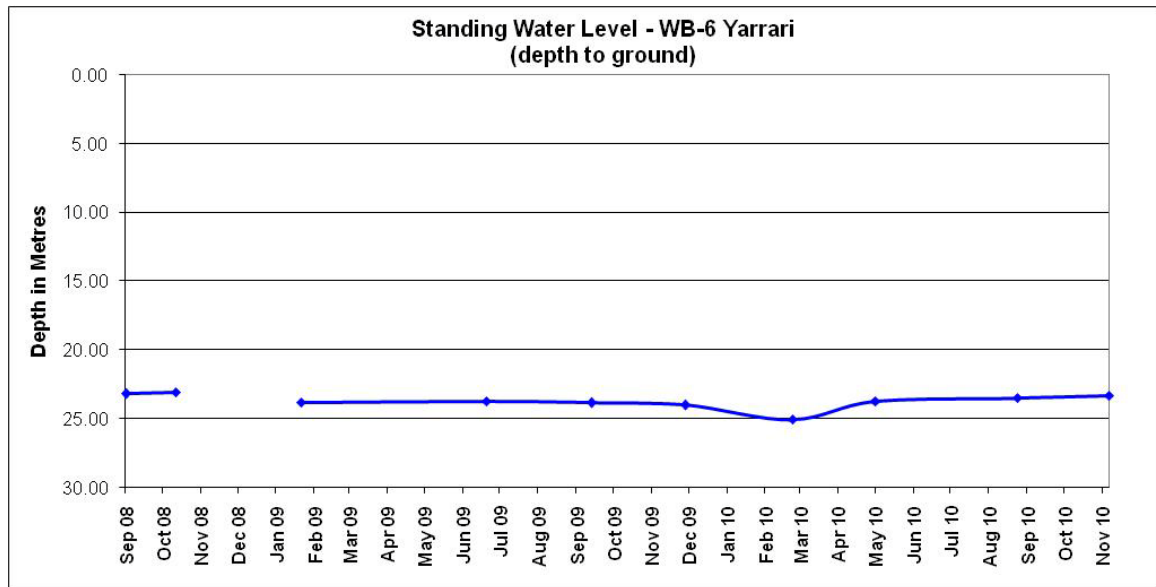


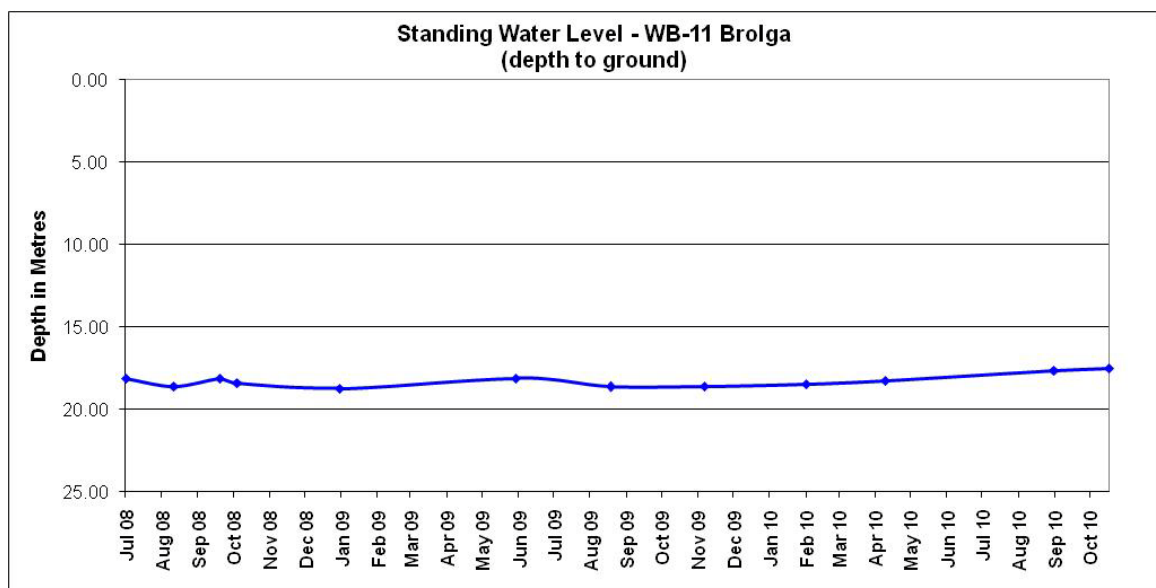
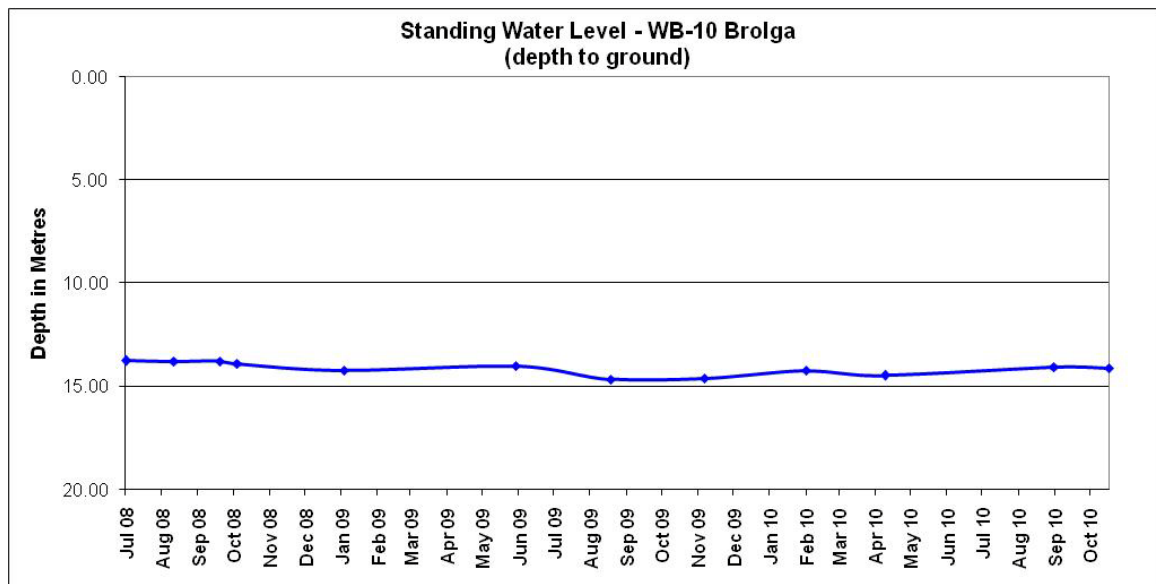
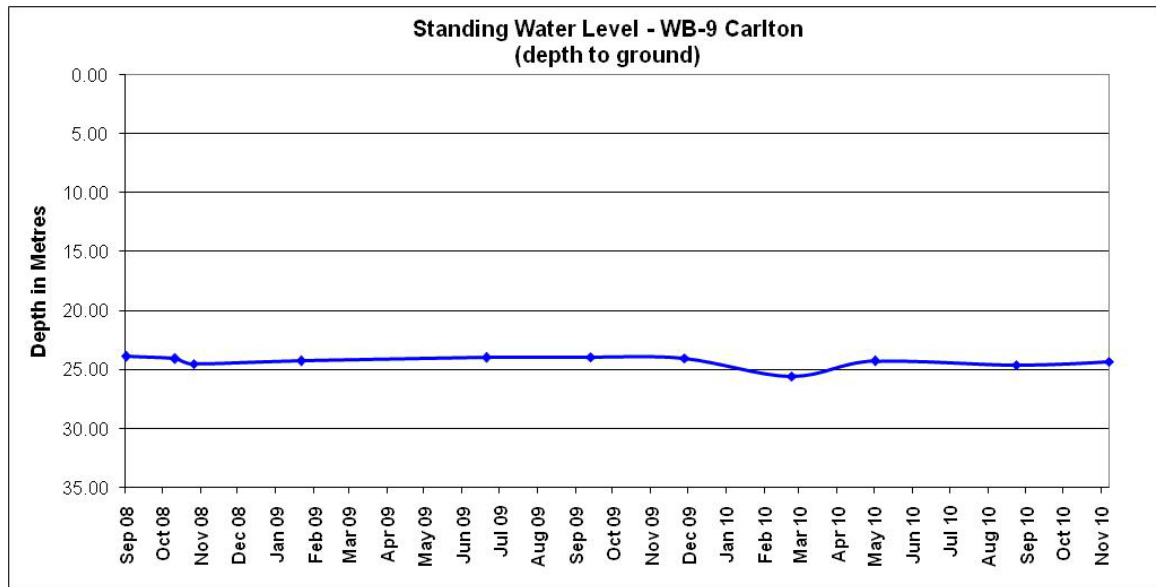
<b>WB6</b>	September 08	23.18		
	13 October 08	23.05		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	23.81		
	22 June 09	23.74	Unable to sample	
	15 September 09	23.83		
	30 November 09	24.02	No sample – bore equipped	
	25 February 10	25.05		
	3 May 10	23.71		
	26 August 10	23.47	Bore equipped	
	8 November 10	23.31	Bore equipped	
<b>WB7</b>	September 08	41.75		
	13 October 08	19.11		
	28 October 08	18.90	7.2	2730
	23 January 09	21.35		
	22 June 09		7.4	2690
	15 September 09	Bore equipped		
	30 November 09	Unable to dip	7.3	2260
	25 February 10	Unable to dip		
	3 May 10	15	7.45	2470
	26 August 10	25.91	Unable to sample – bore equipped	
	8 November 10	31.53	7.24	2240
<b>WB8</b>	September 08	No Access		
	13 October 08	No Access		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	46.4		
	22 June 09	32.75	8.2	2240
	15 September 09	43.38		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	49.32		
	3 May 10	32.59	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	32.23	Unable to Sample	
	9 November 10	32.14	Bore Equipped	
<b>WB9</b>	September 08	23.88		
	13 October 08	24.09		
	28 October 08	24.50	7.5	931
	23 January 09	24.27		
	22 June 09	23.99	7.9	1080
	15 September 09	23.94		
	30 November 09	24.05	7.14	1020
	25 February 10	25.58		
	3 May 10	24.26	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	24.59	7.72	1057
	9 November 10	24.34	Windmill over bore	
<b>WB10</b>	July 08	13.75		
	September 08	13.80		
	13 October 08	13.77		
	28 October 08	13.9	7.4	2235
	27 January 09	14.23		
	22 June 09	14.01	7	2220
	11 September 09	14.65		
	30 November 09	14.62	6.89	1690
	25 February 10	14.23		
	3 May 10	14.47	7.93	2010

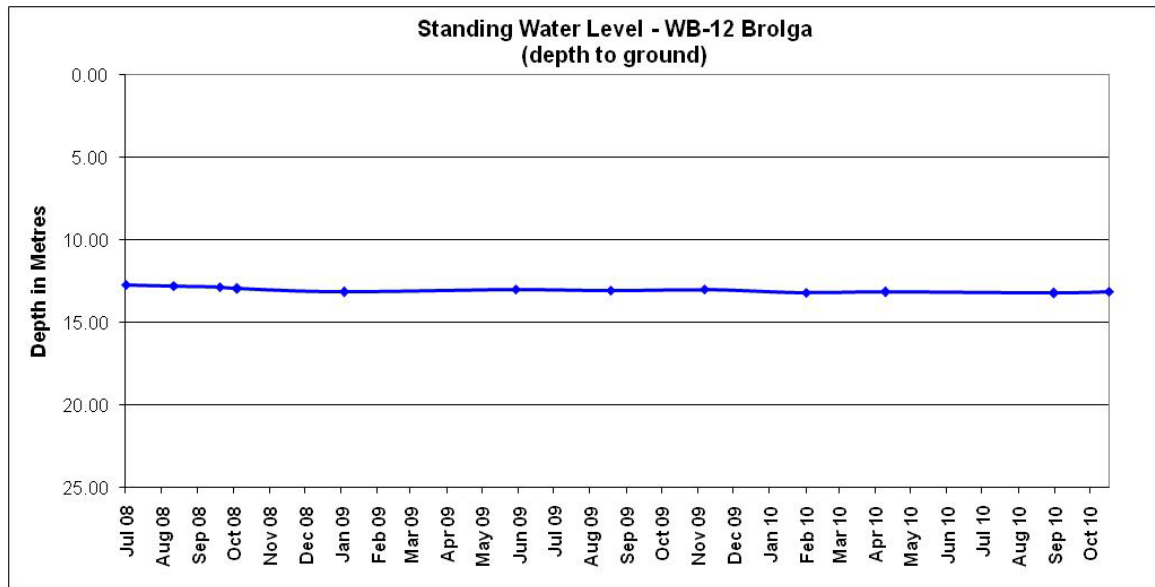
	24 September 10	14.05	6.7	1833
	10 November 10	14.1	6.72	1905
<b>WB11</b>	July 08	18.11		
	September 08	18.61		
	13 October 08	18.13		
	28 October 08	18.4	7.5	1086
	27 January 09	18.73		
	22 June 09	18.1	8	880
	11 September 09	18.63		
	30 November 09	18.6	6.65	929
	25 February 10	18.47		
	3 May 10	18.24	8.37	921
	24 September 10	17.65	7.59	865
	10 November 10	17.49	7.49	867
<b>WB12</b>	July 08	12.73		
	September 08	12.80		
	13 October 08	12.83		
	28 October 08	12.95	8.1	2152
	27 January 09	13.16		
	22 June 09	12.99	8	2070
	11 September 09	13.05		
	30 November 09	12.99	8.34	1640
	25 February 10	13.19		
	3 May 10	13.15	8.27	1390
	24 September 10	13.22	8.71	873
	10 November 10	13.13	7.07	891
<b>Production Bore</b>	September 08	55.24		
	13 October 08	50.18		
	28 October 08	49.90	7.3	4030
	27 January 09	49.90		
	22 June 09	>50	7.1	3580
	27 August 09		7.3	3330
	30 November 09		7.2	3160
	25 February 10	Bore equipped		
	3 May 10		7.52	3310
	26 August 10	Unable to dip	7.42	3340
	8 November 10	Bore Equipped		











Standing water levels have remained relatively consistent since the last CCC meeting with the exception of WB7, which has continued to drop since May 2010, dropping approximately 5.62m over the last 3 months. Routine monitoring at this bore has indicated fluctuating water levels that are most likely associated with the connected windmill actively drawing water during monitoring events. The next round of monitoring in February 2011 will continue to observe any ongoing trends.

## Surface Water

Since the last CCC meeting there has been three wet weather discharges from site and one controlled discharge. The details are as follows:

- Wet Weather Discharge SB18, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010: Discharge occurred after 12.8mm of rain on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October and 37.6mm of rain in October leading up to the event. Even though the effort of flocculation took place two days earlier (22<sup>nd</sup> October), inflows to SB18 resulted in discharge of water with high TSS. SB18 recorded 488mg/L of TSS while DDCK (downstream of SB18), recorded a TSS level of 234mg/L.
- Wet Weather Discharge SD3, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010: Discharge occurred following 20.8mm of rain, in addition to the 111.2mm received over the previous month of November. The discharge was compliant with all EPL parameters including TSS, where flocculation efforts reduced TSS from 53mg/L (pre flocculation sample) down to 23mg/L at the time of discharge.
- Wet Weather Discharge SB18, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010: Discharge occurred following 38.4mm of rainfall over the preceding 5 days. The discharge was compliant with all EPL parameters except for TSS. Elevated TSS levels included 996mg/L at SB18 and 462mg/L at DDCK. UNDC (unnamed drainage channel) recorded 25mg/L, being well below criteria.

The high recordings of TSS at both SB18 and DDCK in the above discharges are due to the failure of the flocculation process to bring levels down to below criteria. Flocculation of SB18 with Magnafloc LT425 failed due to the sheer high concentration (above 1000mg/L) of TSS within the dam. An exposed subsoil stockpile forms a major portion of the catchment area for SB18 and DDCK. LT245 can bring high concentrations of sediment down with high dose rates, but dosage rates must observe manufacturer's instructions in order to ensure no toxicity to aquatic organisms. Therefore, it was used to its maximum safe level only and consequently did not prove effective over a short time frame. LT245 has successfully treated water with lower TSS levels, as found with SD3.

Whitehaven is currently planning construction of additional sediment basins downstream of both SB18 and SD3, to give the site greater storage capacity of water, to control discharge and to provide more opportunity to manage the problematic TSS levels in the water.

Routine surface water sampling was undertaken at selected sites on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2010 to obtain background water quality data. There was nothing in these results that were indicative of any change in water quality since mine commencement. The next round of surface water monitoring will be conducted in February 2011.

### **Complaints**

Two complaints have been received since the last CCC meeting (up until the end of December):

#### **27<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

The complainant contacted the Environmental Manager at 1:30pm due to excessive noise and dust from the mine.

Recent noise monitoring was discussed. The complainant noted that there was no noise during the monitoring event and the Environmental Manager noted that Whitehaven will soon have the capacity to place a real time noise monitor at the property for successive days to avoid this issue if noise remains a concern. In terms of dust, it was acknowledged that the mine creates dust, but is not the only dust source, particularly with Wean Road (unsealed) within close proximity to the residence.

Conversations have been held with the complainant as well as a meeting at the residence by the Community Liaison Officer. Further discussions will take place with the complainant relating to ongoing noise/dust issues.

#### **9<sup>th</sup> December 2010**

The complainant contacted the Environmental Manager at 8:30am due to excessive noise from the mine during the night.



The Environmental Officer rang the complainant at 9:40am on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 to discuss his concerns. He said that the noise went all afternoon and into the night causing them to have to go inside rather than eating outside. He said he could hear the trucks roaring through the gears. The complainant was given the Project Manager's mobile phone number again and was advised that it was best to call him or the OCE in the future to enable the issue to be dealt with immediately.

Since this complaint a real time noise monitor has been set up at the complainant's residence to continuously record noise and weather data. After several weeks of monitoring, reports and audio can be analysed to identify noise sources and levels, in relation to weather conditions at the time. The results will be discussed with the complainant.

### **Rehabilitation**

Shaping of the western side of the southern overburden dump has continued to enable soil replacement and cover crop establishment. It is intended that April/May 2011 will provide best conditions to commence tubestock planting. A compost trial has also been conducted on the rehabilitation with evaluation of results to take place in near future.

## **Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #11**

**Meeting Held:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**Venue:** The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

**Commencement Time:** 3:00pm

### **1. Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)  
Mrs Pam Burns (Community Rep)  
Mr Rod Barnes (Community Rep)  
Mr Tony Heinrich (Project Manager)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)  
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)  
Miss Jill Scealy (Environmental Officer – Whitehaven)

**Apologies:** Cllr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mr Warren Nicholls (Community Rep)

### **2. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record on the motion of Mrs Pam Burns and Mr Rod Barnes.

### **3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

- 3.1. Danny Young advised that the Environmental Assessment (EA) was on public exhibition for a period of 28 days until the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Electronic copies of the EA were delivered to surrounding landholders during this time. Submissions were received from Government departments but not from the public. Whitehaven is currently preparing a Response to Submissions that is expected to be lodged by the end of May with a determination hopefully by the end of June.
- 3.2. Danny Young had a conversation with Rod Barnes earlier in the day regarding planting trees to replace those removed during the Wean Road diversion works. Rod indicated that it would be a long time before they provided a screen. Danny explained to Rod that we will be planting trees along the new road alignment and it is possible to plant trees at his property if requested. Danny told the committee that a meeting was planned with Rod for the following week.
- 3.3. Danny Young provided an updated on the letter to Gunnedah Shire Council regarding the Kamilaroi Highway upgrade, as initially raised at the Tarrawonga CCC meeting. RTA responded to the letter issued

by the Tarrawonga CCC advising that the intersection had been designed in accordance with relevant standards. The Committee agreed that this item could be removed from the Rocglen CCC agenda however any further progress made by the Tarrawonga CCC will be reported.

#### **4. Mine Progress Report**

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.4 million BCM of overburden was moved and 280,000 tonnes of coal was mined. The northern section of the pit has now finished and the pit will commence moving in a south-easterly direction.

#### **5. Review of Environmental Performance**

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the environmental monitoring report.

#### **6. Complaints/Complaints Hotline**

Complaints were discussed in the Environment Monitoring Report. Danny Young advised that an additional complaint had been received following completion of the Environment Monitoring Report. The complainant was concerned about the amount of traffic travelling on Wean Road and the litter present on the road verges, which he believed to be associated with mine related vehicles. Danny told the committee that he explained to the complainant that the issues had been raised with employees and contractors but it is difficult to control people's use of a public road.

#### **7. General Business**

- 7.1. Tony Heinrich advised that he had resigned as the Rocglen Project Manager with his last day to be the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- 7.2. Rod Barnes said that he was being swamped by Ron Rennick's sheep. Tony Heinrich and Danny Young both indicated that Whitehaven properties were also being affected by Ron's sheep and that the mine has spoken to him on a number of occasions. Danny advised that Whitehaven has ordered materials to electrify the boundary fence in an attempt to keep the sheep in Ron's paddock. Once the Biobank Area is finalised, improved fencing will be a priority.
- 7.3. Rod Barnes advised that a blast just after Good Friday covered him in red-ginger dust as he was driving along Wean Road. He said he had been talking to people who worked at the mine that said it's not good for this dust to settle on your roof. Danny Young advised the Committee that he had told Rod that Whitehaven will sample his tank

water to determine the level of contaminants in the water. He also suggested that an Orica representative be invited to the next CCC meeting to explain the blasting process. The Committee agreed to this suggestion. Tony Heinrich said he didn't think we'd had a blast since Good Friday. He checked the blast records and confirmed that the last blast was on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

7.4. Rod Barnes said that he believed mining was occurring on Sundays. Tony Heinrich said that only maintenance occurs on Sundays. Rod said that it was machinery noise around 8:30am – 9:00am and Tony said it would have been equipment at the workshop.

7.5. Rod Barnes advised that he had received a complaint from Andrew Thibault regarding lighting impacts on their property which is south east of the mine. Pam Burns said she had been to that property and didn't think light impacts from the mine were a problem. It was explained that all efforts are made to minimise the impacts of off-site lighting, and given the distance to the Thibault property, direct lighting impact was unlikely.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

Meeting closed 3:30pm



J Sturgess  
Chairman

# Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #11

## Environmental Monitoring Report January – April 2011

### Noise Monitoring

#### Attended Noise Monitoring

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 for the morning period before monitoring was abandoned due to strong winds. A replacement monitoring event was conducted on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011 for the evening and night periods, as required for operational noise monitoring under the Noise Monitoring Program, with results outlined below:

Noise Monitoring Results – 15 March 2011 (Day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	8:01 am	48	1.5 m/s - SE	Birds & insects (46), cattle (43), <b>RCM (34)</b>
Costa Vale	7:32 am	60	1 m/s - SE	Birds & insects (60), <b>RCM (35)</b>

Noise Monitoring Results – 14 April 2011 (Evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	8:44 pm	24	0.4 m/s, SE	Insects & domestic noise (24), <b>RCM inaudible</b>
Costa Vale	9:18 pm	35	0.4 m/s, SE	Insects (32), <b>RCM (32)</b>

Noise Monitoring Results – 14 April 2011 (Night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	10:20 pm	22	3 m/s - SE	<b>RCM inaudible</b>
Costa Vale	10:42 am	31	Calm	<b>RCM (31)</b> , insects (<20)

The results indicate that, under the operational and atmospheric conditions at the time, noise emissions from the mine did not exceed the criterion of 35 dB(A) at either monitoring location. “Costa Vale” recorded equal to the noise criteria during the day.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from the mine must not exceed 45 dB(A)  $L_{1(1\text{ min})}$  between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine.

During the night time measurement circuit the  $L1_{(1 \text{ min})}$  noise from the mine did not exceed 45 dB(A) at either monitoring location.

An assessment of noise levels at the “Surrey” property using a real time noise monitor has now finished. The results are currently being extracted for review with outcomes to be advised in the near future. The real time noise monitor was moved to the property “Penryn” on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011 following a complaint about noise levels and dust. The monitor will stay in this location over the coming weeks until enough data has been collected to analyse. The residents will be advised of the results when available.

## Road Noise Monitoring

Road noise monitoring was undertaken at the “Brooklyn” residence between 9.23am and 10.23am and at the “Werona” residence between 8.03am and 9.03am on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The measured noise level from mine related vehicles at “Brooklyn” was 54 dB(A)  $L_{eq(1 \text{ hour})}$  at residence 1, and 49 dB(A)  $L_{eq(1 \text{ hour})}$  at residence 2. The measured noise level from mine-related vehicles at “Werona” was 49 dB(A)  $L_{eq(1 \text{ hour})}$ . All results remain below the daytime noise criterion of 60 dB(A)  $L_{eq(1 \text{ hour})}$ .

## Unattended Noise Monitoring

Unattended noise monitoring was carried out in March 2011 at both the “Costa Vale” and “Surrey” properties with results provided in the following tables. Unattended monitoring provides noise levels from all sources and does not distinguish mine related noise from other noise sources.

### Costa Vale

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
12-Mar-11	51.8	51.8	39.4	29.7	30.8	30.5
13-Mar-11	53.0	50.6	36.9	31.2	30.5	29.5
14-Mar-11	54.8	64.4	49.4	35.0	38.8	29.0
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>

### Surrey

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
12-Mar-11	42.7	44.2	40.7	29.0	30.8	27
13-Mar-11	46.6	43.7	39.5	29.2	28.8	27
14-Mar-11	41.3	52.7	43.4	29.0	33.5	27
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>42</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>

## Blast Monitoring

### Blasting Results

Since the first shot there have been 70 blasts. All blasts have remained compliant within the limits of 115dBL and 5mm/s.

To date, the highest overpressure recorded is 119.9 dBL recorded at “Costa Vale” on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The highest ground vibration recorded is 1.50 mm/s recorded at “Roseberry” on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

## **Air Quality**

### **Deposited Dust Results**

The deposited dust results (g/m<sup>2</sup>/month) obtained for the site over the last 12 months are as follows:

**Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

Month	BD2 - Glenroc	BD3 - Belah	BD4 - Surrey	BD5 - Stratford	BD6 - Roseberry	BD7 - Roseglass	BD8 - Yarrowonga
May 2010	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2
June 2010	1.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.4
July 2010	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
August 2010	1.0	0.4	0.4	2.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
September 2010	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.8	1.5	0.8
October 2010	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6
November 2010	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.2	1.3
December 2010	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.7
January 2011	0.8	1.0	2.2	1.9	0.7	2.1	0.8
February 2011	1.2	1.6	2.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
March 2011	2.0	5.3	1.2	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1
April 2011	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.9
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Deposited dust levels have continued to remain at low levels since the last CCC meeting and have been relatively consistent over the last 12 months. The annual average at all sites remains well below the concentration threshold of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month. An elevated individual reading of 5.3 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month was recorded at BD3 during March 2011. It was noted that dead spiders were present in the bottle during time of collection which may have influenced the result. Despite this BD3 remains well below the annual average limit with an annual average of 1.2 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month. Continued monitoring will determine if dust deposition rates remain at these low levels.

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual averages for PM<sub>10</sub> levels up until the end of April 2011 remain below the annual average limit of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup>, as follows:

Glenroc: 9.77µg/m<sup>3</sup>  
Surrey/Roseberry: 7.08µg/m<sup>3</sup>

The 24hr criterion of  $50\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was not breached at either Glenroc or Roseberry during the period.

The highest  $\text{PM}_{10}$  readings at each site are as follows:

Glenroc:  $113\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (14<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

Roseberry:  $101\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (8<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

## **Water Monitoring**

### **Ground Water**

Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date is presented in the following table. Standing Water Level (SWL) graphs are also provided.

Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$
<b>MP1</b>	September 08	21.14		
	13 October 08	13.87		
	23 October 08	13.83		
	29 October 08	14.10	7.6	2360
	23 January 09	14.69		
	22 June 09	13.55	7.8	2250
	15 September 09	13.63		
	30 November 09	13.57	7.85	2250
	25 February 10	13.58		
	3 May 10	13.5	8.06	2100
	26 Aug 10	13.42	8	1650
	8 November 10	13.35	7.36	2080
	2 March 11	13.23	7.24	1942
<b>MP2</b>	September 08	13.53		
	13 October 08	12.98		
	23 October 08	13.56		
	29 October 08	13.20	7.3	4180
	23 January 09	14.60		
	22 June 09	13.70	7	5210
	15 September 09	13.88		
	30 November 09	13.90	6.99	4560
	25 February 10	14.14		
	3 May 10	14	7.37	4760
	26 August 10	13.48	7.07	5060
	8 November 10	12.04	6.72	3720
	7 March 11	11.49	6.98	4060
<b>MP3</b>	September 08	11.81		
	13 October 08	9.06		
	23 October 08	17.36		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	18.3 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 2010	Dry		

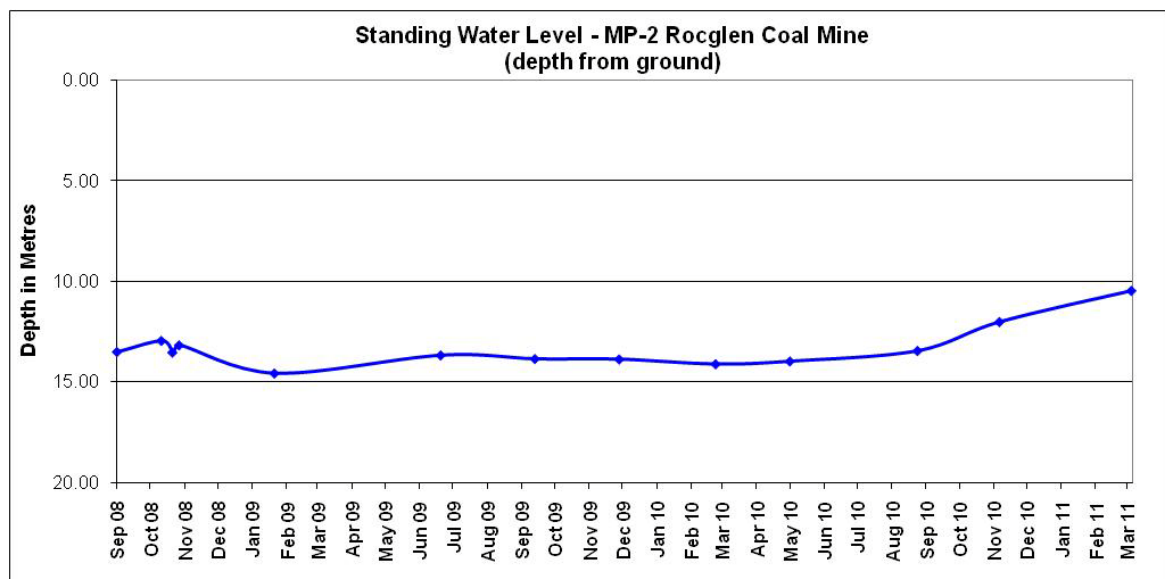
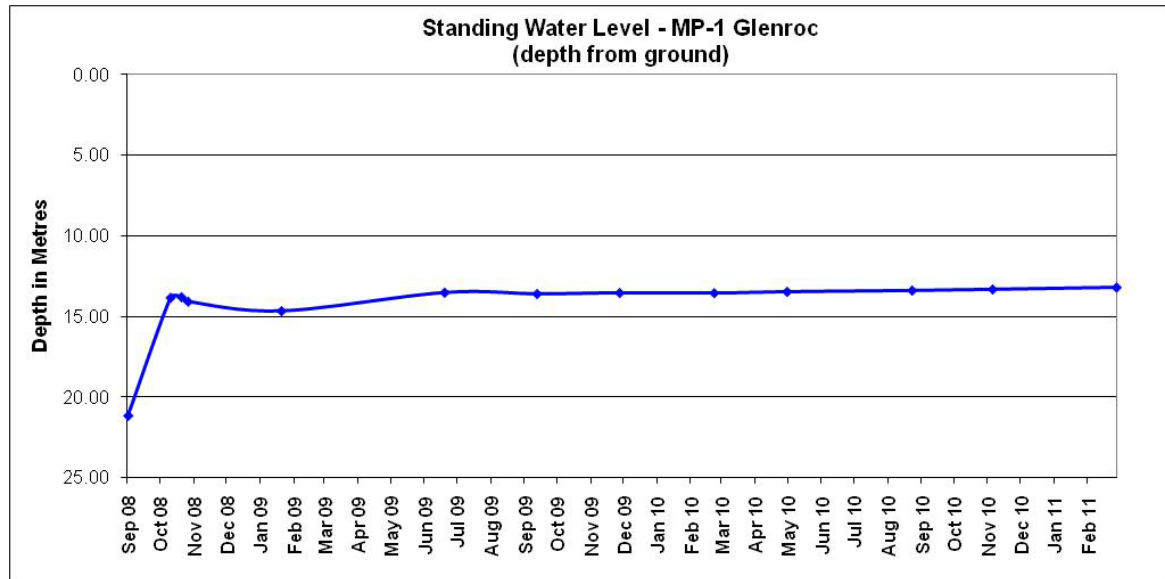


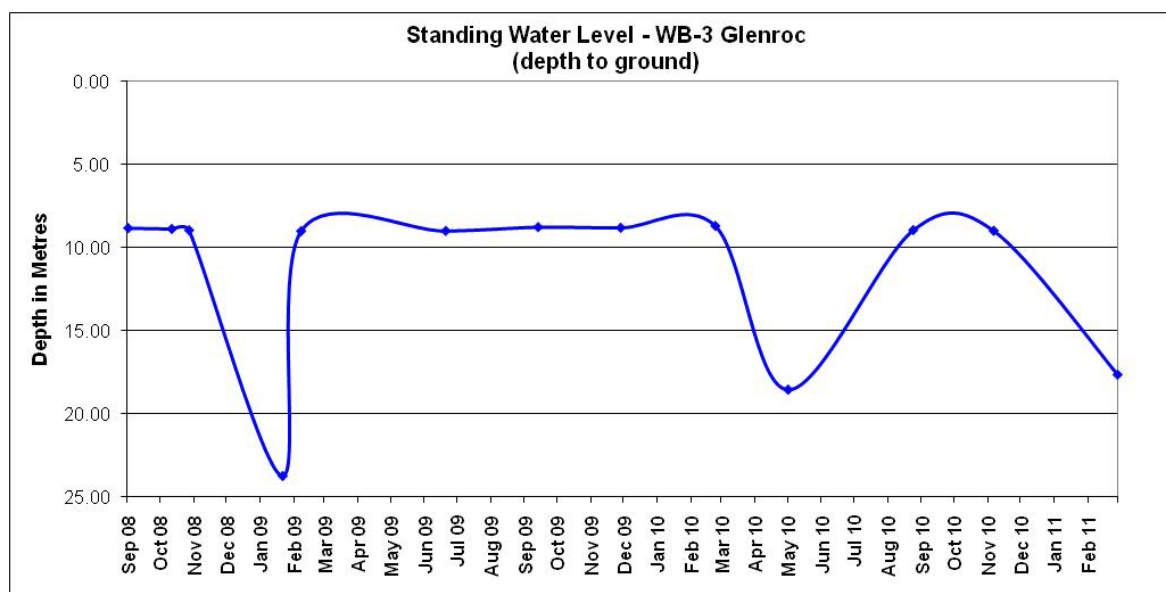
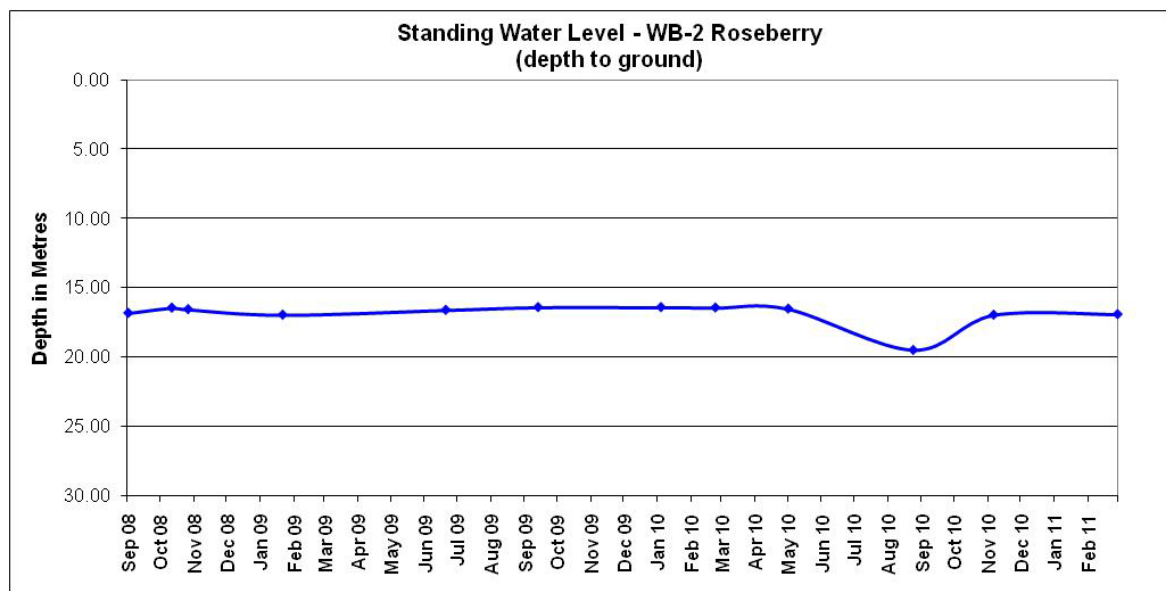
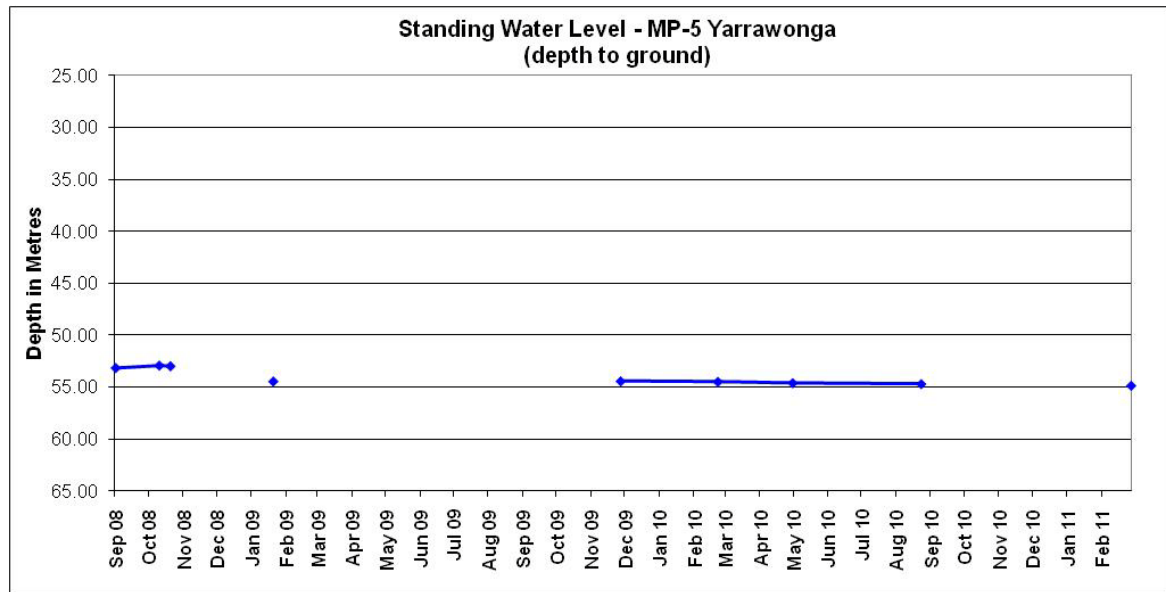
	7 March 2011	Dry		
<b>MP4</b>	September 08	22.62		
	13 October 08	23.02		
	22 October 08	23.17		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	24.16 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 10	Dry		
	7 March 11	Dry		
<b>MP5</b>	September 08	53.13		
	13 October 08	52.9		
	23 October 08	52.96		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	54.44 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	54.4	Insufficient water to sample	
	25 February 10	54.48		
	3 May 10	54.6		
	26 August 10	54.69		
	8 November 10	Dry	Insufficient water to sample	
	2 March 11	Dry		
<b>WB1</b>	13 October 08	8.95		
	28 October 08	8.85	7.9	1996
	NO ACCESS			
<b>WB2</b>	September 08	16.87		
	13 October 08	16.49		
	28 October 08	16.60	7.7	3430
	23 January 09	17.00		
	22 June 09	16.65	7.2	3160
	15 September 09	16.45		
	6 January 09	16.45	7.51	2010
	25 February 10	16.48		
	3 May 10	16.56	7.84	2190
	26 August 10	19.54	7.4	3000
	8 November 10	17.00	7.3	2410
	2 March 11	16.96	7.31	2450
<b>WB3</b>	September 08	8.82		
	13 October 08	8.87		
	29 October 08	8.95	7.2	4480
	23 January 09	23.72		
	10 February 09	9.0		
	22 June 09	8.99	7.5	4380
	15 September 09	8.76		
	30 November 09	8.8	7.74	3890
	25 February 10	8.69		
	3 May 10	18.53	7.88	4000
	26 August 10	8.94	8.28	3260
	8 November 10	8.98	8.02	2360
	2 March 11	17.63	7.44	3770

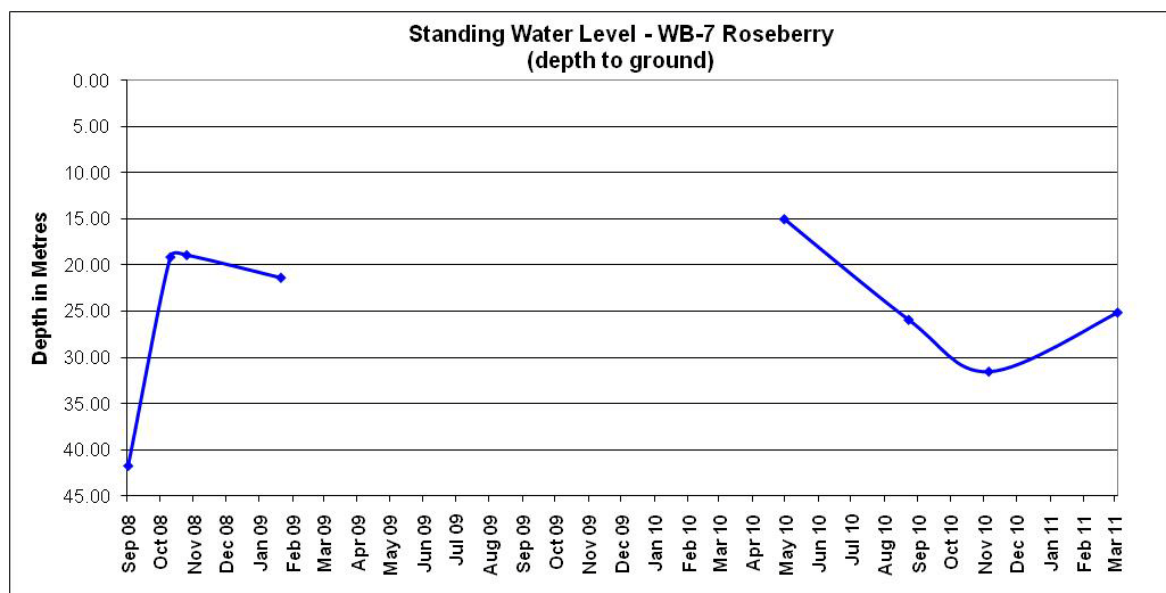
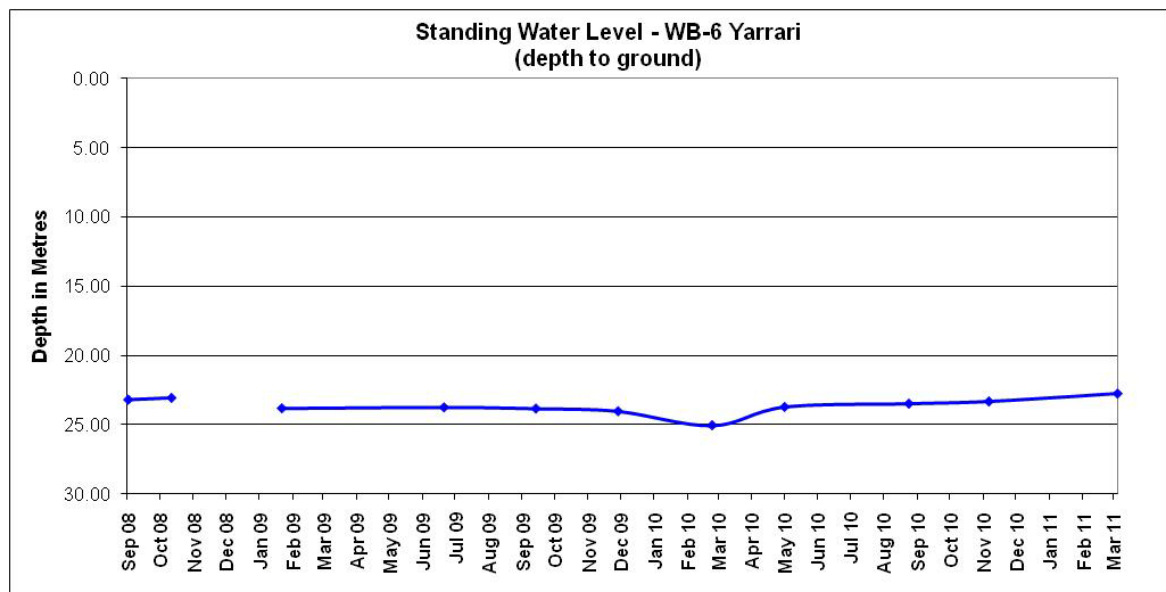
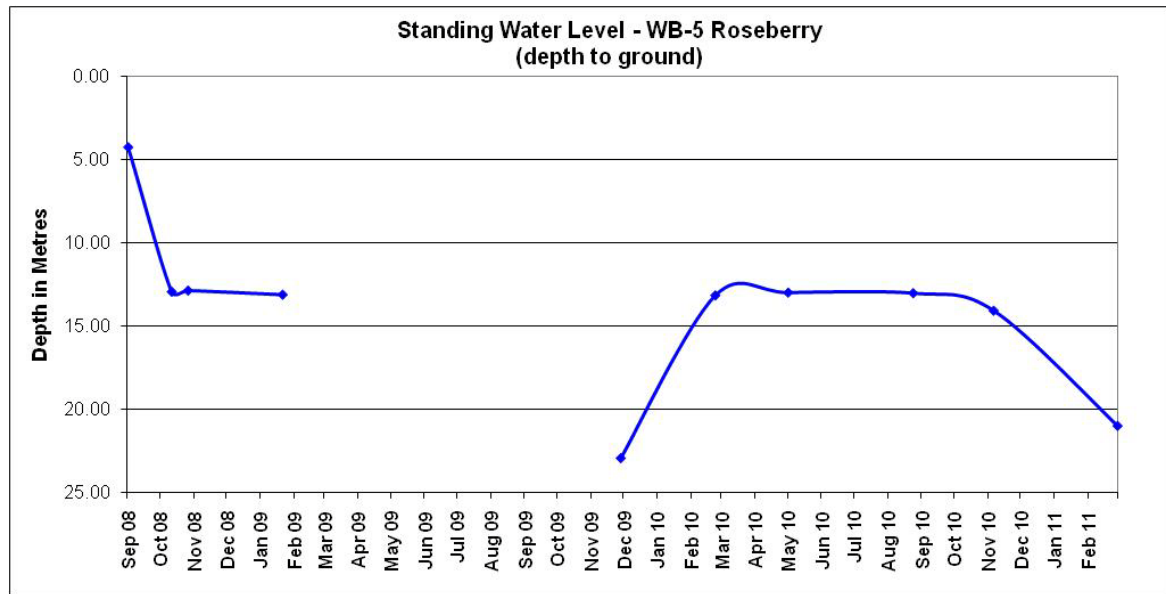
<b>WB4</b>	Casing Sealed	No Access		
	26 August 10	Unable to dip	7.83	3650
	02 March 11	Unable to dip	7.03	3320
<b>WB5</b>	September 08	4.23		
	13 October 08	12.92		
	28 October 08	12.85	7.2	8400
	23 January 09	13.1		
	22 June 09	No Access	6.6	7930
	15 September 09	No Access		
	30 November 09	22.93	7.06	4880
	25 February 10	13.14		
	3 May 10	12.97	7.43	6720
	26 August 10	13.01	7.47	7480
	8 November 10	14.06	7.86	5810
	2 March 11	20.99	6.45	5590
<b>WB6</b>	September 08	23.18		
	13 October 08	23.05		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	23.81		
	22 June 09	23.74	Unable to sample	
	15 September 09	23.83		
	30 November 09	24.02	No sample – bore equipped	
	25 February 10	25.05		
	3 May 10	23.71		
	26 August 10	23.47	Bore equipped	
	8 November 10	23.31	Bore equipped	
	7 March 11	22.74	Bore equipped	
<b>WB7</b>	September 08	41.75		
	13 October 08	19.11		
	28 October 08	18.90	7.2	2730
	23 January 09	21.35		
	22 June 09		7.4	2690
	15 September 09	Bore equipped		
	30 November 09	Unable to dip	7.3	2260
	25 February 10	Unable to dip		
	3 May 10	15	7.45	2470
	26 August 10	25.91	Unable to sample – bore equipped	
	8 November 10	31.53	7.24	2240
	7 March 2011	25.13	7.24	2230
<b>WB8</b>	September 08	No Access		
	13 October 08	No Access		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	46.4		
	22 June 09	32.75	8.2	2240
	15 September 09	43.38		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	49.32		
	3 May 10	32.59	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	32.23	Unable to Sample	
	9 November 10	32.14	Bore Equipped	
	7 March 11		Bore Equipped	
<b>WB9</b>	September 08	23.88		
	13 October 08	24.09		
	28 October 08	24.50	7.5	931

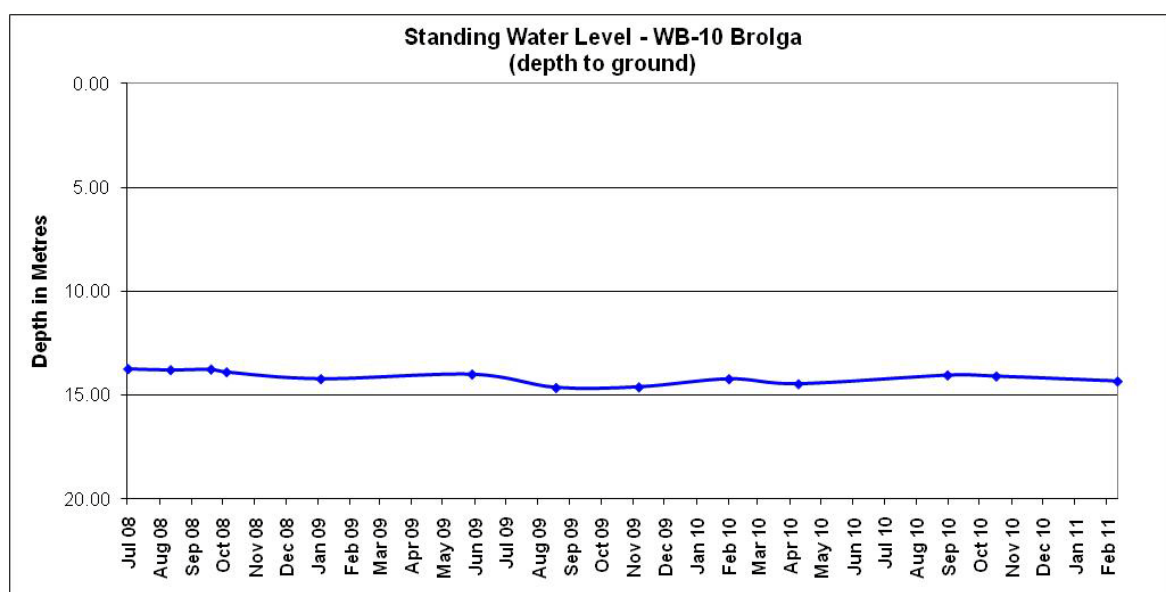
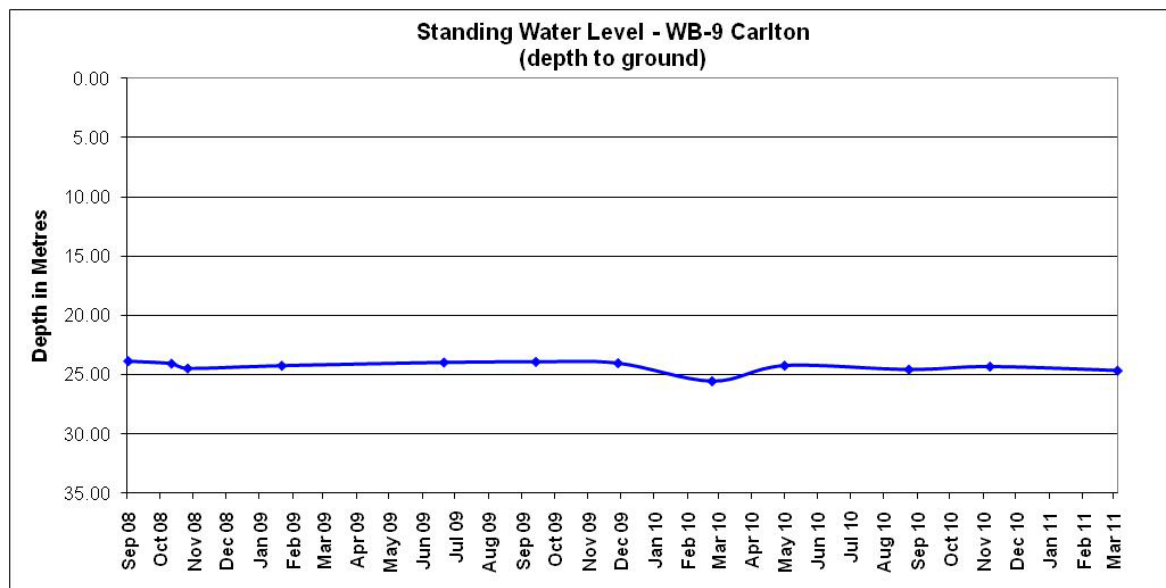
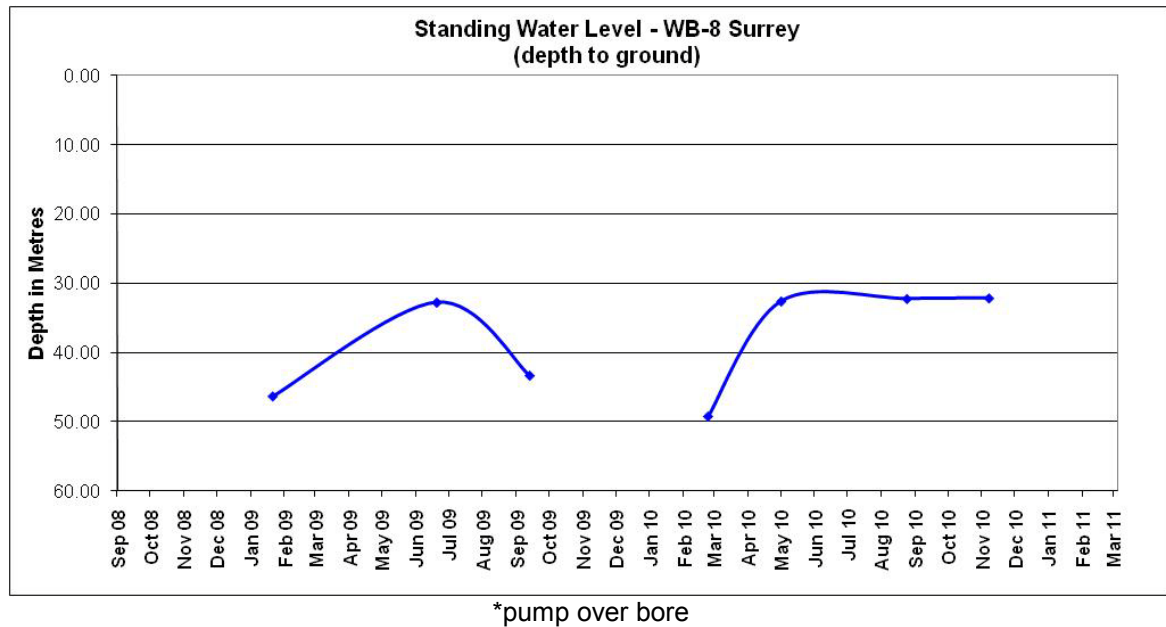
	23 January 09	24.27		
	22 June 09	23.99	7.9	1080
	15 September 09	23.94		
	30 November 09	24.05	7.14	1020
	25 February 10	25.58		
	3 May 10	24.26	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	24.59	7.72	1057
	9 November 10	24.34	Windmill over bore	
	7 March 11	26.7	7.44	1143
<b>WB10</b>	July 08	13.75		
	September 08	13.80		
	13 October 08	13.77		
	28 October 08	13.9	7.4	2235
	27 January 09	14.23		
	22 June 09	14.01	7	2220
	11 September 09	14.65		
	30 November 09	14.62	6.89	1690
	25 February 10	14.23		
	3 May 10	14.47	7.93	2010
	24 September 10	14.05	6.7	1833
	10 November 10	14.1	6.72	1905
	7 March 11	14.34	6.75	1910
<b>WB11</b>	July 08	18.11		
	September 08	18.61		
	13 October 08	18.13		
	28 October 08	18.4	7.5	1086
	27 January 09	18.73		
	22 June 09	18.1	8	880
	11 September 09	18.63		
	30 November 09	18.6	6.65	929
	25 February 10	18.47		
	3 May 10	18.24	8.37	921
	24 September 10	17.65	7.59	865
	10 November 10	17.49	7.49	867
	7 March 11	18.57	7.05	944
<b>WB12</b>	July 08	12.73		
	September 08	12.80		
	13 October 08	12.83		
	28 October 08	12.95	8.1	2152
	27 January 09	13.16		
	22 June 09	12.99	8	2070
	11 September 09	13.05		
	30 November 09	12.99	8.34	1640
	25 February 10	13.19		
	3 May 10	13.15	8.27	1390
	24 September 10	13.22	8.71	873
	10 November 10	13.13	7.07	891
	7 March 11	13.18	7.37	1867
<b>Production Bore</b>	September 08	55.24		
	13 October 08	50.18		
	28 October 08	49.90	7.3	4030
	27 January 09	49.90		
	22 June 09	>50	7.1	3580
	27 August 09		7.3	3330
	30 November 09		7.2	3160
	25 February 10		Bore equipped	

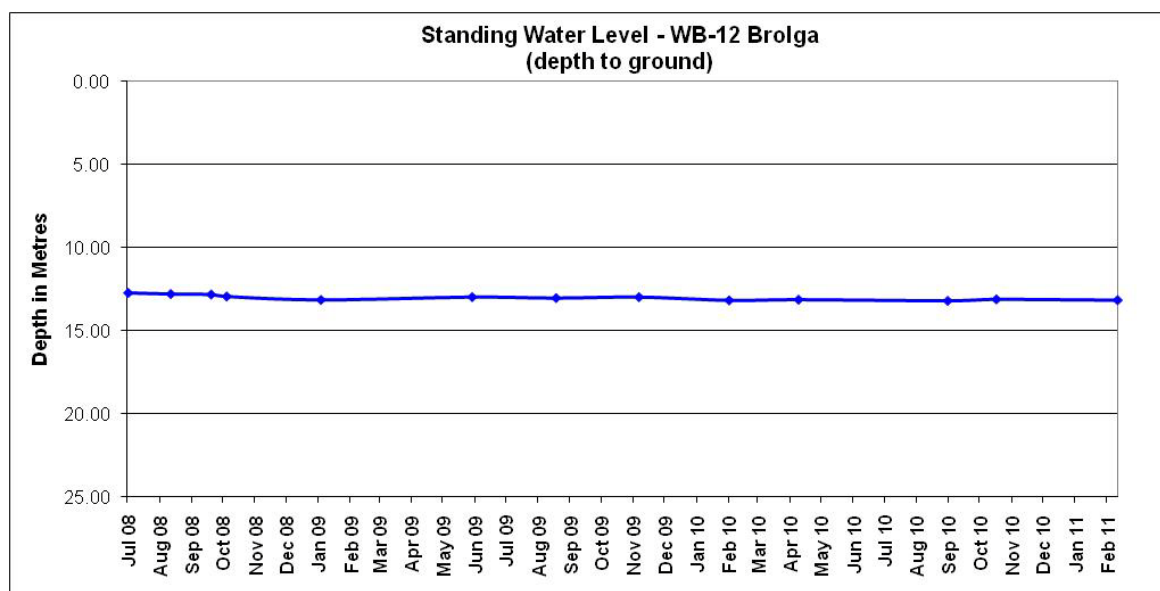
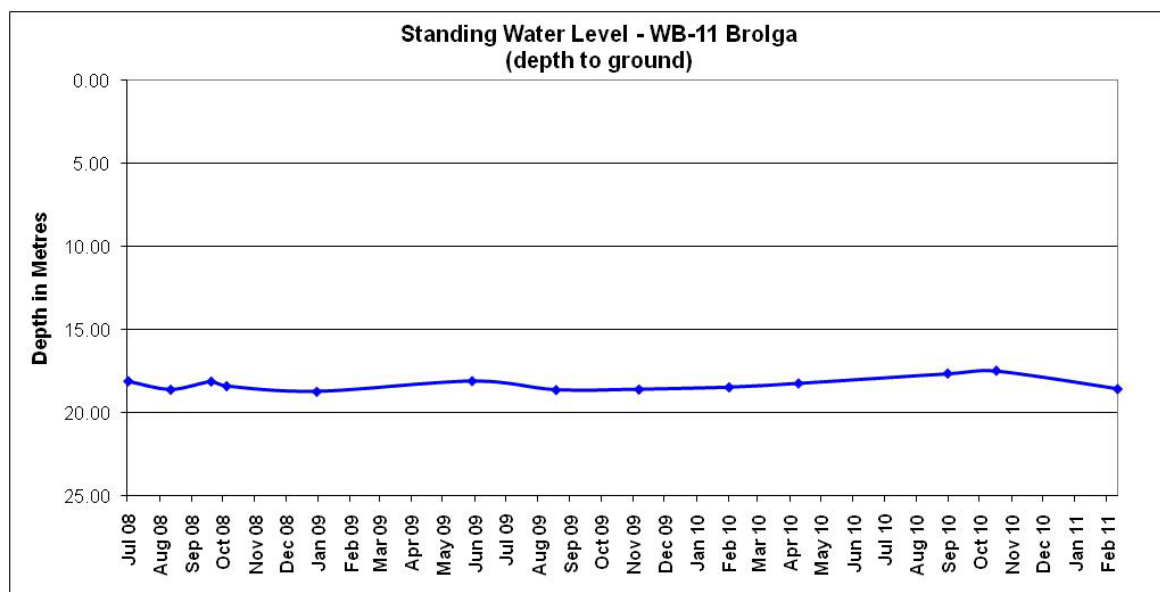
	3 May 10		7.52	3310
	26 August 10	Unable to dip	7.42	3340
	8 November 10	Bore equipped		
	7 March 11	Bore Equipped	6.97	2880











Standing water levels have remained relatively consistent since the last CCC. This is with the exception of WB3 (water level dropped 8.65m), WB5 (water level dropped 6.93m) and WB 7 (water level recharged by 6.4m).

The drop at WB3 follows a similar pattern presented in May 2010 and January/February 2009 and is likely due to the SWL being checked immediately following water being drawn from the bore to fill water storage points for stock/domestic purposes on “Yarrowonga” and “Glenroc”. The use of water for stock and domestic purposes is also thought to be the reason for the water level drop at WB5 with a similar pattern occurring over December 2009. Monitoring over May 2011 will determine if these bores recharge to previous water levels.

WB7 which has continued to drop since May 2010 has now shown a significant recharge. Routine monitoring at this bore has indicated fluctuating water levels are most likely associated with the connected windmill actively drawing water during monitoring events. The next round of monitoring in May 2011 will continue to observe any ongoing trends.



## **Surface Water**

Since the last CCC meeting there have been no wet weather discharge events. This is due to the low amount of rainfall received on site since the start of 2011. Dry ground has allowed for the installation of a new sediment dam north of SB 18. The new dam has a storage capacity of 6 megalitres and allows for further capacity to hold and settle sediment laden water on-site before discharging during times of heavy rainfall. Water carts now have access to fill up from the storage dams directly above SB18. This will further restrict the chance of overflow and discharge from the northern points on site. The southern discharge point SD3 will continue to be managed using liquid flocculants and controlled discharges when required over wetter months.

Routine surface water sampling was undertaken at selected sites on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 to obtain background water quality data. There was nothing in these results that were indicative of any change in water quality since mine commencement. The next round of surface water monitoring will be conducted in May/June 2011.

## **Complaints**

Three complaints have been received since the last CCC meeting:

### **20<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

Complaint made to Environmental Manager at 2.00am in relation to noise waking complainant up and operating hours continuing after 12.00am.

The Environmental Manager advised that approval is for 24hrs, but that operations are undertaken over two shifts, with night shift generally completed by 2:30am. It was also advised that a real time noise monitor would be placed at the property for several weeks to obtain ongoing noise data to determine if the operation is exceeding noise criteria.

The real time noise monitor was placed on the property on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011 and remained recording until the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The data is currently being extracted for review with outcomes to be advised once this process is complete.

### **29<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

Phone call to the complaints line at 9.30am regarding road noise from the Wean Road causing sleep disturbance. It was assumed by the complainant that the road noise was related to traffic to and from the Rocglen Coal Mine. The complainant also requested that a meeting be arranged with the Community Liaison Officer to discuss the matter.

A meeting was held with the complainant, the Community Liaison Officer and the Group Environmental Manager on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011 to discuss the concerns. It was accepted at the time that the property was in close proximity to a public road and that Whitehaven was unable to stop mine personnel from travelling to site along Wean Road. However, Whitehaven acknowledged the potential impacts from traffic at the end of night shift, with employees travelling back to Gunnedah between 2:30am and 3:00am in the morning, with the matter to be raised with site

personnel to be more aware of residential areas and reduce speed in proximity to those residences.

As agreed, a follow up meeting will be arranged when requested in order to determine if any improvement is noticed in road noise impacts.

#### 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Phone call made to Environmental Officer at 4.12pm regarding noise causing sleep disturbance and coal dust levels increasing particularly during a south east breeze at night. It was also suggested that the Rocglen mine is not watering at night for dust suppression and that dust has been found in gutters and on the roof.

The complaint was referred to the Environmental Manager who made a follow up phone call to the complainant on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011. It was decided that a real-time noise monitor would be used to collect noise data. The noise monitor was set up at the property on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011 and will be recording over the next few weeks. On completion of the noise monitoring further discussions will be held regarding the results and the option of also beginning dust monitoring.

#### **Rehabilitation**

After a failed attempt to establish a summer cover crop on the western emplacement due to a lack of rainfall, investigation has been undertaken into alternative methods of establishing cover within the area. Whitehaven has been working with agronomists from Cotton Grower Services (CGS) over the past month in order to establish better understanding of the state of the soil and best possible planting methods. After soil analysis by CGS it was determined that the rehabilitation area was low in organic matter and soil microbes and required additional treatment.

In an attempt to combat this problem a mix of winter pasture seed incorporating 60% Rye Grass, 20% Arrow-leaf clover and 20% Oats was treated with a plant probiotic. This gives the seed the microbial activity it needs to use nutrients supplied through composts and fertilisers. The treated seed was then mixed with humus compost supplied locally by Universal Composts. The compost is 6 months old and made from various plant materials at different stages of decomposition.

The seed/compost mix was applied using a tractor and spreader at a rate of 6 m<sup>3</sup>/ha on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2011. Future rainfall and monitoring will determine the success of germination. Prior to the seed application earthworks were carried out by G&B Ward Earthmoving in order to stabilise and mound smaller inter-contours on the slope. The mounds will further reduce runoff and erosion and provide a medium for planting trees during the winter.

The original chicken manure based compost trial is still being monitored for signs of plant growth over the winter period as it also contained a winter seed mix.

It is also programmed to complete tubestock planting over the winter period on the reshaped western emplacement. This program is currently on hold pending suitable rainfall to allow planting to commence.

## **Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #12**

**Meeting Held:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2011

**Venue:** The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

**Commencement Time:** 3:00pm

Prior to the meeting commencing, Orica Blasting Services technical services staff provided a presentation to the committee outlining the process involved in designing and preparing for a blast, the safeguards in place and gave specific detail relative to the incidence of post blast fume, including the measures taken to avoid the potential for fume to occur. The presentation was well received by the CCC who thanked the Orica team for the presentation of the information and their responses to questions received.

### **1. Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)  
Mrs Pam Burns (Community Rep)  
Mr Tony Heinrich (Project Manager)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)  
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)  
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)  
Mr Warren Nicholls (Community Rep)

**Apologies:** Mrs Jill Scealy (Environmental Officer – Whitehaven)  
Mr Rod Barnes (Community Rep)

### **2. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record on the motion of Mrs Pam Burns and Clr Colleen Fuller.

### **3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

- 3.1. Danny Young advised that the approval to the Rocglen extension application had still not been received. It was advised that Whitehaven has maintained regular contact with the Department in terms of answering any subsequent questions in relation to the application and was hopeful of receiving a formal determination of the application in the near future.
- 3.2. Danny Young advised that ALS Acirl who undertake all Whitehaven Environmental Sampling were instructed to obtain water samples from Rod Barnes rainwater tank to assess water quality against the

Australian Drinking Water guidelines following concerns raised by Mr Barnes as to the impacts of blasting activities on his drinking water. The results were obtained from ALS Acirl and presented to Mr Barnes in tabular form so he could compare the results to the guidelines. All results were within the guideline values with the exception of faecal coliforms and E.coli which would be unrelated to impacts from blasting. Discussions were also held in relation to the results of the real time noise monitoring unit at "Surrey" which generally recorded noise levels within compliance limits. Periods of mine noise marginally above 35dB were identified in the reports, however it could be seen that these incidences were isolated in nature and only for short periods of time.

- 3.3. Danny Young provided advice as to actions being undertaken to limit the potential for Mr Rennick's sheep to access the "Yarrari" and "Belah" which includes the install of an electric fence. Boundary fencing will be further enhanced upon registration of the Biobank site which is expected to occur over the next few months.

#### **4. Mine Progress Report**

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.2 million BCM of overburden was moved and 330,000 tonnes of coal was mined at an average ratio of 6.8:1. Mining conditions have generally improved since moving out of the northern extent of the pit.

#### **5. Review of Environmental Performance**

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the environmental monitoring report, and include all complaints lodged over the reporting period.

#### **6. General Business**

- 6.1. Warren Nicholls advised that he had lodged an apology for the last CCC meeting but that an apology had not been noted in the minutes from the meeting. This was acknowledged as an oversight from the minutes and that his apology would be noted in the minutes of this meeting.
- 6.2. Colleen Fuller asked how many employees are currently engaged at the Rocglen site. It was advised that currently, 47 operators are employed at Rocglen, with approximately 6 project staff, 12 maintenance operators with 3 staff, 5 contractors (Scraper operations) as well as other contractors on a day by day basis. It was estimated that approximately 50% of employees that have been engaged at site have come from a rural/farming background.

- 6.3. Warren Nicholls queried how many Whitehaven staff are on a fly in, fly out basis. It was explained that all Rocglen staff live locally, and that is the general arrangement across our open cut operations. Given shortages of experienced personnel, it was recognised that there will be some fly in fly out associated with our Narrabri underground project, however Whitehaven's preference remains for our staff to live locally, as evidenced by recent employment advertising by the Company promoting the benefits of living in the area.
- 6.4. Warren Nicholls questioned how water monitoring results were being obtained from his property when ALS Acirl have not been contacting him for approval to access his property. It was advised that ALS Acirl had been instructed to ensure they obtain approval to enter his property and that the matter would be taken up with ALS to ensure this protocol is followed in future. In the event that contact is not able to be made with Mr Nicholls prior to a monitoring run, the bores on "Brolga" will be excluded from that monitoring event.
- 6.5. John Sturgess suggested that the Complaints/Complaints Hotline agenda item be removed from future meetings on the basis that it is adequately covered in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 3pm.

Meeting closed 4:25pm



J Sturgess  
Chairman

# Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #12

## Environmental Monitoring Report April 2011 – June 2011

### Noise Monitoring

#### Attended Noise Monitoring

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, in accordance with the Rocglen Noise Monitoring Program, with results outlined below:

Noise Monitoring Results – 24 June 2011 (Day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	9:30 am	42	Calm	Birds (41), RCM (34)
Costa Vale	9:57 am	33	Calm	Birds (32), RCM (26)

Noise Monitoring Results – 23 June 2011 (Evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	7:42pm	31	0.4 m/s, SE	Farm animals (31), RCM (20)
Costa Vale	7:20pm	35	<0.5m/s, SE	RCM (35)

Noise Monitoring Results – 23 June 2011 (Night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	11:25pm	27	Calm	Farm animals (27), RCM inaudible
Costa Vale	11:05pm	35	Calm	RCM (35)

The results indicate that, under the operational and atmospheric conditions at the time, noise emissions from the mine did not exceed the criterion of 35 dB(A) at either monitoring location. “Costa Vale” recorded equal to the noise criteria during the evening and night surveys.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from the mine must not exceed 45 dB(A)  $L_{1(1\text{ min})}$  between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine.

During the night time measurement circuit the  $L_{1(1\text{ min})}$  noise from the mine did not exceed 45 dB(A) at either monitoring location.

An assessment of noise levels at the “Surrey” property using a real time noise monitor has now finished. The results have been reviewed and recently presented to the landholder. The real time noise monitor was moved to the property “Penryn” on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011 following a complaint about noise levels and dust. The monitor recorded at this property until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2011. The results are currently being reviewed.

### **Unattended Noise Monitoring**

Unattended noise monitoring was carried out in June 2011 at both the “Costa Vale” and “Surrey” properties with results provided in the following tables. Unattended monitoring provides noise levels from all sources and does not distinguish mine related noise from other noise sources.

#### **Costa Vale**

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
23-Jun-11	53.0	47.0	50.1	44.1	39.2	36.4
24-Jun-11	55.6	52.7	51.7	46.1	40.5	37.6
25-Jun-11	55.3	52.8	50.5	42.6	39.7	37.3
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>37</b>

#### **Surrey**

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
23-Jun-11	59.8	48.0	47.4	46.0	40.4	36.5
24-Jun-11	57.5	53.2	47.3	40.0	43.2	36.7
25-Jun-11	51.3	51.9	46.1	39.4	43.6	32.4
<b>LAeq</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>			
<b>L90</b>				<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>36</b>

### **Blast Monitoring**

#### **Blasting Results**

Since the first shot there have been 77 blasts. All blasts have remained compliant within the limits of 115dBL and 5mm/s.

To date, the highest overpressure recorded is 119.9 dBL recorded at “Costa Vale” on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The highest ground vibration recorded is 1.50 mm/s recorded at “Roseberry” on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

## **Air Quality**

### **Deposited Dust Results**

The deposited dust results ( $\text{g/m}^2/\text{month}$ ) obtained for the site over the last 12 months are as follows:

**Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

Month	BD2 - Glenroc	BD3 - Belah	BD4 - Surrey	BD5 - Stratford	BD6 - Roseberry	BD7 - Roseglass	BD8 - Yarrowonga
August 2010	1.0	0.4	0.4	2.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
September 2010	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.8	1.5	0.8
October 2010	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6
November 2010	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.2	1.3
December 2010	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.7
January 2011	0.8	1.0	2.2	1.9	0.7	2.1	0.8
February 2011	1.2	1.6	2.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
March 2011	2.0	5.3	1.2	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1
April 2011	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.9
May 2011	0.7	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
June 2011	0.4	0.5		0.5	1.5	0.8	0.6
July 2011	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.2	1.3	0.5	3.4
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.27</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1.09</b>

Deposited dust levels have continued to remain at low levels since the last CCC meeting and have been relatively consistent over the last 12 months. The annual average at all sites remains well below the concentration threshold of  $4\text{g/m}^2/\text{month}$ . A result is missing from the Surrey monitor (BD4) over June 2011. This is because during the time of collection by ALS the bottle and funnel on the monitor was shattered. It is unknown how this occurred, however the bottle and funnel were immediately replaced and the monitor was moved to a new location 400m to the west.

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual averages for PM<sub>10</sub> levels up until the end of June 2011 remain below the annual average limit of  $30\mu\text{g/m}^3$ , as follows:

Glenroc:  $11.11\mu\text{g/m}^3$

Roseberry:  $7.81\mu\text{g/m}^3$

The 24hr criterion of  $50\mu\text{g/m}^3$  was not breached at either Glenroc or Roseberry during the period.

The highest PM<sub>10</sub> readings at each site are as follows:

Glenroc:  $113\mu\text{g/m}^3$  (14<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

Roseberry:  $101\mu\text{g/m}^3$  (8<sup>th</sup> December 2009)



## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date is presented in the following table. Standing Water Level (SWL) graphs are also provided.

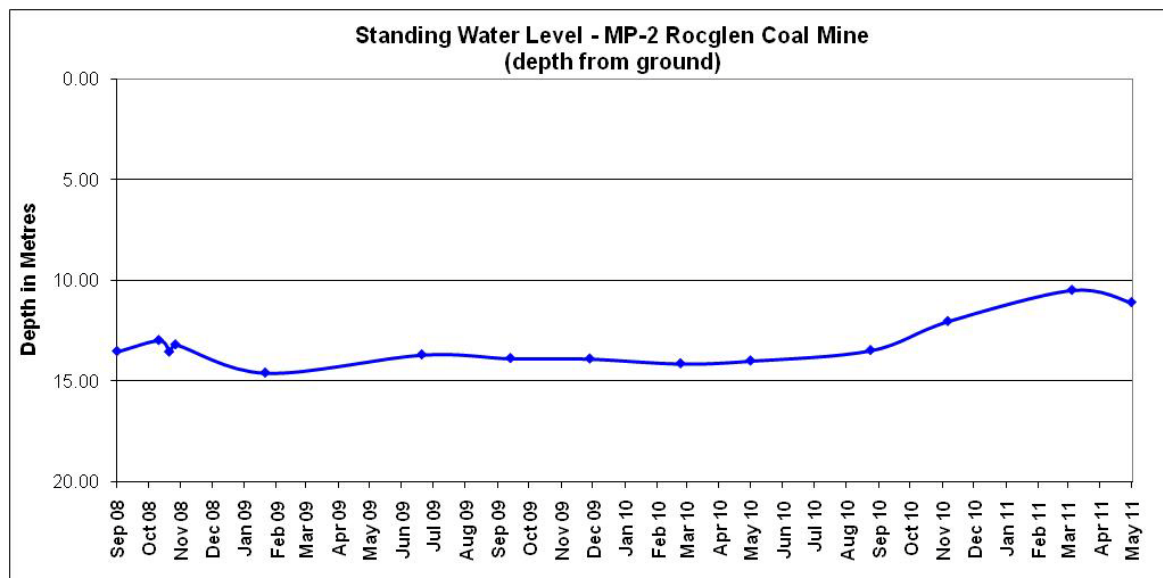
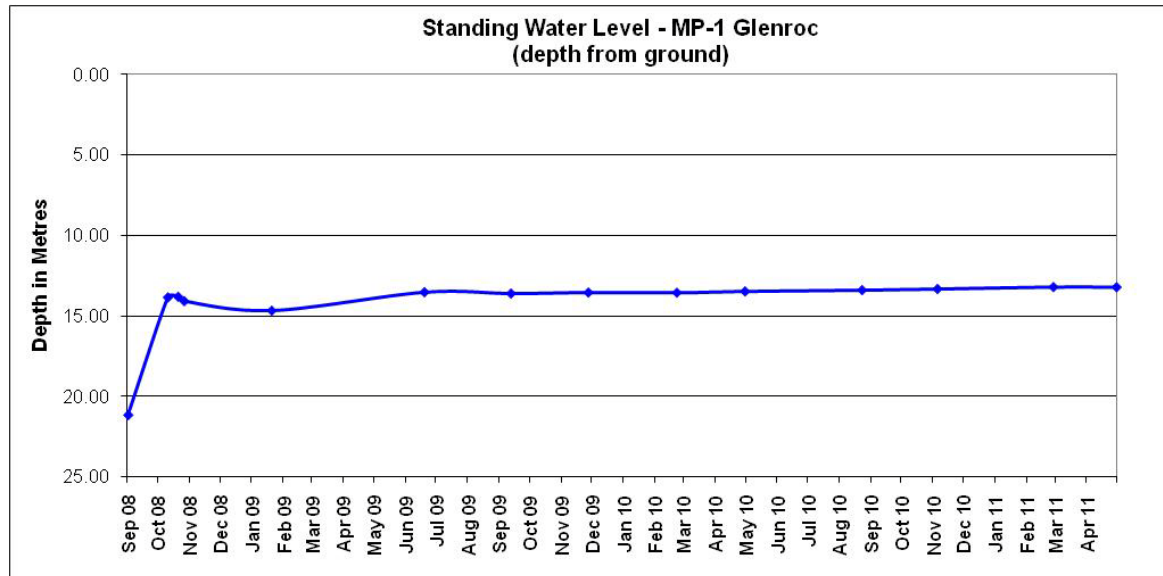
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct µs/cm
<b>MP1</b>	September 08	21.14		
	13 October 08	13.87		
	23 October 08	13.83		
	29 October 08	14.10	7.6	2360
	23 January 09	14.69		
	22 June 09	13.55	7.8	2250
	15 September 09	13.63		
	30 November 09	13.57	7.85	2250
	25 February 10	13.58		
	3 May 10	13.5	8.06	2100
	26 Aug 10	13.42	8	1650
	8 November 10	13.35	7.36	2080
	2 March 11	13.23	7.24	1942
	3 May 11	13.24	7.45	1872
<b>MP2</b>	September 08	13.53		
	13 October 08	12.98		
	23 October 08	13.56		
	29 October 08	13.20	7.3	4180
	23 January 09	14.60		
	22 June 09	13.70	7	5210
	15 September 09	13.88		
	30 November 09	13.90	6.99	4560
	25 February 10	14.14		
	3 May 10	14	7.37	4760
	26 August 10	13.48	7.07	5060
	8 November 10	12.04	6.72	3720
	7 March 11	10.49	6.98	4060
	3 May 11	11.1	6.95	4110
<b>MP3</b>	September 08	11.81		
	13 October 08	9.06		
	23 October 08	17.36		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	18.3 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 2010	Dry		
	7 March 2011	Dry		
	3 May 2011	Dry		
<b>MP4</b>	September 08	22.62		
	13 October 08	23.02		
	22 October 08	23.17		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	24.16 (mud)		

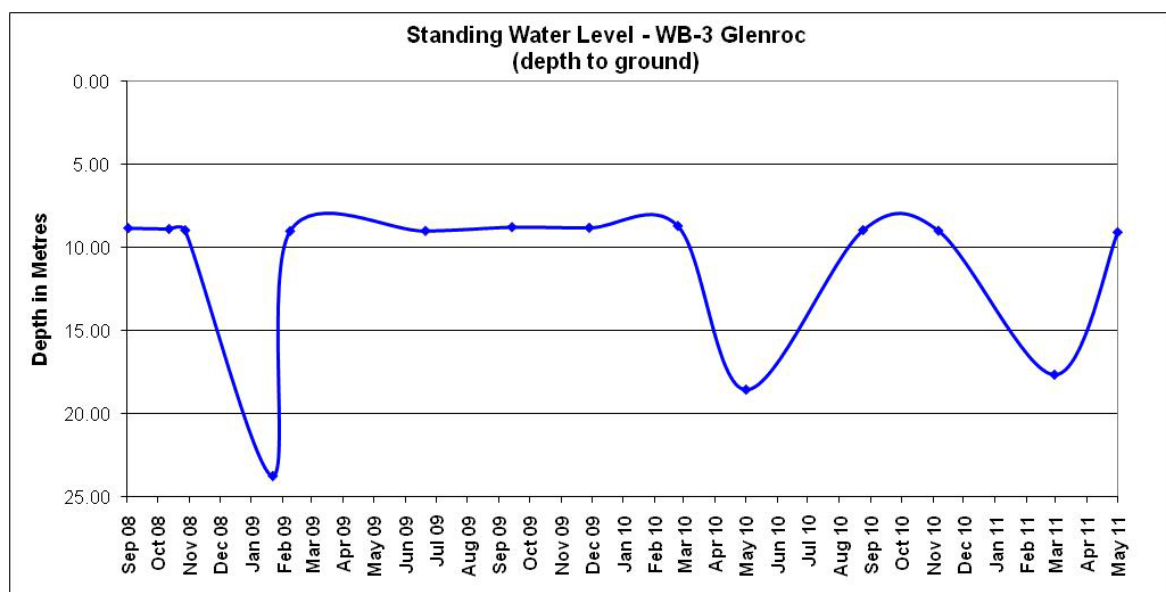
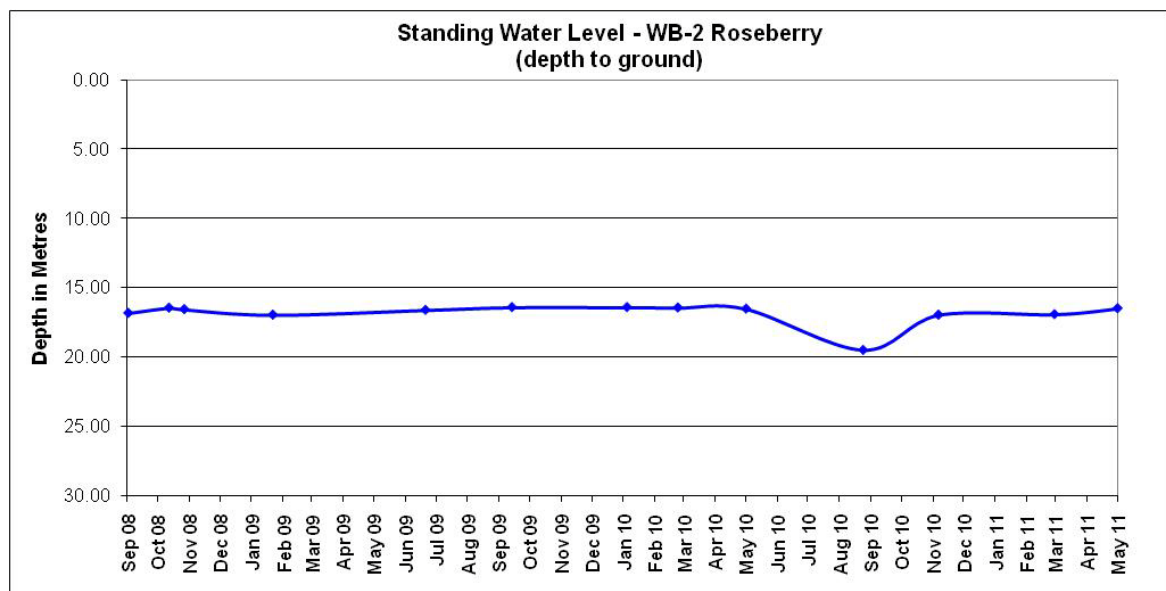
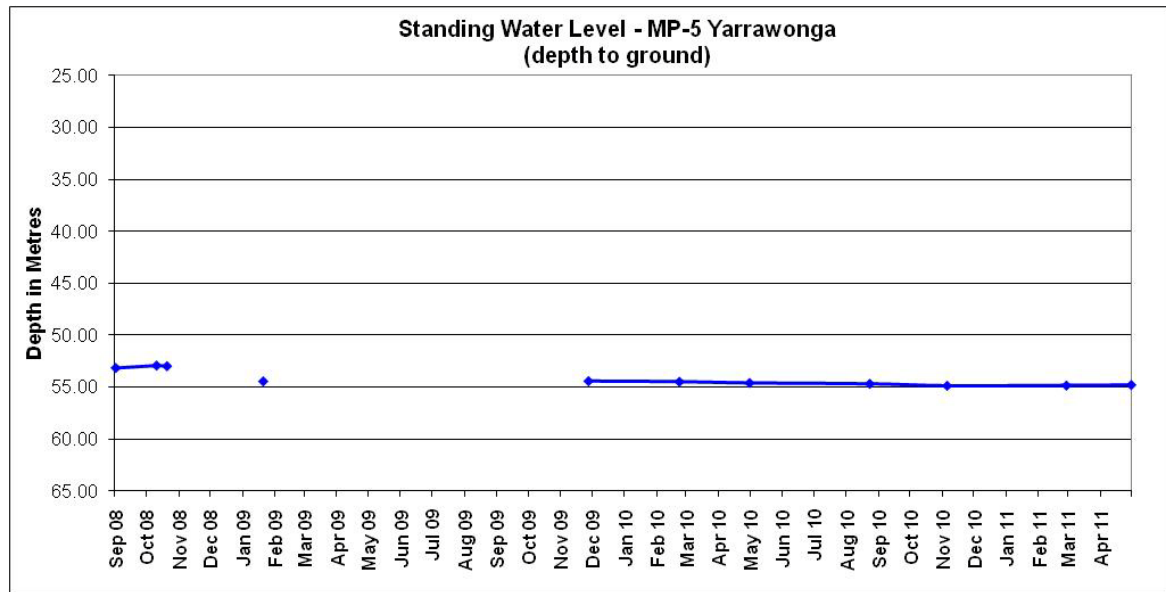
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 10	Dry		
	7 March 11	Dry		
	3 May 11	Dry		
<b>MP5</b>	September 08	53.13		
	13 October 08	52.9		
	23 October 08	52.96		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	54.44 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	54.4	Insufficient water to sample	
	25 February 10	54.48		
	3 May 10	54.6		
	26 August 10	54.69		
	8 November 10	54.88	Insufficient water to sample	
	2 March 11	54.85	Insufficient water to sample	
	3 May 11	54.8	Insufficient water to sample	
<b>WB1</b>	13 October 08	8.95		
	28 October 08	8.85	7.9	1996
	NO ACCESS			
<b>WB2</b>	September 08	16.87		
	13 October 08	16.49		
	28 October 08	16.60	7.7	3430
	23 January 09	17.00		
	22 June 09	16.65	7.2	3160
	15 September 09	16.45		
	6 January 09	16.45	7.51	2010
	25 February 10	16.48		
	3 May 10	16.56	7.84	2190
	26 August 10	19.54	7.4	3000
	8 November 10	17.00	7.3	2410
	2 March 11	16.96	7.31	2450
	3 May 11	16.53	7.55	2360
<b>WB3</b>	September 08	8.82		
	13 October 08	8.87		
	29 October 08	8.95	7.2	4480
	23 January 09	23.72		
	10 February 09	9.0		
	22 June 09	8.99	7.5	4380
	15 September 09	8.76		
	30 November 09	8.8	7.74	3890
	25 February 10	8.69		
	3 May 10	18.53	7.88	4000
	26 August 10	8.94	8.28	3260
	8 November 10	8.98	8.02	2360
	2 March 11	17.63	7.44	3770
	3 May 11	9.07	7.7	3790
<b>WB4</b>	Casing Sealed	No Access		
	26 August 10	Unable to dip	7.83	3650

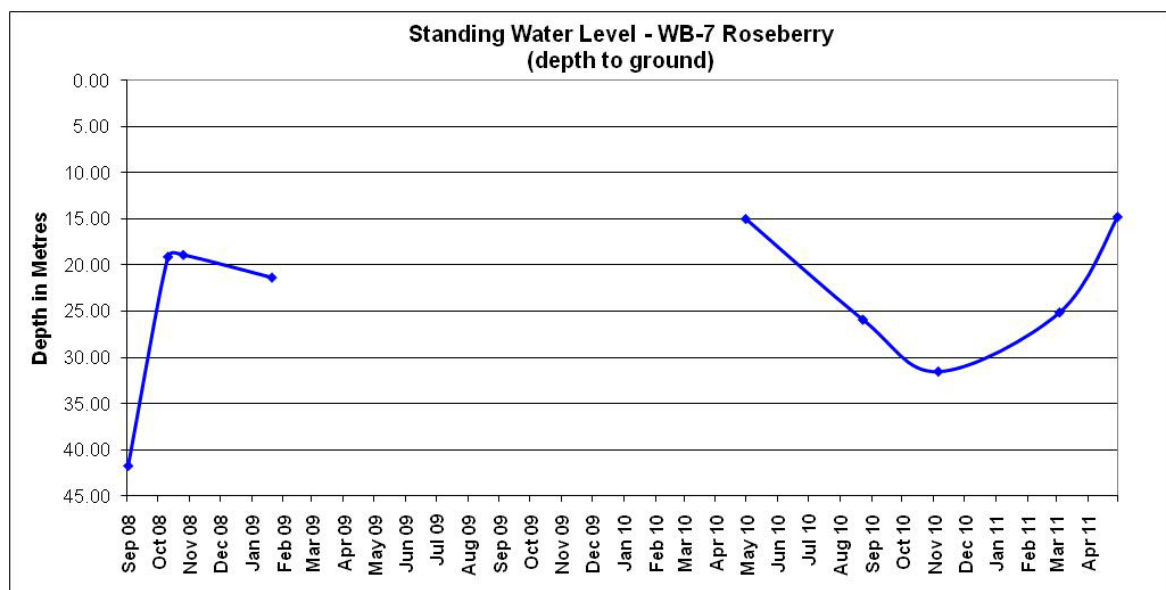
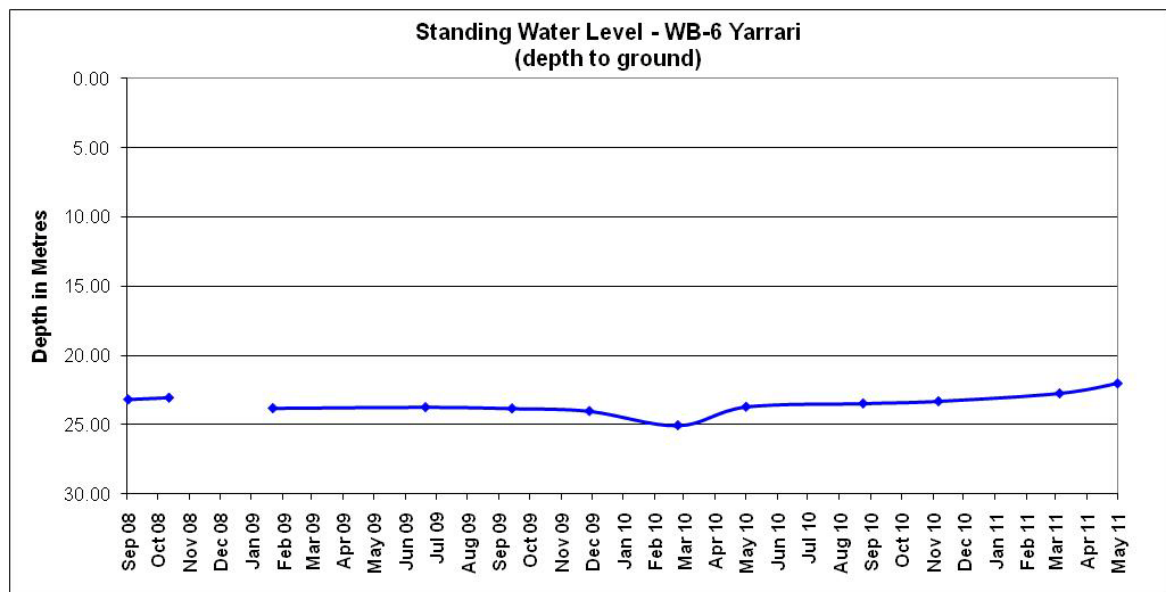
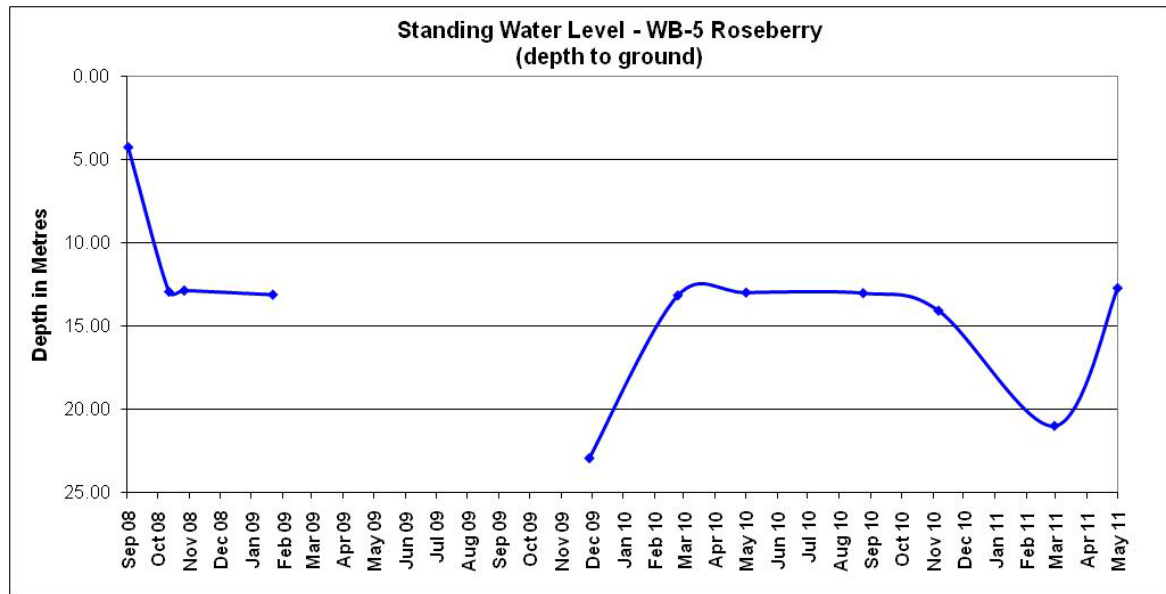
	2 March 11	Unable to dip	7.03	3320
	3 May 11	Unable to dip	7.1	3160
<b>WB5</b>	September 08	4.23		
	13 October 08	12.92		
	28 October 08	12.85	7.2	8400
	23 January 09	13.1		
	22 June 09	No Access	6.6	7930
	15 September 09	No Access		
	30 November 09	22.93	7.06	4880
	25 February 10	13.14		
	3 May 10	12.97	7.43	6720
	26 August 10	13.01	7.47	7480
	8 November 10	14.06	7.86	5810
	2 March 11	20.99	6.45	5590
	3 May 11	12.7	6.8	5760
<b>WB6</b>	September 08	23.18		
	13 October 08	23.05		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	23.81		
	22 June 09	23.74	Unable to sample	
	15 September 09	23.83		
	30 November 09	24.02	No sample – bore equipped	
	25 February 10	25.05		
	3 May 10	23.71		
	26 August 10	23.47	Bore equipped	
	8 November 10	23.31	Bore equipped	
	7 March 11	22.74	Bore equipped	
	3 May 11	22.02	Bore equipped	
<b>WB7</b>	September 08	41.75		
	13 October 08	19.11		
	28 October 08	18.90	7.2	2730
	23 January 09	21.35		
	22 June 09		7.4	2690
	15 September 09	Bore equipped		
	30 November 09	Unable to dip	7.3	2260
	25 February 10	Unable to dip		
	3 May 10	15	7.45	2470
	26 August 10	25.91	Unable to sample – bore equipped	
	8 November 10	31.53	7.24	2240
	7 March 2011	25.13	7.24	2230
	3 May 2011	14.78	7.45	2130
<b>WB8</b>	September 08	No Access		
	13 October 08	No Access		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	46.4		
	22 June 09	32.75	8.2	2240
	15 September 09	43.38		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	49.32		
	3 May 10	32.59	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	32.23	Unable to Sample	
	9 November 10	32.14	Unable to Sample	
	7 March 11		Unable to Sample	
	3 May 2011		Unable to Sample	
<b>WB9</b>	September 08	23.88		

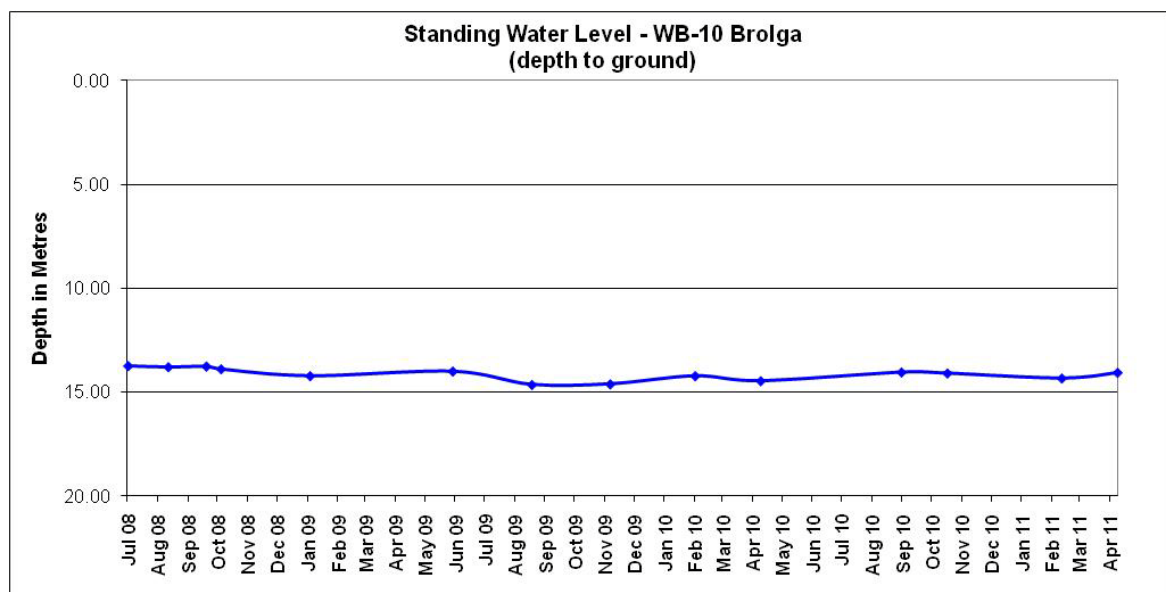
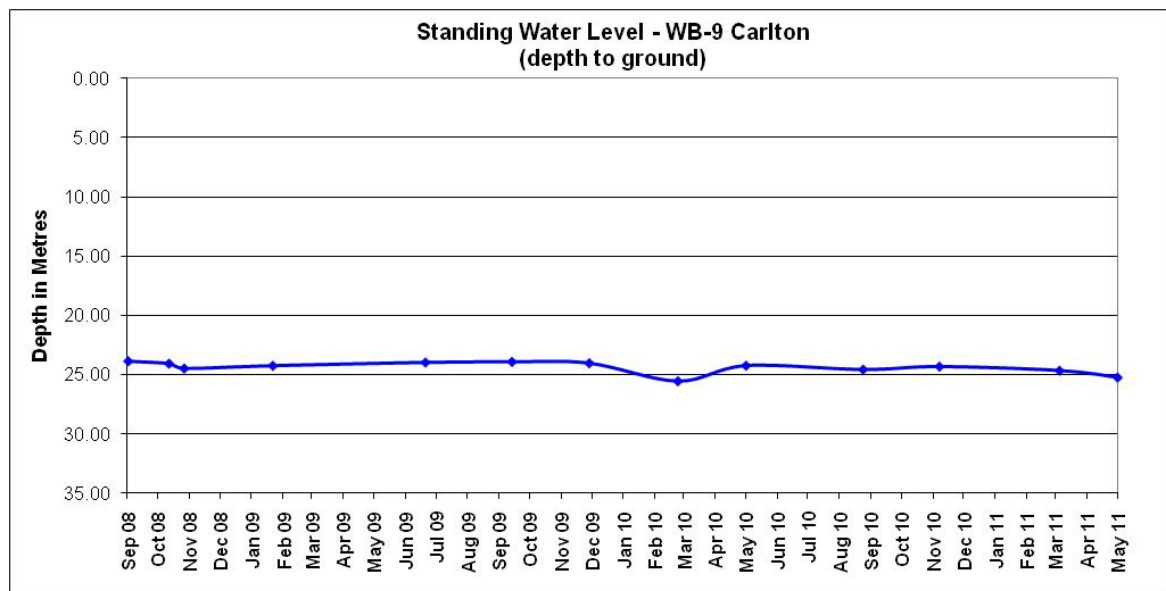
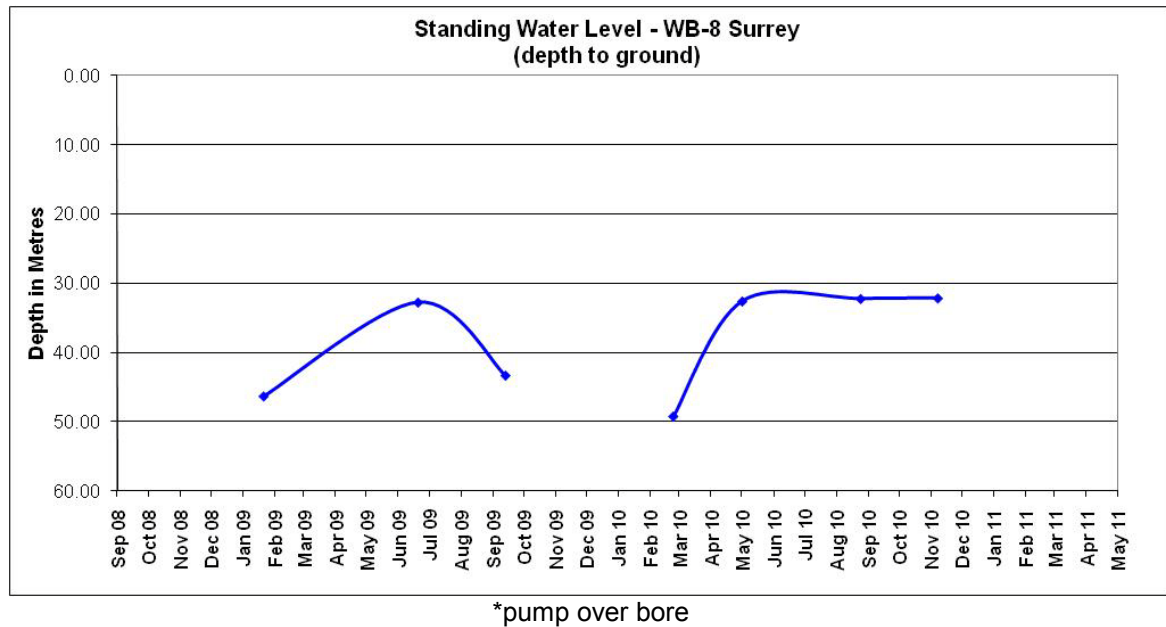
	13 October 08	24.09		
	28 October 08	24.50	7.5	931
	23 January 09	24.27		
	22 June 09	23.99	7.9	1080
	15 September 09	23.94		
	30 November 09	24.05	7.14	1020
	25 February 10	25.58		
	3 May 10	24.26	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	24.59	7.72	1057
	9 November 10	24.34	Windmill over bore	
	7 March 11	26.7	7.44	1143
	3 May 11	25.26	7.6	1014
<b>WB10</b>	July 08	13.75		
	September 08	13.80		
	13 October 08	13.77		
	28 October 08	13.9	7.4	2235
	27 January 09	14.23		
	22 June 09	14.01	7	2220
	11 September 09	14.65		
	30 November 09	14.62	6.89	1690
	25 February 10	14.23		
	3 May 10	14.47	7.93	2010
	24 September 10	14.05	6.7	1833
	10 November 10	14.1	6.72	1905
	7 March 11	14.34	6.75	1910
	3 May 11	14.07	6.8	1685
<b>WB11</b>	July 08	18.11		
	September 08	18.61		
	13 October 08	18.13		
	28 October 08	18.4	7.5	1086
	27 January 09	18.73		
	22 June 09	18.1	8	880
	11 September 09	18.63		
	30 November 09	18.6	6.65	929
	25 February 10	18.47		
	3 May 10	18.24	8.37	921
	24 September 10	17.65	7.59	865
	10 November 10	17.49	7.49	867
	7 March 11	18.57	7.05	944
	3 May 11	17.34	7.25	867
<b>WB12</b>	July 08	12.73		
	September 08	12.80		
	13 October 08	12.83		
	28 October 08	12.95	8.1	2152
	27 January 09	13.16		
	22 June 09	12.99	8	2070
	11 September 09	13.05		
	30 November 09	12.99	8.34	1640
	25 February 10	13.19		
	3 May 10	13.15	8.27	1390
	24 September 10	13.22	8.71	873
	10 November 10	13.13	7.07	891
	7 March 11	13.18	7.37	1867
	3 May 11	13.15	7.45	1657
<b>Production Bore</b>	September 08	55.24		
	13 October 08	50.18		

	28 October 08	49.90	7.3	4030
	27 January 09	49.90		
	22 June 09	>50	7.1	3580
	27 August 09		7.3	3330
	30 November 09		7.2	3160
	25 February 10		Bore equipped	
	3 May 10		7.52	3310
	26 August 10	Bore Equipped	7.42	3340
	8 November 10	Bore equipped	Pump not working	
	7 March 11	Bore Equipped	6.97	2880
	3 May 11	Bore Equipped	7	2930

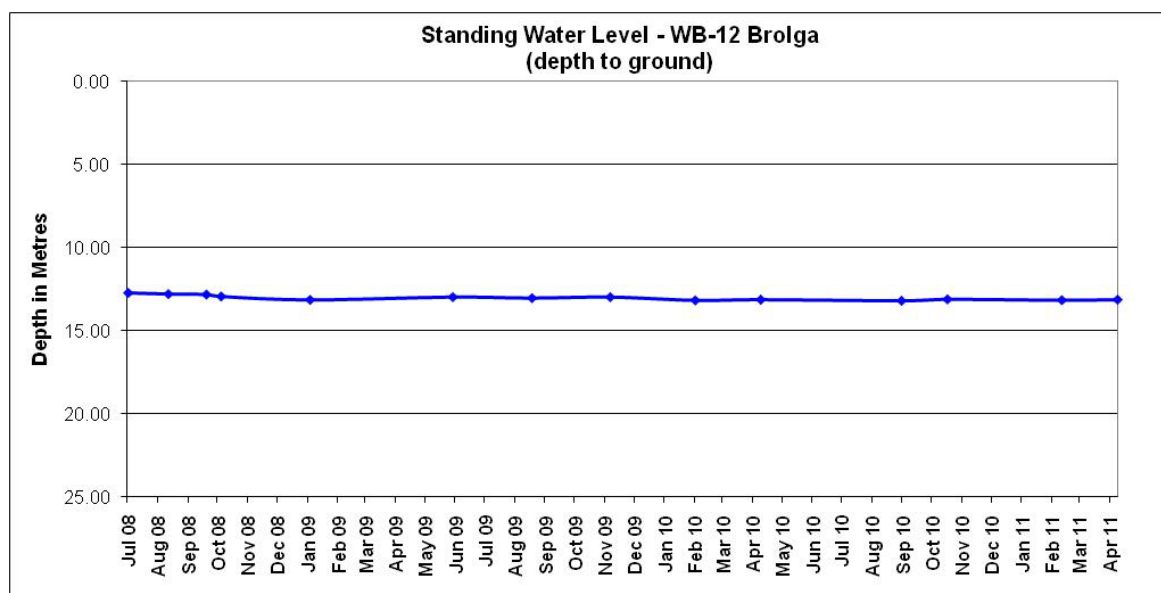
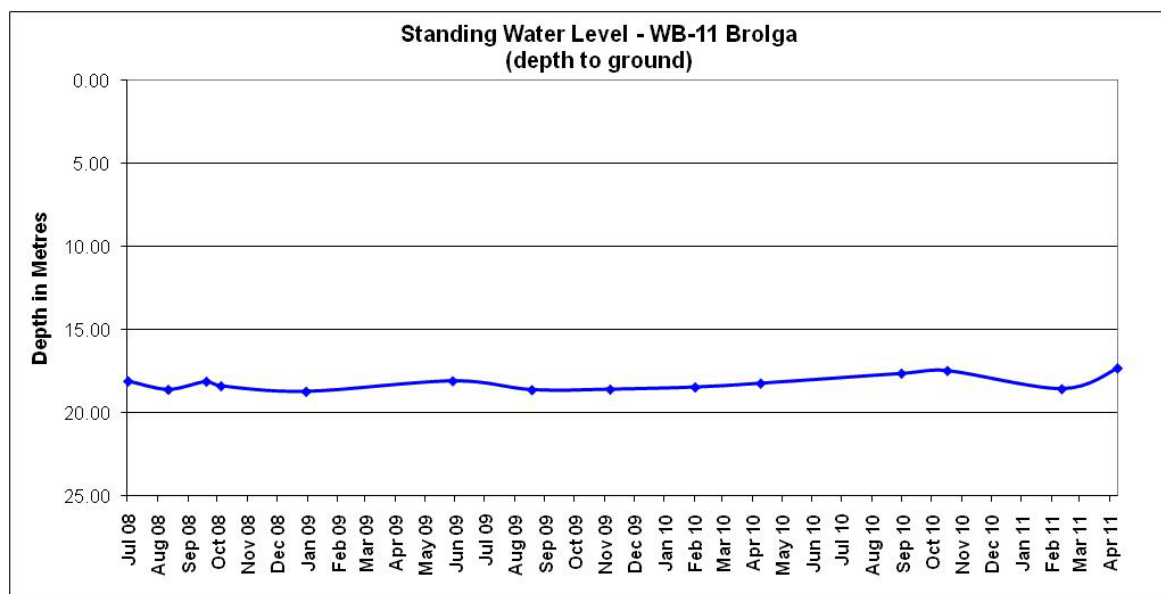












Standing water levels have remained relatively consistent since the last CCC. This is with the exception of WB3 (water level rose by 8.56m), WB5 (water level rose by 8.29m) and WB 7 (water level rose by 10.35m).

The rise at WB3 follows a similar pattern presented in August 2010 and February 2009. The fluctuating water levels are likely due to water being drawn from the bore to fill water storage points for stock/domestic purposes on “Yarrowonga” and “Glenroc”. This is also thought to be the reason for similar patterns identified at WB5.

WB7 has now shown a significant recharge back to levels identified during May 2010. Routine monitoring at this bore has indicated fluctuating water levels are most likely associated with the connected windmill actively drawing water during monitoring events. The next round of monitoring in August 2011 will continue to observe any ongoing trends.

## **Surface Water**

Since the last CCC meeting there have been no wet weather discharge events. This is due to the low amount of rainfall received on site since the start of 2011.

Routine surface water sampling was undertaken at selected sites on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 to obtain background water quality data. The results indicated that the northern discharge point SB 18 had a high TSS reading of 3090 mg/L. The southern discharge point SD3 also had a high TSS reading of 214 mg/L. The low water levels in these dams at the time of monitoring would have impacted the TSS results. As water levels are low, the dams have sufficient capacity to store water from a storm/runoff event to prevent wet weather discharge. The dams will be closely monitored over the next few months and if necessary, flocculant will be applied to lower the sediment load in the water to assist in avoiding any discharge of sediment laden water. The next round of surface water monitoring will be conducted in August 2011.

## **Complaints**

Two complaints have been received since the last CCC meeting:

### **6<sup>th</sup> May 2011:**

Phone call made to complaints line at 2.40pm regarding traffic on Wean Road travelling to Rocglen at excessive speed which is causing additional noise and general hazards on the roads. The complaint also related to the extent of rubbish that is on the road verge and that in the complainant's view service vehicles and personnel should be using Blue Vale Road as access to the mine as opposed to Wean Road.

It was explained to the complainant that these issues had been toolboxed with staff several times, and signs had been installed along Wean road to discourage littering. It was advised that the issues would be raised again, particularly with service providers in an effort to get them to reduce speed and refrain from littering. It was suggested that these matters were virtually impossible to police. With regard to the use of Wean Road, it was discussed that the road upgrade had made Wean Road a much more attractive prospect for staff and service providers. The use of Wean Road by service providers would be raised with them, albeit, as a public road, Whitehaven has no means of restricting its use.

### **11<sup>th</sup> May 2011:**

Issue raised at CCC on behalf of the complainant regarding lighting impacts at the complainant's property which is south-east of the mine. It was identified that the lighting plant on top of the southern waste emplacement was causing the concern.

The Project Manager reiterated to the OCE's the need for sympathetic positioning of lighting plants, where it is practicable and safe to do so.

## **Rehabilitation**

Investigation has been undertaken into alternative methods of establishing cover within the rehab area. The trial incorporating a treated seed mix with humus compost supplied locally by Universal Composts, proved to give reasonable establishment, however given poor rainfall over recent months has severely suffered. The crop was also pressured by continual grazing from Kangaroo's entering site via the adjacent Vickery State Forest. It was not uncommon to observe 10-15 Kangaroo's on the crop during an inspection in the middle of the day.

Given the poor soil resources available, Whitehaven is determined to find a suitable method of achieving successful establishment within this challenging area. Further consultation is underway with local agronomists and new methods will continue to be explored. Ideas involving spreading hay mulch on the area or hydro mulching are options warranting further investigation.

A total of 800 trees were planting on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2011 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2011, following 20mm of rainfall the previous week. The mounds created by G&B Ward Earthmoving proved successful for holding moisture. Recent inspections indicate that the trees have established well in the mounds despite little follow up rainfall.

The original chicken manure based compost trial has shown signs of plant growth over the winter period, however unfortunately was predominately identified as broadleaf weed.

## **Minutes of Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee – Meeting #13**

**Meeting Held:** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011

**Venue:** The meeting held at Rocglen Coal Mine Training Room

**Commencement Time:** 3:00pm

### **1. Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Mr John Sturgess (Chairman)  
Mr Tony Heinrich (Project Manager)  
Mr Danny Young (Environmental Manager – Whitehaven)  
Mr Warren Nicholls (Community Rep)  
Mrs Jill Johnson (Environmental Officer – Whitehaven)

**Apologies:** Mrs Pam Burns (Community Rep)  
Mr Tim Muldoon (Community Liaison Officer - Whitehaven)  
Clr Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire Rep)

Quorum was not achieved as a result of the number of members absent from the meeting. It was decided that the meeting should proceed on the basis of it already being postponed once. Minutes from the meeting will be ratified at the next meeting when more members are present.

### **2. Previous Minutes**

Minutes to be ratified at next meeting.

### **3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

- 3.1. Danny Young advised that the approval to the Rocglen extension application had been received from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in September 2011. The EPBC approval for threatened species of Commonwealth significance is expected to be issued next week. We are also waiting on the Mining Purpose Lease which will allow extension to the north. The lease will not permit mining, just surface activities including the northern emplacement area. A newsletter will be issued in the new year to advise neighbours of the extension approval.
- 3.2. Danny Young advised that some work had been done on the fence between Yarrari/Belah and Roseberry. There is also an issue to the north with the boundary between Whitehaven land and Roseglass. Discussions are being held with the Roseglass resident regarding potentially relocating the boundary to enable fencing in less difficult

terrain. Once the Biobank area is approved more funding will be available for fencing.

- 3.3. Previous meeting minutes have been amended to include an apology from Warren Nicholls.
- 3.4. Whitehaven has reminded ALS to contact Warren Nicholls before entering his property. Warren advised that ALS had contacted him recently prior to conducting groundwater monitoring.
- 3.5. Complaints/Complaints Hotline item has been removed from agenda as it is discussed in the Environmental Monitoring Report.

#### **4. Mine Progress Report**

Tony Heinrich advised that over the past 3 months approximately 2.2 million BCM of overburden was moved and 214,000 tonnes of coal was mined at an average ratio of 10:1.

Warren Nicholls said that he can see from his place all the work that has been done on the western emplacement. He can see the grass coming through. Tony Heinrich said it is just about ready for mounding prior to tree planting commencing.

#### **5. Review of Environmental Performance**

Danny Young presented the environmental monitoring results which are attached in the environmental monitoring report, and include all complaints lodged over the reporting period. The monitoring results are only reported until September as this meeting has been delayed. The report at the next meeting will return to the usual reporting period.

Danny provided further discussion on the change in SWL at the Brolga monitoring location. Warren Nicholls said nothing different had occurred on the property to cause it. Danny said it might have just been an incorrect reading of the dip tape and that he would contact Warren once the latest round of results had been received.

Danny also noted a wet weather discharge in November that exceeded the criteria of 50 mg/L for TSS. Details would be provided at the next CCC meeting. He said clean water from the Vickery State Forest is diverted away from the site and runs into Driggle Draggie Creek following the recent clean and dirty water drain establishment associated with the Rocglen extension approval.

In relation to the complaint about Toll trucks on Wean Road, Warren said he had never seen a Toll truck on that road. Tony said it was likely a grain

truck and Jill noted that a former sub-contractor to Toll now carts other material but has not removed his Toll number.

Warren enquired about the idea of the cover crop. Danny said a fast establishing crop is planted to reduce the likelihood of erosion. Once it dies off it provides a mulch layer and allows other grasses to grow through.

## **6. General Business**

- 6.1. Jill provided an electronic and hard copy of the recently submitted Annual Environmental Management Report for the Committee's records.
- 6.2. Jill tabled a letter from Gunnedah Shire Council advising that Cllr Colleen Fuller will continue to be the Council representative on the Committee.
- 6.3. Following a discussion between Jill and Warren after the last meeting, Jill provided list of monitoring definitions to assist the committee with understanding the Environmental Monitoring Report.
- 6.4. Danny provided a hard copy of the Independent Environmental Audit (approved by Department of Planning and Infrastructure) for the Committee's records.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Rocglen CCC is scheduled for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 3pm.

Meeting closed 3:35pm



J Sturgess  
Chairman

# Rocglen Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #13

## Environmental Monitoring Report July 2011 – September 2011

### Noise Monitoring

#### Attended Noise Monitoring

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2011, in accordance with the Rocglen Noise Monitoring Program, with results outlined below:

Noise Monitoring Results – 13 September 2011 (Day)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	3:13 pm	38	0.5m/s, NW	Birds (38), RCM (27)
Costa Vale	3:51 pm	41	0.5m/s, NW	Birds (41), RCM inaudible

Noise Monitoring Results – 13 September 2011 (Evening)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	8:57 pm	35	<0.5 m/s, NW	RCM (35), frogs (23)
Costa Vale	8:30 pm	25	<0.5 m/s, NW	RCM (25)

Noise Monitoring Results – 13 September 2011 (Night)				
Location	Time	dB(A),Leq	Wind speed/ direction	Identified Noise Sources
Surrey	11:19 pm	28	Calm	RCM (28)
Costa Vale	11:45 pm	31	Calm	RCM (31)

The results indicate that, under the operational and atmospheric conditions at the time, noise emissions from the mine did not exceed the criterion of 35 dB(A) at either monitoring location. “Surrey” recorded equal to the noise criteria during the evening survey. This would be a result of wind blowing from the North West during the time of monitoring.

In addition to the operational noise, the noise from the mine must not exceed 45 dB(A)  $L_{1(1 \text{ min})}$  between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. This is to minimise the potential for sleep disturbance as a result of individual loud noises from the mine.

During the night time measurement circuit the  $L_{1(1 \text{ min})}$  noise from the mine did not exceed 45 dB(A) at either monitoring location.

## Road Noise Monitoring

Road noise monitoring was undertaken at the “Brooklyn” residence 1 between 7.50am and 8.50am and at “Brooklyn” residence 2 between 8.30am and 9.30am and at “Werona” between 7.25am and 8.25am on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The measured noise level from mine related vehicles at “Brooklyn” was 54 dB(A)  $L_{eq}$  (1hour) at residence 1, and 49 dB(A)  $L_{eq}$  (1hour) at residence 2. The measured noise level from mine-related vehicles at “Werona” was 50 dB(A)  $L_{eq}$  (1hour). All results remain below the daytime noise criterion of 60 dB(A)  $L_{eq}$  (1hour).

## Unattended Noise Monitoring

Unattended noise monitoring was carried out in September 2011 at both the “Costa Vale” and “Surrey” properties with results provided in the following tables. Unattended monitoring provides noise levels from all sources and does not distinguish mine related noise from other noise sources.

### Costa Vale

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
13-Sep-11	48.8	50.4	45.3	29.3	28.4	22.1
14-Sep-11	47.9	49.7	45.2	27.0	26.9	21.0
15-Sep-11	48.1	49.1	45.1	27.9	27.7	21.1
L <sub>Aeq</sub>	48	49	45			
L90				28	28	21

### Surrey

Date	Leq(day)	Leq(eve)	Leq(night)	L90(day)	L90(eve)	L90(night)
13-Sep-11	44.8	38.1	36.0	29.6	32.2	18.6
14-Sep-11	40.4	42.5	36.5	28.1	29.8	17.1
15-Sep-11	40.0	39.5	38.1	24.3	24.8	20.2
L <sub>Aeq</sub>	42	40	37			
L90				26	30	19

## Blast Monitoring

### Blasting Results

Since the first shot there have been 83 blasts. All blasts during the monitoring period were compliant within the limits of 115dBL and 5mm/s.

To date, the highest overpressure recorded is 119.9 dBL recorded at “Costa Vale” on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The highest ground vibration recorded is 1.50 mm/s recorded at “Roseberry” on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008.



## **Air Quality**

### **Deposited Dust Results**

The deposited dust results ( $\text{g/m}^2/\text{month}$ ) obtained for the site over the last 12 months are as follows:

**Air Quality (Dust Deposition) Results**

Month	BD2 - Glenroc	BD3 - Belah	BD4 - Surrey	BD5 - Stratford	BD6 - Roseberry	BD7 - Roseglass	BD8 - Yarrowonga
November 2010	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.2	1.3
December 2010	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.7
January 2011	0.8	1.0	2.2	1.9	0.7	2.1	0.8
February 2011	1.2	1.6	2.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
March 2011	2.0	5.3	1.2	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1
April 2011	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.9
May 2011	0.7	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
June 2011	0.4	0.5		0.5	1.5	0.8	0.6
July 2011	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.2	1.3	0.5	3.4
August 2011	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
September 2011	1.9	1.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6
October 2011	1.3	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.4	0.9	0.4
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Deposited dust levels have continued to remain at low levels since the last CCC meeting and have been relatively consistent over the last 12 months. The annual average at all sites remains well below the concentration threshold of  $4\text{g/m}^2/\text{month}$ .

### **PM<sub>10</sub> Results**

The annual averages for PM<sub>10</sub> levels up until the end of September 2011 remain below the annual average limit of  $30\mu\text{g/m}^3$ , as follows:

Glenroc:  $12.77\mu\text{g/m}^3$

Roseberry:  $9.74\mu\text{g/m}^3$

The 24hr criterion of  $50\mu\text{g/m}^3$  was not breached at either Glenroc or Roseberry during the period.

The highest PM<sub>10</sub> readings at each site are as follows:

Glenroc:  $113\mu\text{g/m}^3$  (14<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

Roseberry:  $101\mu\text{g/m}^3$  (8<sup>th</sup> December 2009)

## Water Monitoring

### Ground Water

Groundwater monitoring data obtained to date is presented in the following table. Standing Water Level (SWL) graphs are also provided.

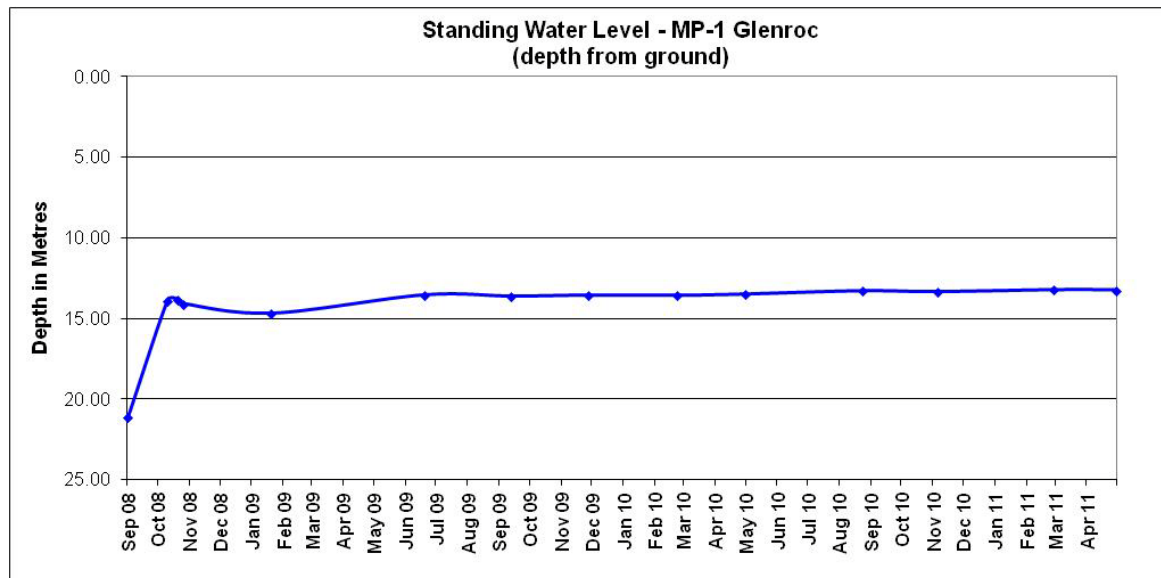
Site	Date	SWL (m)	pH	Elect. Conduct µs/cm
<b>MP1</b>	September 08	21.14		
	13 October 08	13.87		
	23 October 08	13.83		
	29 October 08	14.10	7.6	2360
	23 January 09	14.69		
	22 June 09	13.55	7.8	2250
	15 September 09	13.63		
	30 November 09	13.57	7.85	2250
	25 February 10	13.58		
	3 May 10	13.5	8.06	2100
	26 Aug 10	13.42	8	1650
	8 November 10	13.35	7.36	2080
	2 March 11	13.23	7.24	1942
	3 May 11	13.24	7.45	1872
	Bore covered by production area			
<b>MP2</b>	September 08	13.53		
	13 October 08	12.98		
	23 October 08	13.56		
	29 October 08	13.20	7.3	4180
	23 January 09	14.60		
	22 June 09	13.70	7	5210
	15 September 09	13.88		
	30 November 09	13.90	6.99	4560
	25 February 10	14.14		
	3 May 10	14	7.37	4760
	26 August 10	13.48	7.07	5060
	8 November 10	12.04	6.72	3720
	7 March 11	10.49	6.98	4060
	3 May 11	11.1	6.95	4110
	30 August 11	11.54	7.27	5320
<b>MP3</b>	September 08	11.81		
	13 October 08	9.06		
	23 October 08	17.36		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	18.3 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 10	Dry		
	7 March 11	Dry		
	3 May 11	Dry		
	30 August 11	Dry		
<b>MP4</b>	September 08	22.62		
	13 October 08	23.02		

	22 October 08	23.17		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	24.16 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	Dry		
	3 May 10	Dry		
	26 August 10	Dry		
	8 November 10	Dry		
	7 March 11	Dry		
	3 May 11	Dry		
	30 August 10	Dry		
<b>MP5</b>	September 08	53.13		
	13 October 08	52.9		
	23 October 08	52.96		
	29 October 08	N/S Bore Dry		
	23 January 09	54.44 (mud)		
	22 June 09	N/S Bore Dry		
	15 September 09	Dry		
	30 November 09	54.4	Insufficient water to sample	
	25 February 10	54.48		
	3 May 10	54.6		
	26 August 10	54.69		
	8 November 10	54.88	Insufficient water to sample	
	2 March 11	54.85	Insufficient water to sample	
	3 May 11	54.8	Insufficient water to sample	
	30 August 11	54.89	Insufficient water to sample	
<b>WB1</b>	13 October 08	8.95		
	28 October 08	8.85	7.9	1996
	NO ACCESS			
<b>WB2</b>	September 08	16.87		
	13 October 08	16.49		
	28 October 08	16.60	7.7	3430
	23 January 09	17.00		
	22 June 09	16.65	7.2	3160
	15 September 09	16.45		
	6 January 09	16.45	7.51	2010
	25 February 10	16.48		
	3 May 10	16.56	7.84	2190
	26 August 10	19.54	7.4	3000
	8 November 10	17.00	7.3	2410
	2 March 11	16.96	7.31	2450
	3 May 11	16.53	7.55	2360
	30 August 11	16.36	7.87	2880
<b>WB3</b>	September 08	8.82		
	13 October 08	8.87		
	29 October 08	8.95	7.2	4480
	23 January 09	23.72		
	10 February 09	9.0		
	22 June 09	8.99	7.5	4380
	15 September 09	8.76		
	30 November 09	8.8	7.74	3890
	25 February 10	8.69		
	3 May 10	18.53	7.88	4000
	26 August 10	8.94	8.28	3260

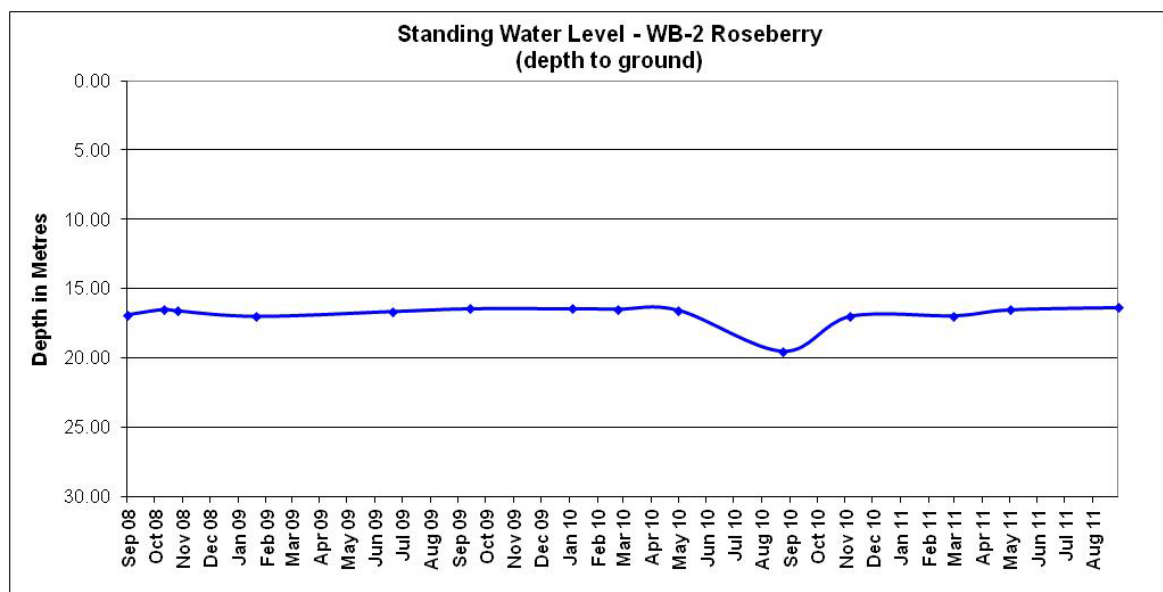
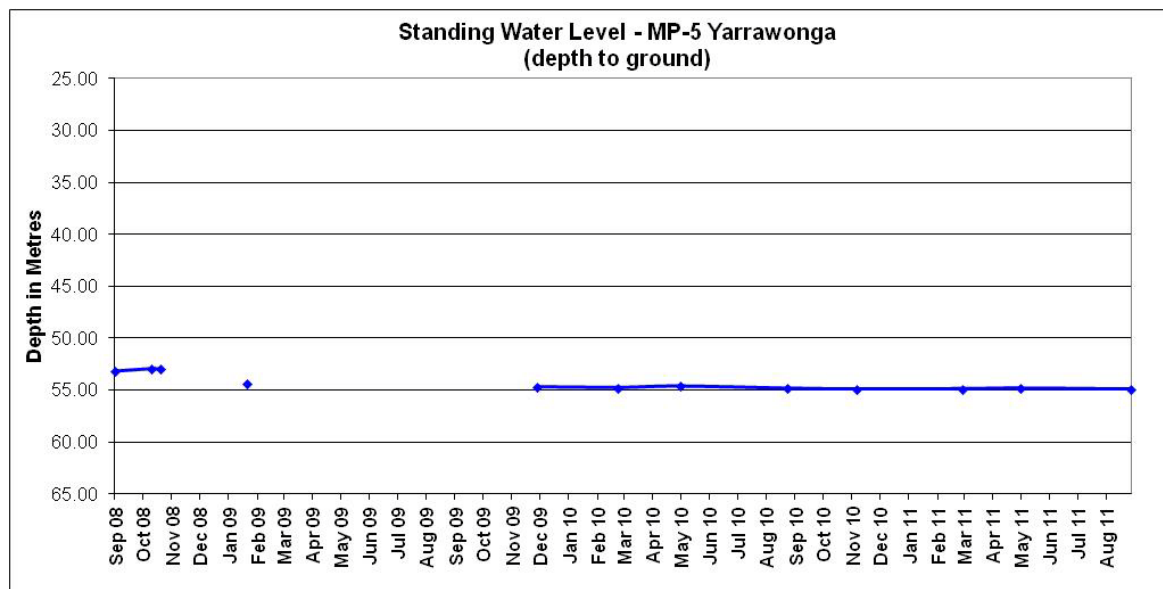
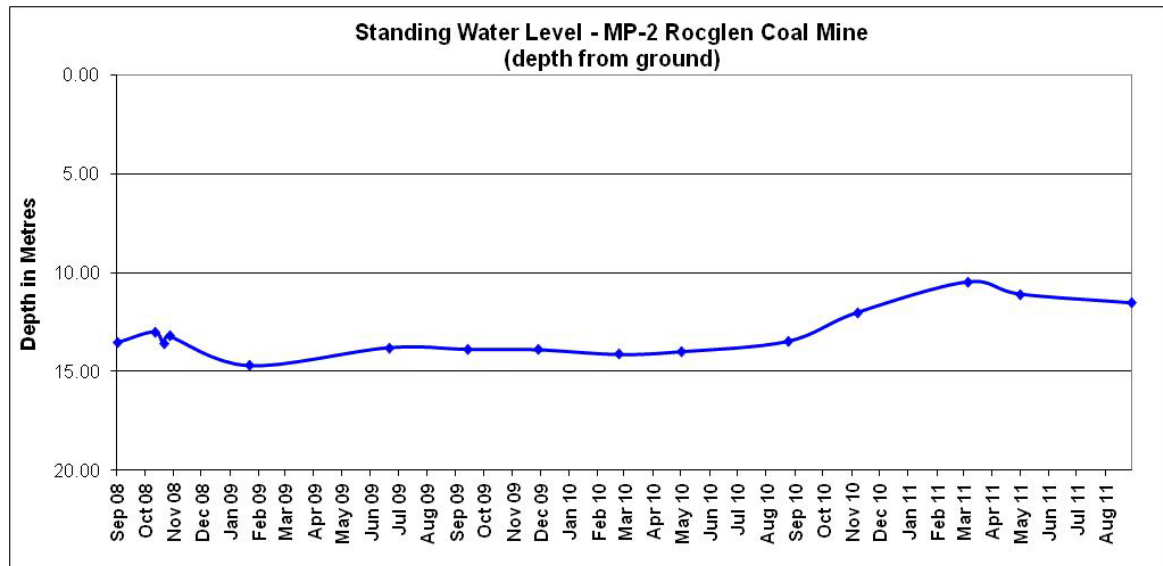
	8 November 10	8.98	8.02	2360
	2 March 11	17.63	7.44	3770
	3 May 11	9.07	7.7	3790
	1 September 11	9.14	8.32	4860
<b>WB4</b>	Casing Sealed	No Access		
	26 August 10	Unable to dip	7.83	3650
	2 March 11	Unable to dip	7.03	3320
	3 May 11	Unable to dip	7.1	3160
	1 September 11	Unable to dip	7.15	3650
<b>WB5</b>	September 08	4.23		
	13 October 08	12.92		
	28 October 08	12.85	7.2	8400
	23 January 09	13.1		
	22 June 09	No Access	6.6	7930
	15 September 09	No Access		
	30 November 09	22.93	7.06	4880
	25 February 10	13.14		
	3 May 10	12.97	7.43	6720
	26 August 10	13.01	7.47	7480
	8 November 10	14.06	7.86	5810
	2 March 11	20.99	6.45	5590
	3 May 11	12.7	6.8	5760
	30 August 11	12.7	7.85	7780
<b>WB6</b>	September 08	23.18		
	13 October 08	23.05		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	23.81		
	22 June 09	23.74	Unable to sample	
	15 September 09	23.83		
	30 November 09	24.02	No sample – bore equipped	
	25 February 10	25.05		
	3 May 10	23.71		
	26 August 10	23.47	Bore equipped	
	8 November 10	23.31	Bore equipped	
	7 March 11	22.74	Bore equipped	
	3 May 11	22.02	Bore equipped	
	30 August 11	22.55	Bore equipped	
<b>WB7</b>	September 08	41.75		
	13 October 08	19.11		
	28 October 08	18.90	7.2	2730
	23 January 09	21.35		
	22 June 09		7.4	2690
	15 September 09	Bore equipped		
	30 November 09	Unable to dip	7.3	2260
	25 February 10	Unable to dip		
	3 May 10	15	7.45	2470
	26 August 10	25.91	Unable to sample – bore equipped	
	8 November 10	31.53	7.24	2240
	7 March 11	25.13	7.24	2230
	3 May 11	14.78	7.45	2130
	30 August 11	17.66	7.91	2750
<b>WB8</b>	September 08	No Access		
	13 October 08	No Access		
	29 October 08	No Access		
	23 January 09	46.4		

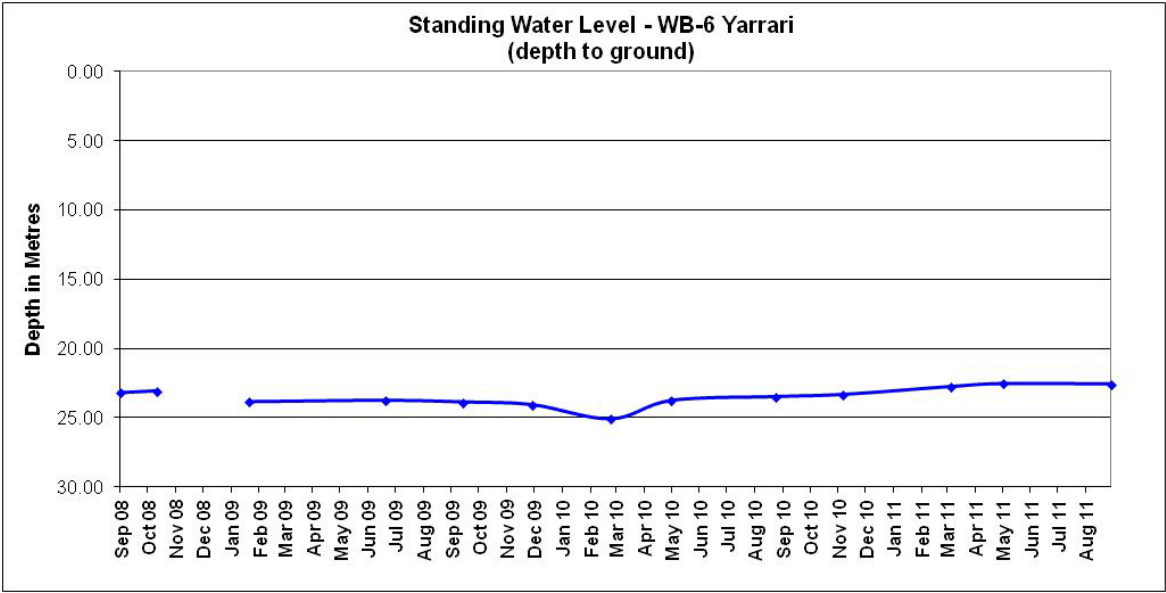
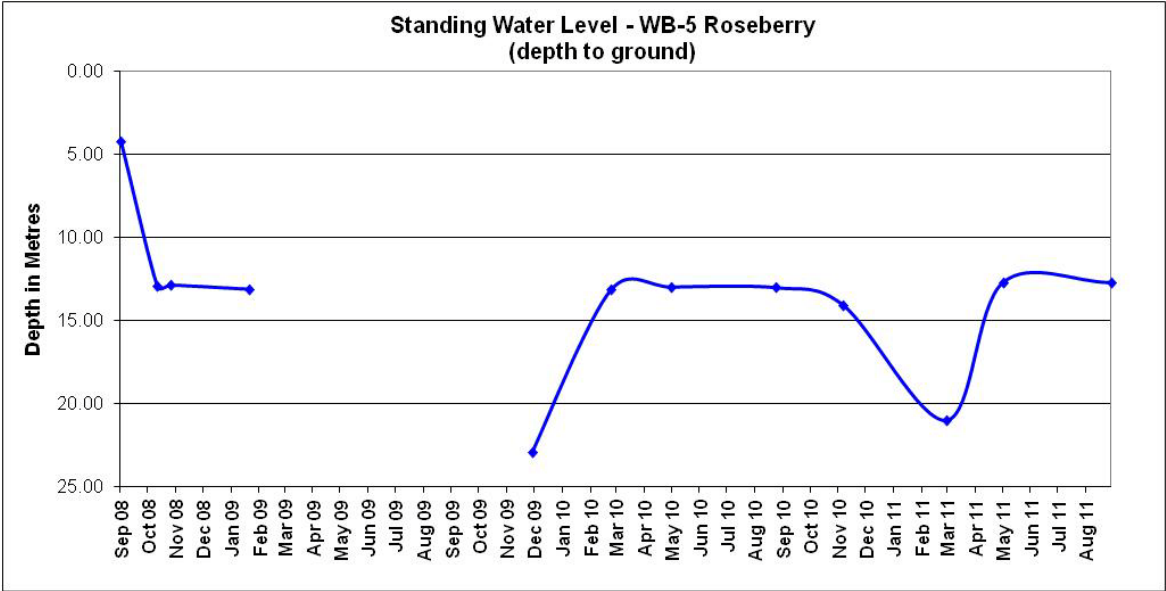
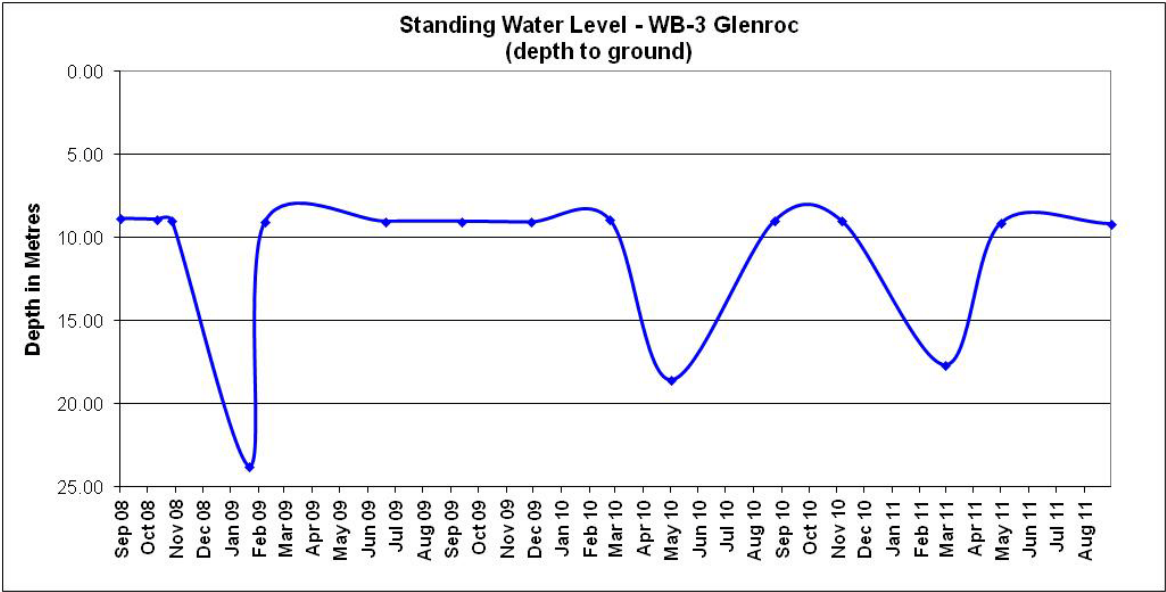
	22 June 09	32.75	8.2	2240
	15 September 09	43.38		
	30 November 09	Dry		
	25 February 10	49.32		
	3 May 10	32.59	Unable to Sample – pump over bore	
	26 August 10	32.23	Unable to Sample – pump over bore	
	9 November 10	32.14	Unable to Sample – pump over bore	
	7 March 11		Unable to Sample – gate locked	
	3 May 11		Unable to Sample – gate locked	
	1 September 11	31.77	Unable to Sample – pump over bore	
<b>WB9</b>	September 08	23.88		
	13 October 08	24.09		
	28 October 08	24.50	7.5	931
	23 January 09	24.27		
	22 June 09	23.99	7.9	1080
	15 September 09	23.94		
	30 November 09	24.05	7.14	1020
	25 February 10	25.58		
	3 May 10	24.26	Unable to Sample	
	26 August 10	24.59	7.72	1057
	9 November 10	24.34	Windmill over bore	
	7 March 11	26.7	7.44	1143
	3 May 11	25.26	7.6	1014
	30 August 11	24.36	7.92	1260
<b>WB10</b>	July 08	13.75		
	September 08	13.80		
	13 October 08	13.77		
	28 October 08	13.9	7.4	2235
	27 January 09	14.23		
	22 June 09	14.01	7	2220
	11 September 09	14.65		
	30 November 09	14.62	6.89	1690
	25 February 10	14.23		
	3 May 10	14.47	7.93	2010
	24 September 10	14.05	6.7	1833
	10 November 10	14.1	6.72	1905
	7 March 11	14.34	6.75	1910
	3 May 11	14.07	6.8	1685
	1 September 11	16.47	6.95	1745
<b>WB11</b>	July 08	18.11		
	September 08	18.61		
	13 October 08	18.13		
	28 October 08	18.4	7.5	1086
	27 January 09	18.73		
	22 June 09	18.1	8	880
	11 September 09	18.63		
	30 November 09	18.6	6.65	929
	25 February 10	18.47		
	3 May 10	18.24	8.37	921
	24 September 10	17.65	7.59	865
	10 November 10	17.49	7.49	867
	7 March 11	18.57	7.05	944
	3 May 11	17.34	7.25	867
	1 September 11	17.57	8.13	1200
<b>WB12</b>	July 08	12.73		
	September 08	12.80		

	13 October 08	12.83		
	28 October 08	12.95	8.1	2152
	27 January 09	13.16		
	22 June 09	12.99	8	2070
	11 September 09	13.05		
	30 November 09	12.99	8.34	1640
	25 February 10	13.19		
	3 May 10	13.15	8.27	1390
	24 September 10	13.22	8.71	873
	10 November 10	13.13	7.07	891
	7 March 11	13.18	7.37	1867
	3 May 11	13.15	7.45	1657
	1 September 11	13.23	8.57	2130
<b>Production Bore</b>	September 08	55.24		
	13 October 08	50.18		
	28 October 08	49.90	7.3	4030
	27 January 09	49.90		
	22 June 09	>50	7.1	3580
	27 August 09		7.3	3330
	30 November 09		7.2	3160
	25 February 10		Bore equipped	
	3 May 10		7.52	3310
	26 August 10	Bore Equipped	7.42	3340
	8 November 10	Bore Equipped	Pump not working	
	7 March 11	Bore Equipped	6.97	2880
	3 May 11	Bore Equipped	7	2930
	30 August 11	Bore Equipped	7.25	3800

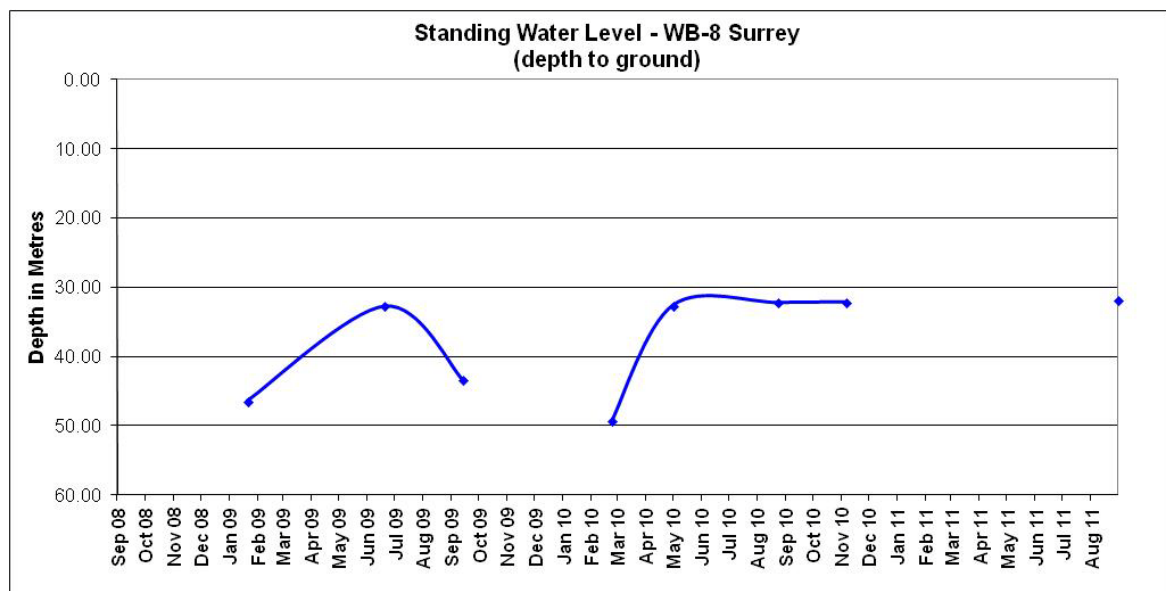
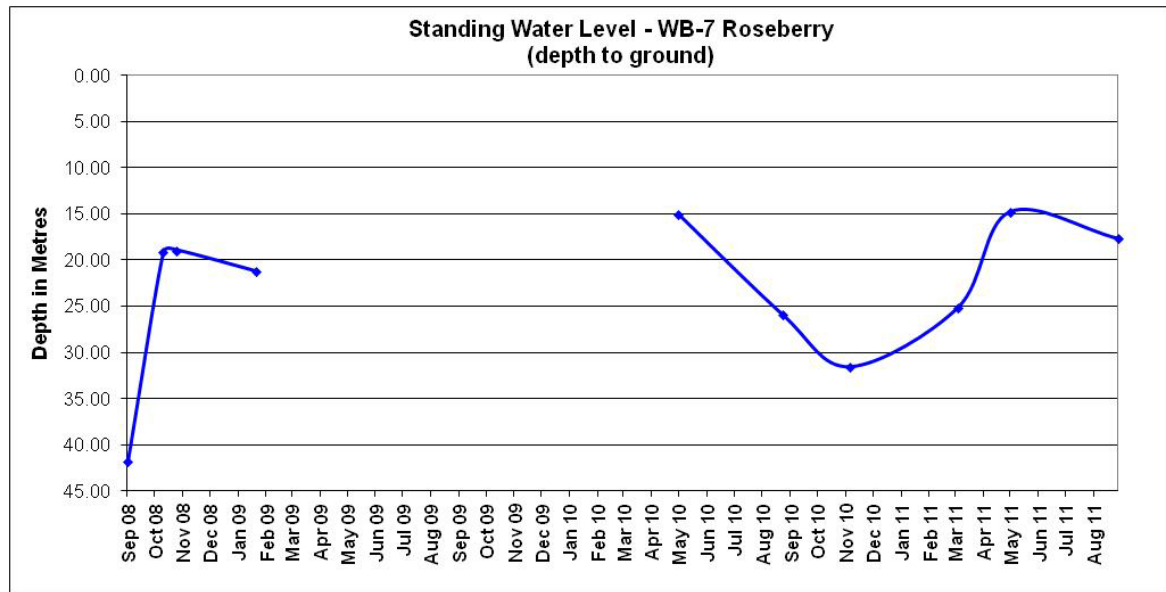


\*Bore covered by production area

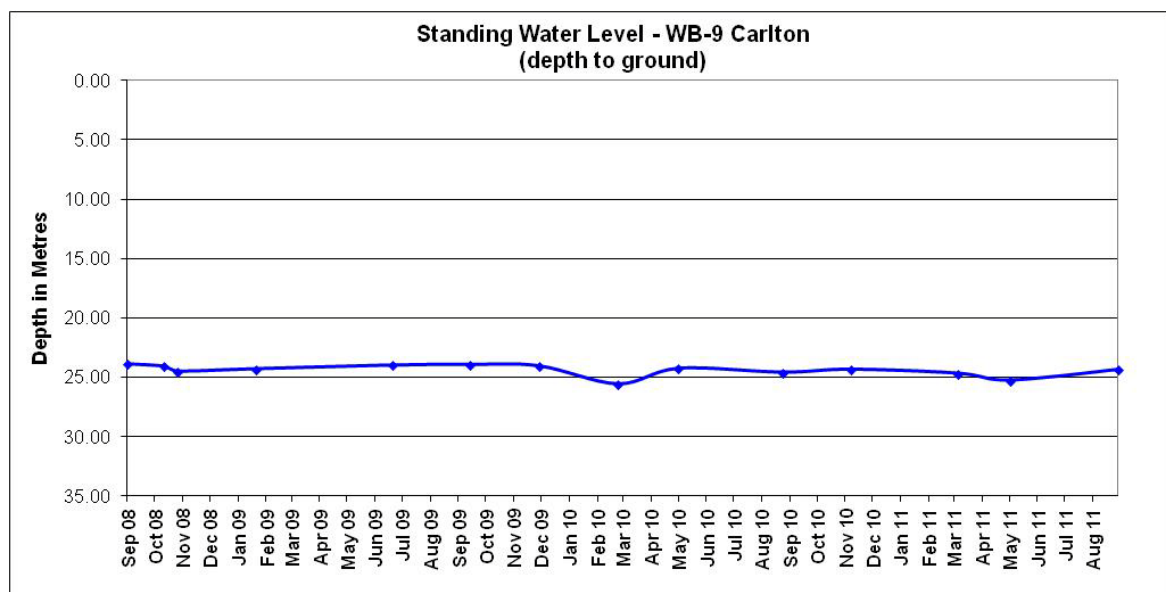


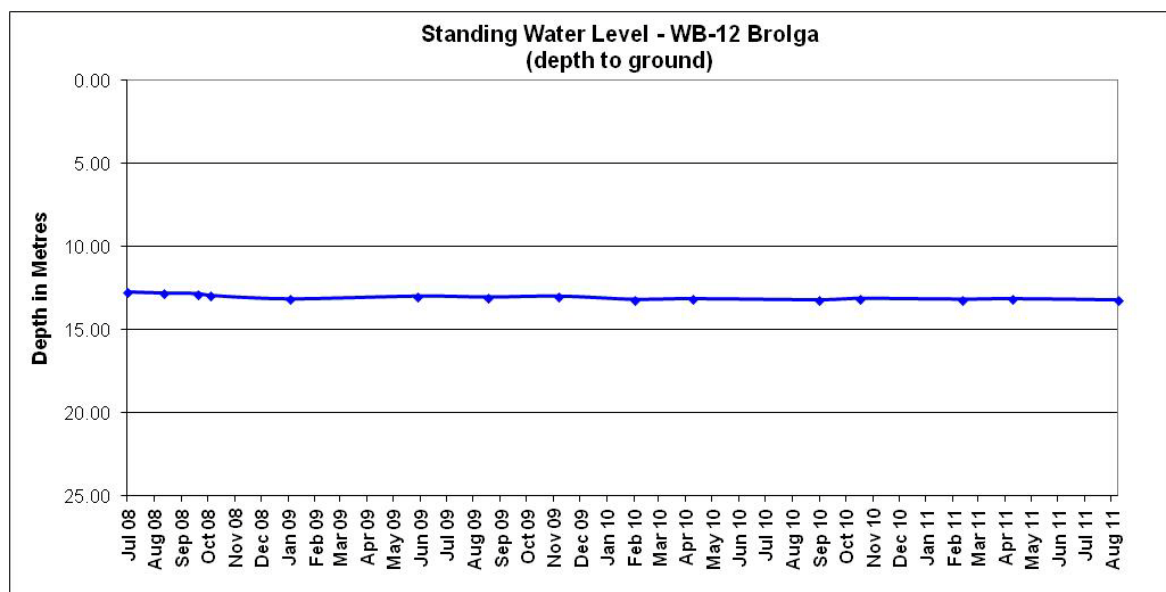
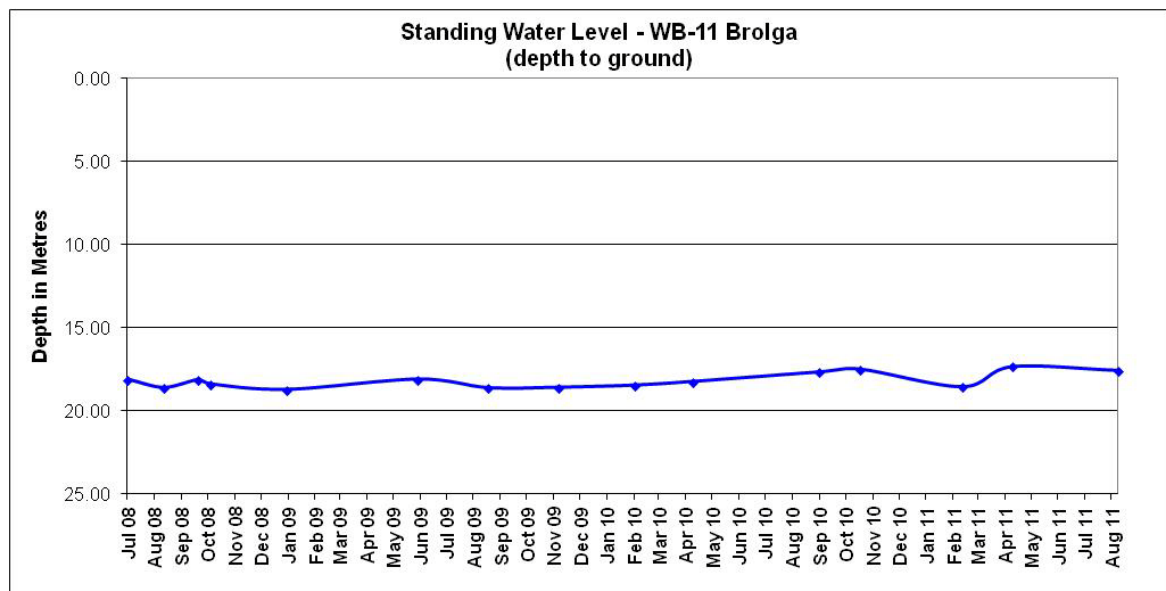
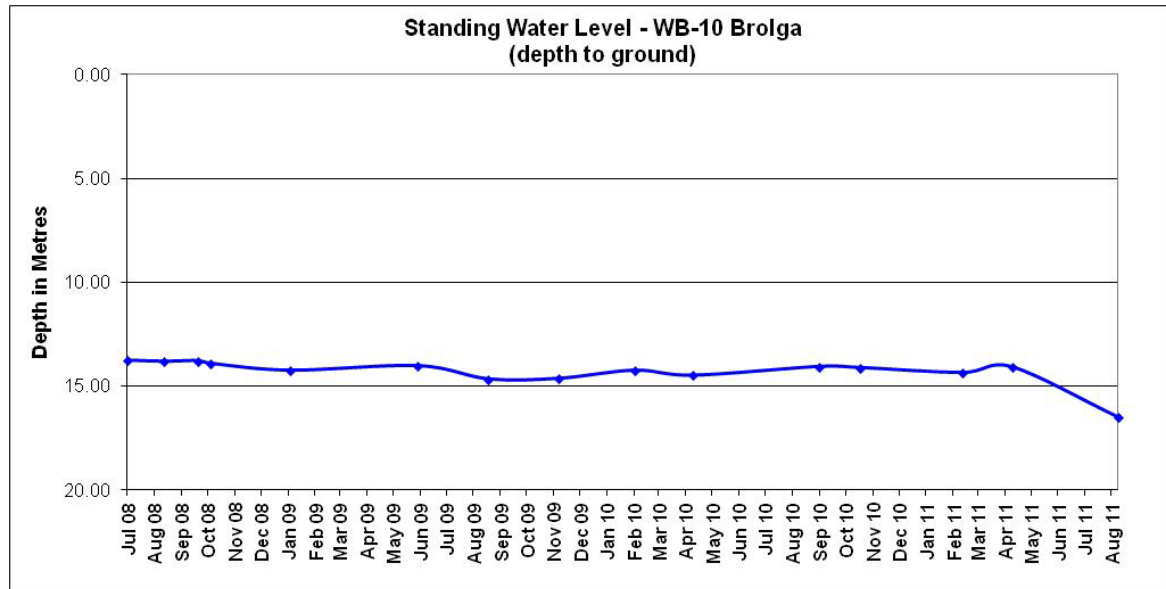






\*pump over bore





Standing water levels have remained relatively consistent since the last CCC. This is with the exception of WB10 (water level dropped by 2.4m since the last event). WB10 is located on the property “Brolga” around 5km south of the mine. The water level in this bore has been relatively consistent over the last few years, with last measurement the first indication of any change. Standing water level will be reviewed on this bore at the next monitoring round scheduled this month to confirm if this remains a trend or if water levels return to expected levels.

WB3, WB5 and WB7 have remained at a higher water level for the last two rounds of monitoring. These bores often fluctuate with water levels suddenly dropping as displayed in previous monitoring events. This is thought to be associated with water being drawn from the bore to fill water storage points for stock/domestic purposes at WB3 and WB5, and a connected windmill actively drawing water during monitoring events at WB7. The next round of monitoring in November 2011 will continue to observe ongoing trends.

## **Surface Water**

Since the last CCC meeting there has been one wet weather discharge event:

Wet Weather Discharge SD3, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011: Discharge occurred after 50mm of rain fell within the 5 day period leading up to the event. The Total Suspended Solids (TSS) recorded 62 mg/L. This is slightly higher than the EPL threshold of 50 mg/L. However as stated in section L3.4 of the EPL, this level may be exceeded if the discharge occurred solely as a result of rainfall above 38.4mm over any consecutive 5 day period immediately prior to the discharge. Therefore for this discharge event no exceedance of EPL criteria occurred. The sample taken from UNDC south of Rocglen during the time of the discharge recorded a TSS of 26 mg/L. This shows that the sediment levels in SD3 have settled substantially before reaching the downstream monitoring location.

Routine surface water sampling was undertaken at selected sites on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2011 to obtain background water quality data. The results indicated that the northern discharge point SB 18 had a TSS reading of 428 mg/L. The southern discharge point SD3 had a TSS reading of 124 mg/L. All other results were indicative of no change in water quality since mine commencement.

SB 18 no longer exists as it has been covered by the expanding northern dump in accordance with the Rocglen Extension Approval received from DoPI on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011. New water management systems have been under construction since the start of November 2011 in accordance with the Extension approval. These consist of a clean water drainage system that diverts water from Vickery State Forest away from the mine, and a dirty water drainage system that will replace SB18 as the northern discharge point. The new dirty water system currently consists of a 5 megalitre and 3 megalitre sediment basin. More sediment basins are to be installed over the coming weeks. Sediment levels in SD3 have recently been reduced via actively flocking the dam with Magnafloc LT425. Efforts occurred from the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011 to the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011, with the most recent results received indicating a low TSS of 31 mg/L. This gives Whitehaven the option of pumping the water off-site in a controlled discharge before heavy rainfall or to pump the water to SB19 if rainfall is not prominent so it can be utilised for dust suppression over the hotter months.

## **Complaints**

Three complaints have been received since the last CCC meeting:

### **9<sup>th</sup> August 2011:**

A complaint was made anonymously via the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) in regards to the extent of rubbish being deposited on Wean Road, empty coal trucks travelling to the mine for loading on Wean Road and excessive speed by mine related vehicles on Wean Road.

It was explained to the Department that Rocglen toolbox talks have included the issue of rubbish being thrown from vehicles and also, in consultation with Council, “Do Not Litter” signage has been installed along the road to discourage littering. A Whitehaven field officer also regularly undertakes inspections of the roadsides to determine if additional rubbish collection is necessary.

With regard to speeding vehicles, this is also toolboxed but is really a matter for the Police to patrol as the mine cannot enforce any additional speed restrictions. The claims of empty coal trucks using Wean Road were rejected on the basis that the trucking depot for Toll is located in close proximity to the haul road off Bluevale Road and it would make no sense for coal haul trucks to be travelling to Rocglen via Wean Road.

### **13<sup>th</sup> September 2011:**

A Complaint was made as a phone call to the Environmental Manager from OEH on behalf of a complainant in relation to smoke, dust and noise from around the Rocglen Mine.

The issue relating to smoke was not associated with Rocglen, but from woody weed control works on the Vickery site. The details of this work were provided to OEH including confirmation of approvals from Council and the RFS as well as notifications to surrounding landholders. In terms of dust and noise, it was explained to OEH that our dust monitoring results confirm compliance at all monitoring locations, in closer proximity to site as compared to the complainant’s property. It was also explained that recent noise monitoring had confirmed compliance at monitoring locations in closer proximity to site as compared to the complainant’s property. Copies of current air quality and noise monitoring results were referred to OEH for their records.

### **14<sup>th</sup> September 2011:**

A phone call was made to the Environmental Manager in relation to noise from the Rocglen Mine over the last few mornings. Complainant described the noise as the worst it has been in a long time and was dissatisfied that the noise was getting worse.

The complainant was advised that the matter of noise would be raised with the Project Manager to confirm the activities occurring that may be contributing to the noise issue and verify what measures may be able to be taken to reduce noise impacts. The Project Manager confirmed activities were occurring as normal, with no additional equipment or unusual surface works occurring. On review of the weather station data for the 14<sup>th</sup> it was identified that a significant temperature

inversion was present during the morning up until after 9am which would have exacerbated noise levels.

As part of the Rocglen extension approval, it is now a requirement for the Rocglen site to maintain a real time noise monitor and real time weather station information to ensure the site manages potential noise impacts. This will include establishment of an alert system whereby the site receives early warnings of elevated noise levels which provides opportunity for operations to modify activities in order to maintain compliance. This equipment is now on order and is expected to be installed early in the new year.

## **Rehabilitation**

Over September 2011 rehabilitation activities were planned to cover a further 22.4 hectare area of the western emplacement. This was divided into a 7.4 hectare area on the northern section of the western emplacement and a 15 hectare area on the southern section of the western emplacement. These areas are a priority for rehabilitation due to visibility to the south of the mine via Wean Road and from the west via Bluevale Road. The 7.4 hectare area was shaped, topsoiled and seeded by the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The seed consisted of a summer grass mix of Japanese Millet, Premier Digit, Bambatsi Panic and Green Panic, and was sown with Supreme Z extra fertiliser. This fertiliser was selected as it provides starter Zinc and therefore should aid faster establishment. This is due to soils in the area being low in zinc (as identified after testing) which severely stunts early growth. Recent inspections show good establishment and with continued rain the cover crop should mature well.

Shaping of the 15 hectare section began over September 2011 and was completed in the first week of November 2011. At present, topsoil is being replaced in this section via dozer pushing the soil downslope from stockpiles at the top of the dump.

On completion of topsoiling, contour banks will be installed as per a design engineered by Global Soil Solutions (GSS). The banks will drain water off the slope and into the southern dirty water catchment. Whitehaven has also organised for 50 tonne of gypsum to be spread on the slope. Soil tests identified high sodium levels being the biggest constraint to cover crop establishment for the southern section of the western emplacement. The gypsum will be applied to the area at a rate of 3.33 tonnes per hectare. This should reduce the amount of dispersion that occurs in the topsoil, hence reducing the amount of crusting and thereby increasing water infiltration and moisture holding capacity.

Mounding also remains an option for this section and will be discussed over the coming months. An effective trial took place with a mounding implement attached to a G&B Ward dozer at Sunnyside Coal Mine over October 2011. Mounding would further aid pasture establishment, infiltration and tubestock development, whilst also significantly reducing runoff and improving sediment control.