

# **Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sunnyside Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee**

**Meeting Held:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Venue:** Namoi Valley Brickworks

**Present:** Michael Broekman [MB] (Chairperson), Andrew Raal [AR] (Superintendent - Closed Mines WHC) and Olivia Hulbert [OH] (Advisor Rehabilitation & Closed Mines WHC)

**Apologies:**

Lizzette Fergusson [LF], Colleen Fuller [CF], Ron Fuller [RF].  
Minutes approved – true record by Michael

**Environmental Report:**

Presented by OH and AR. Discussed removal of dust monitoring requirements, and notification of relinquishment of EPA licence. Ongoing monitoring is limited to;

- Surface and groundwater
- Monthly inspections
- Quarterly weed and pest inspections
- Annual ecological inspections

No questions or issues raised.

**General Business:**

Cocoooonah Lane update –currently re-establishing old road. Council work being undertaken to widen road for larger vehicles. No trees plan to be removed, mainly trimming vegetation back.

Planning to undertake a limited grazing trial on site.

Work completed in 2023 was highwall drain to divert all run-on water around the void. Remaining work to be undertaken is limited to 3 dams that are to be backfilled and rehabilitated.

Chairperson suggested that enquiry made with regulators regarding the winding up of committee with approval from all members.

**Meeting Closed:** 15:00

## Sunnyside Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #37

### Environmental Monitoring Report January 2023 – December 2024

#### **Noise Monitoring**

No noise monitoring carried out. Site activities were limited to weed treatment (spraying and slashing), tree planting and minor drainage works.

#### **Blasting**

There has been no blasting during the reporting period, all site blasting has ceased.

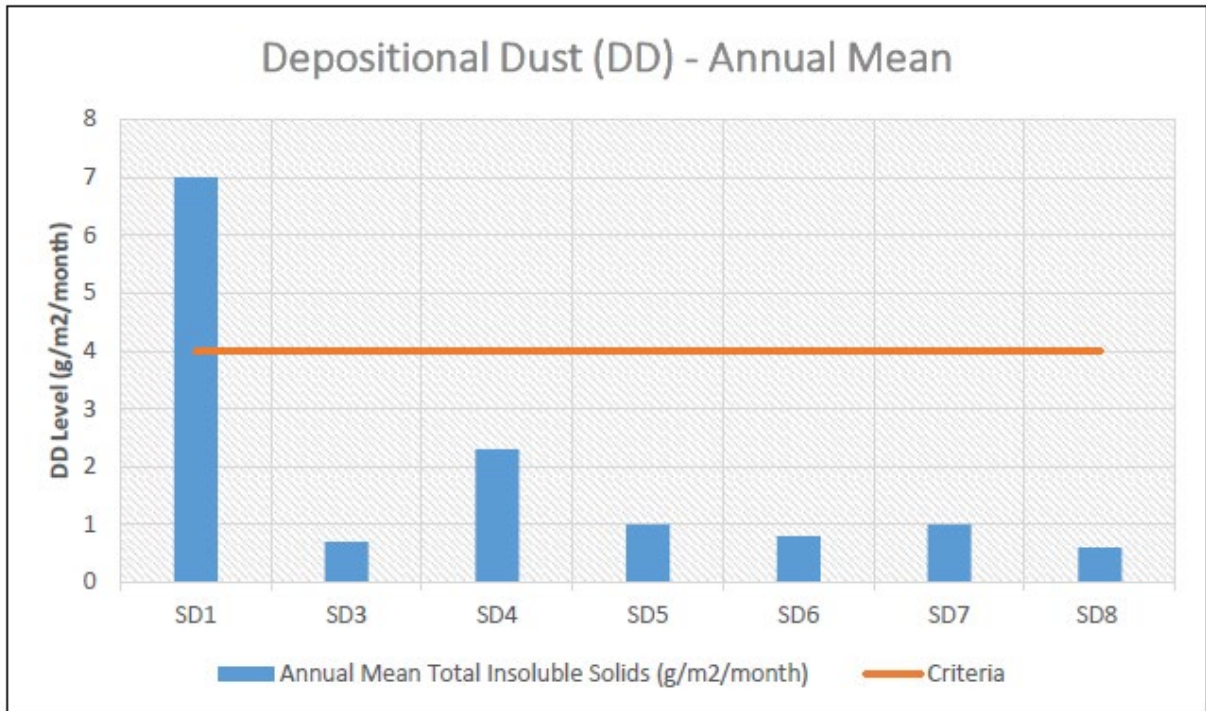
#### **Air Quality Monitoring**

##### **Deposited Dust**

The annual averages for deposited dusts at all monitoring locations remain below the criteria of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month average over the reporting period. One site exceeded annual average criteria due to agricultural activities in the paddock where the dust gauge is located. High dust values were reported in Annual Review.

**Table 1:** Depositional Dust gauge readings (Insoluble Matter g/m<sup>2</sup>/month)

Site (Figure 2)	EPL ID no.	Property Name	Approval Criteria Annual mean (g/m <sup>2</sup> /month)	Annual Mean Total Insoluble Solids (g/m <sup>2</sup> /month)
SD1	1	Ferndale	4	7
SD3	2	Plainview	4	0.7
SD4		Lilydale	4	2.3
SD5	4	Ivanhoe	4	1
SD6	5	Illili	4	0.8
SD7	6	Innisvale	4	1
SD8		Woodlawn	4	0.6



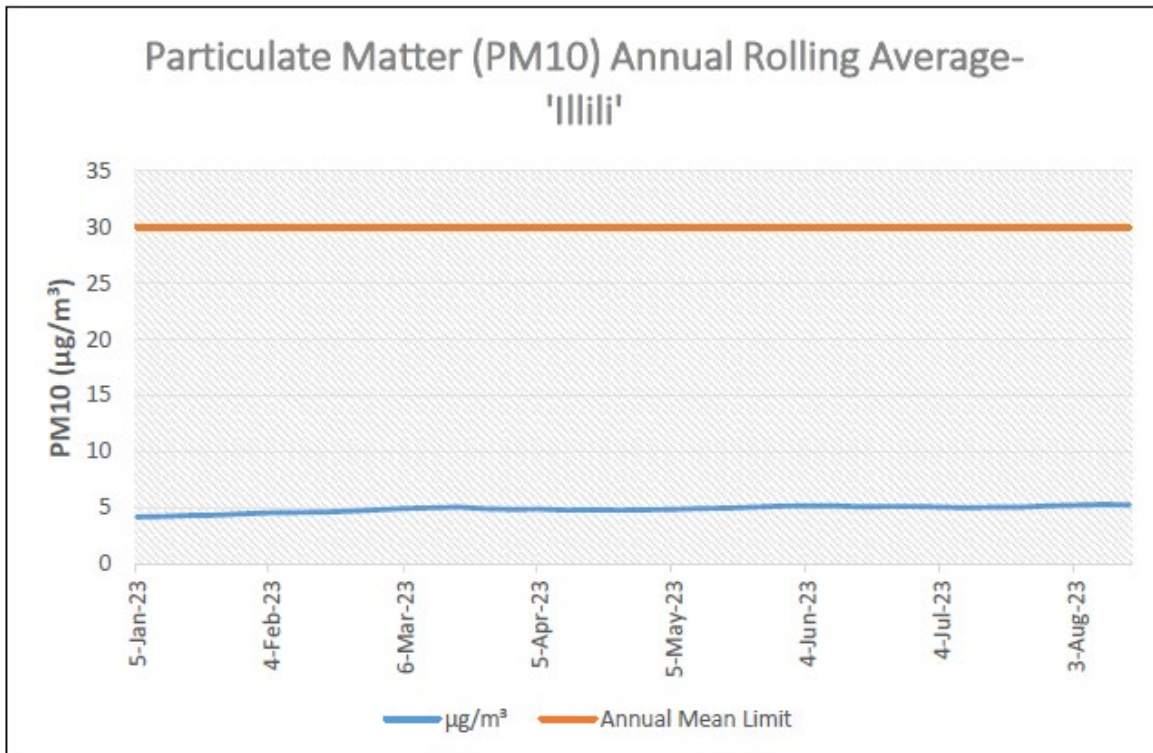
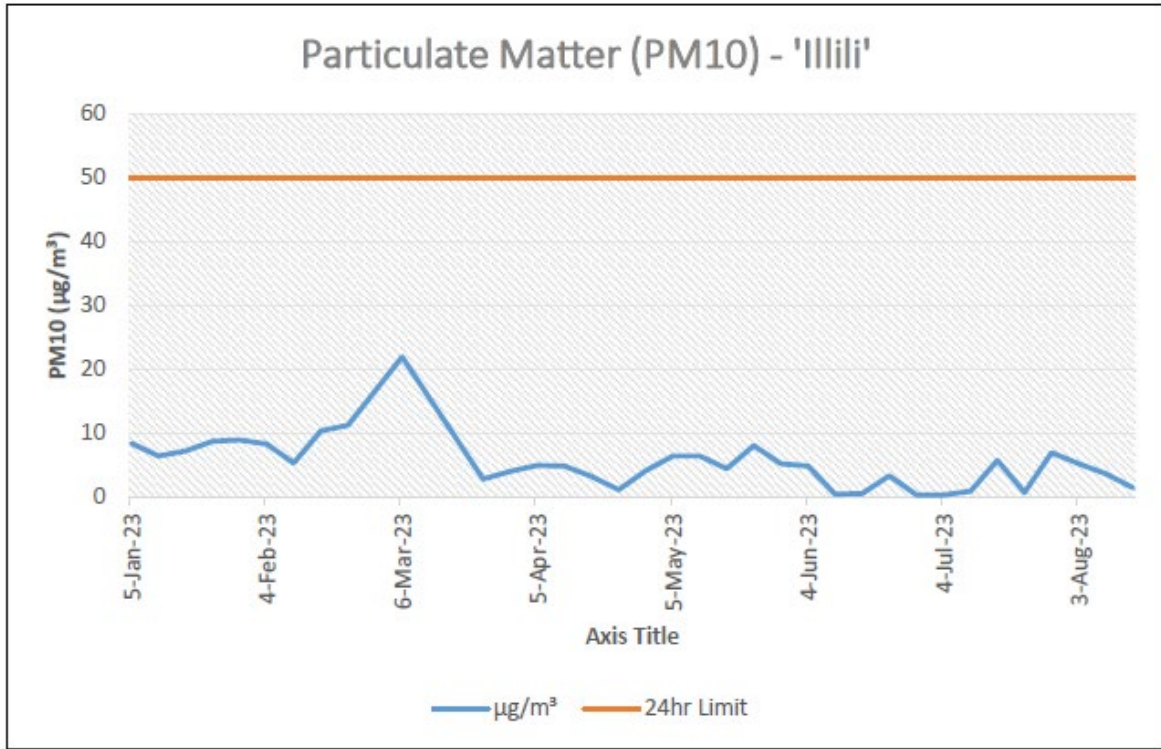
#### Dust PM<sub>10</sub> Data

SCM has one High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS - PM<sub>10</sub>) located at the property Illili (EPL ID 7), to the north-west of the mine site which takes a sample every 6 days for a 24h period. The annual mean value for 2023 was 5.58 µg/m<sup>3</sup> within the EA annual prediction of 22.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Data reported is for the period 1 January 2023 – 10 August 2023. Thirty-eight samples were taken with 0 events that were over the 24hr, 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> guideline limit.

**Table 2:** Illili PM<sub>10</sub> High Volume Air Sampler results

PM <sub>10</sub> Summary		
Sites	Illili - full data set	Illili - excluding extraordinary events
No. of readings	38	38
No. days above criteria	0	0
Maximum (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	22	22
Minimum (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.4	0.4
Mean (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5.58	5.58
Comment	Last sample taken 15 August 2023 following the surrender of EPA licence 12987 on 13 June 2023 and approval of updated Air Quality Management Plan on 10 August 2023.	

The 12-month (PM10) samples and rolling average (PM10) for 2023 are illustrated below.

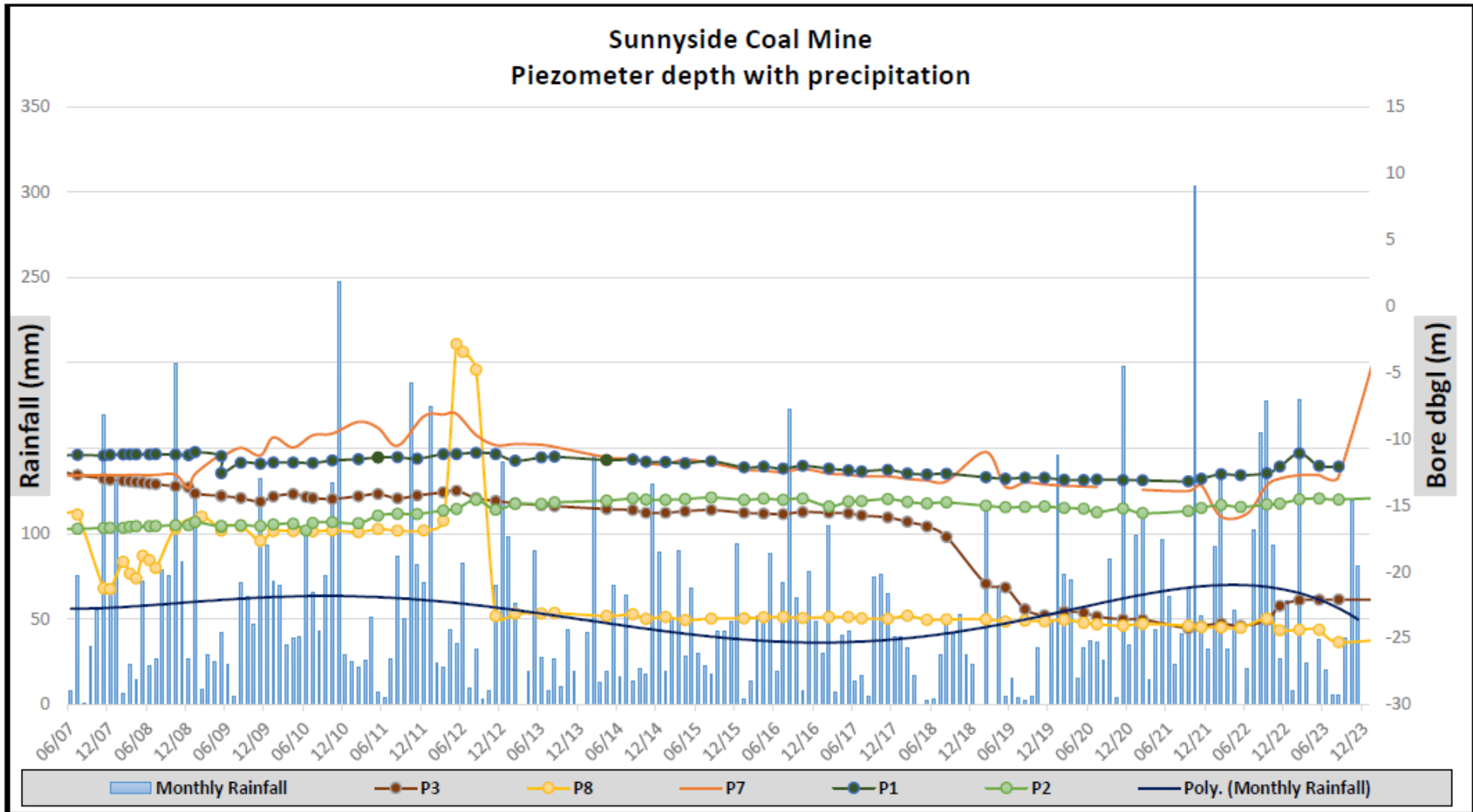


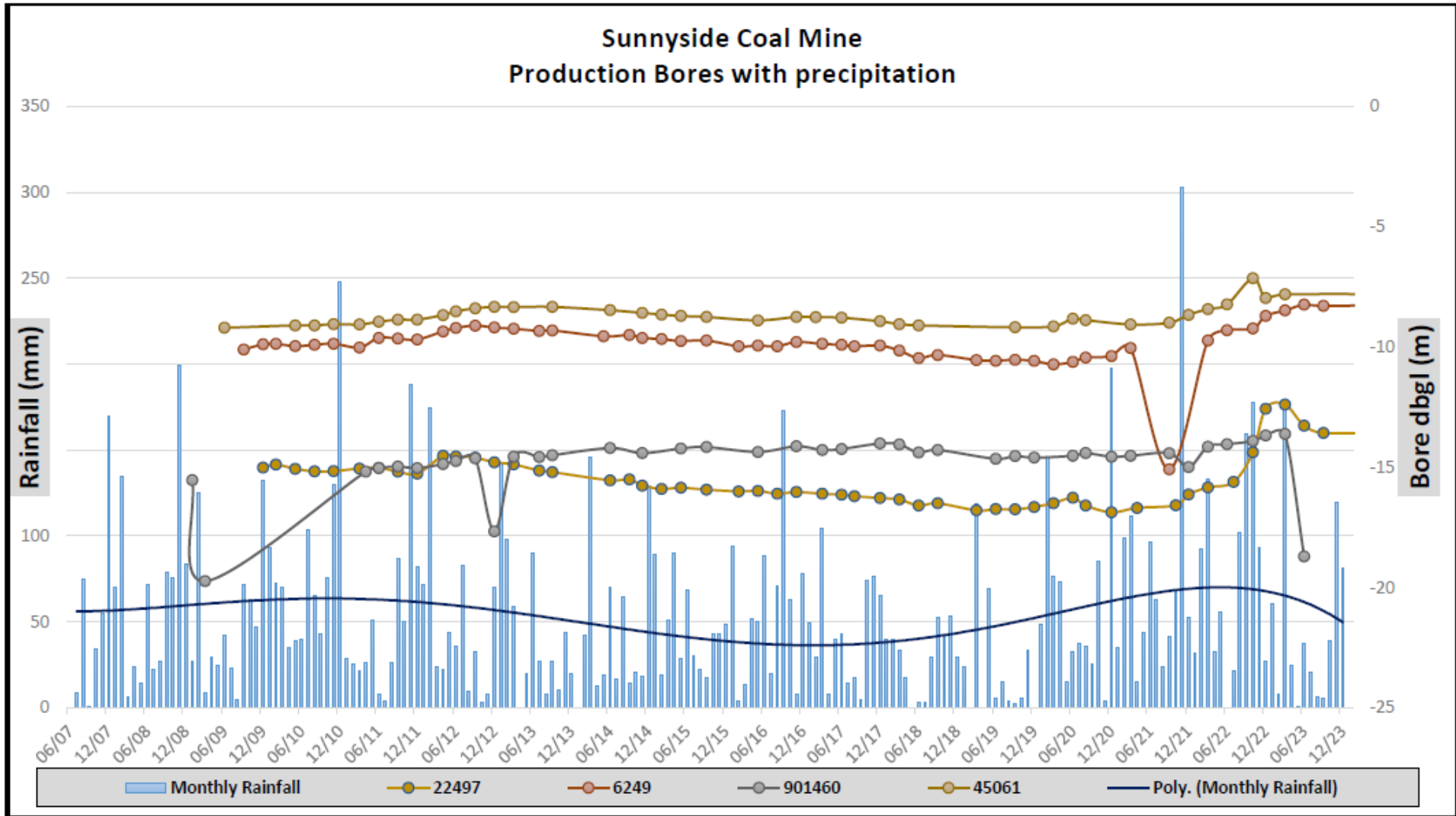
### **Groundwater Monitoring**

Groundwater monitoring is undertaken from a range of monitoring piezometers and water bores both within and surrounding the mine site. Standing Water Level (SWL) checks are undertaken on a quarterly basis, with full water quality sampling undertaken on a 6 monthly basis.

Groundwater levels have remained stable and reflect reduced rainfall and dryer climatic conditions. Mine void was closed and made free draining in December 2020.

There has been no groundwater extraction. Groundwater licence has been transferred to another site.





### **Surface Water**

Surface water sampling of storages onsite continues to be carried out on a quarterly basis by ALS Contractors.

### **Complaints**

No complaints have been received for the Sunnyside Coal Mine since the previous CCC meeting.

### **Rehabilitation**

Rehabilitation to final landform and seeding was completed in 2020. Rehabilitation undertaken during the 2023 reporting period included aftercare and maintenance of rehabilitated areas and infill planting on void slopes and woodland area west of the void joining western conservation corridor and existing remnant woodland on Sunnyside Hill. Plantings consisted of White box, Kurrajong, Narrow leafed iron bark, Blakely Red Gum, Re Ash, Tumble Down Gum, Large Mock-Olive and Native Olive.

Highwall drain was completed in 2023.

### **General Rehab:**

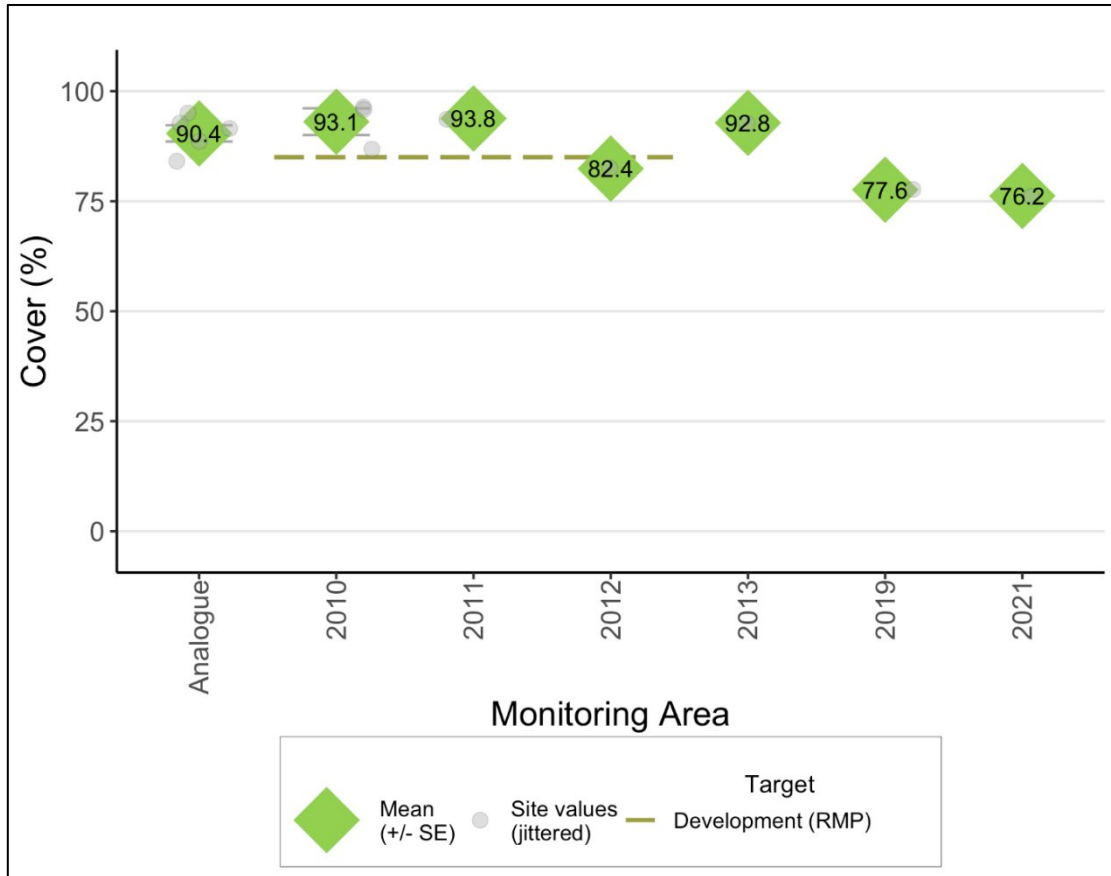
- Detailed annual ecological survey – Undertaken in October - November 2023.
- Weed treatment including spraying and slashing.
- Ongoing tube stock planting.
- Pasture trial – controlling buffel grass to promote native pasture species establishment.

Note EPA licence was surrendered on 13 June 2023, all monitoring required under the EPA licence has ceased. Remaining monitoring includes, groundwater and surface water, weeds and pests and annual ecological monitoring, and monthly site inspection.



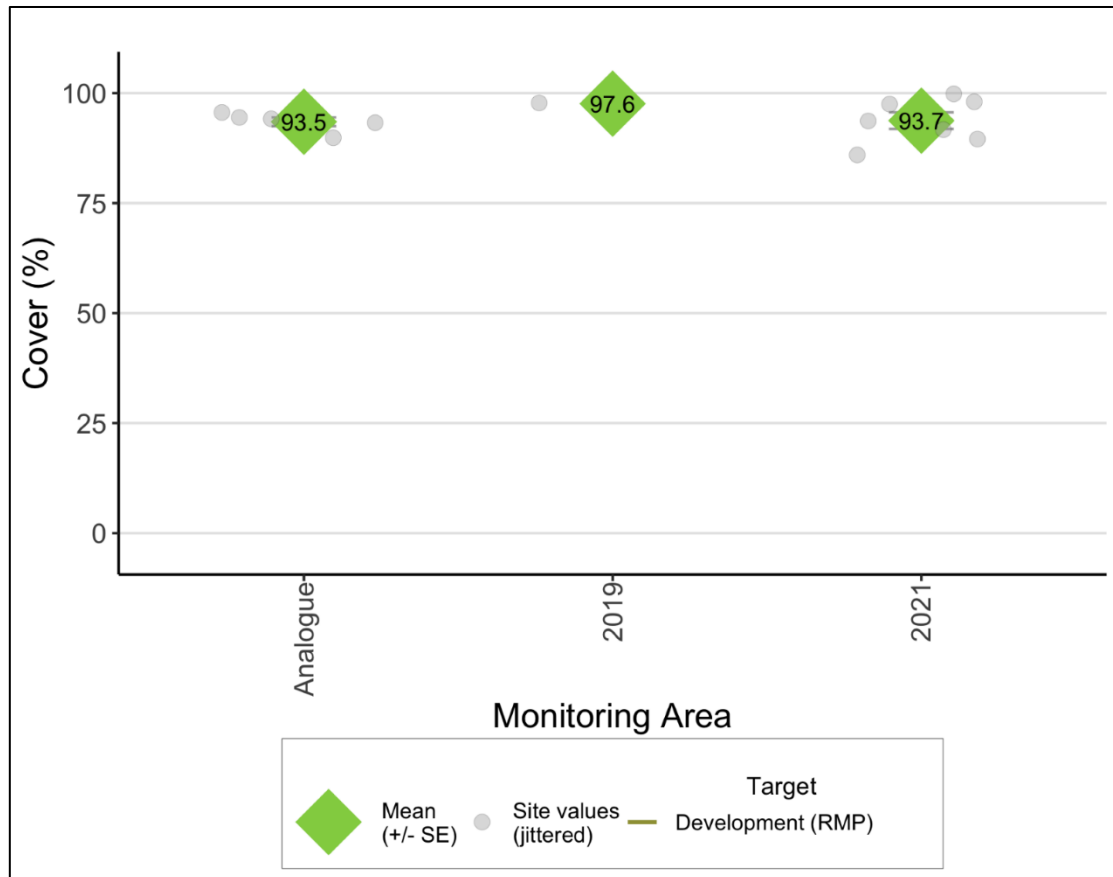
## Woodland Domain – Surface cover

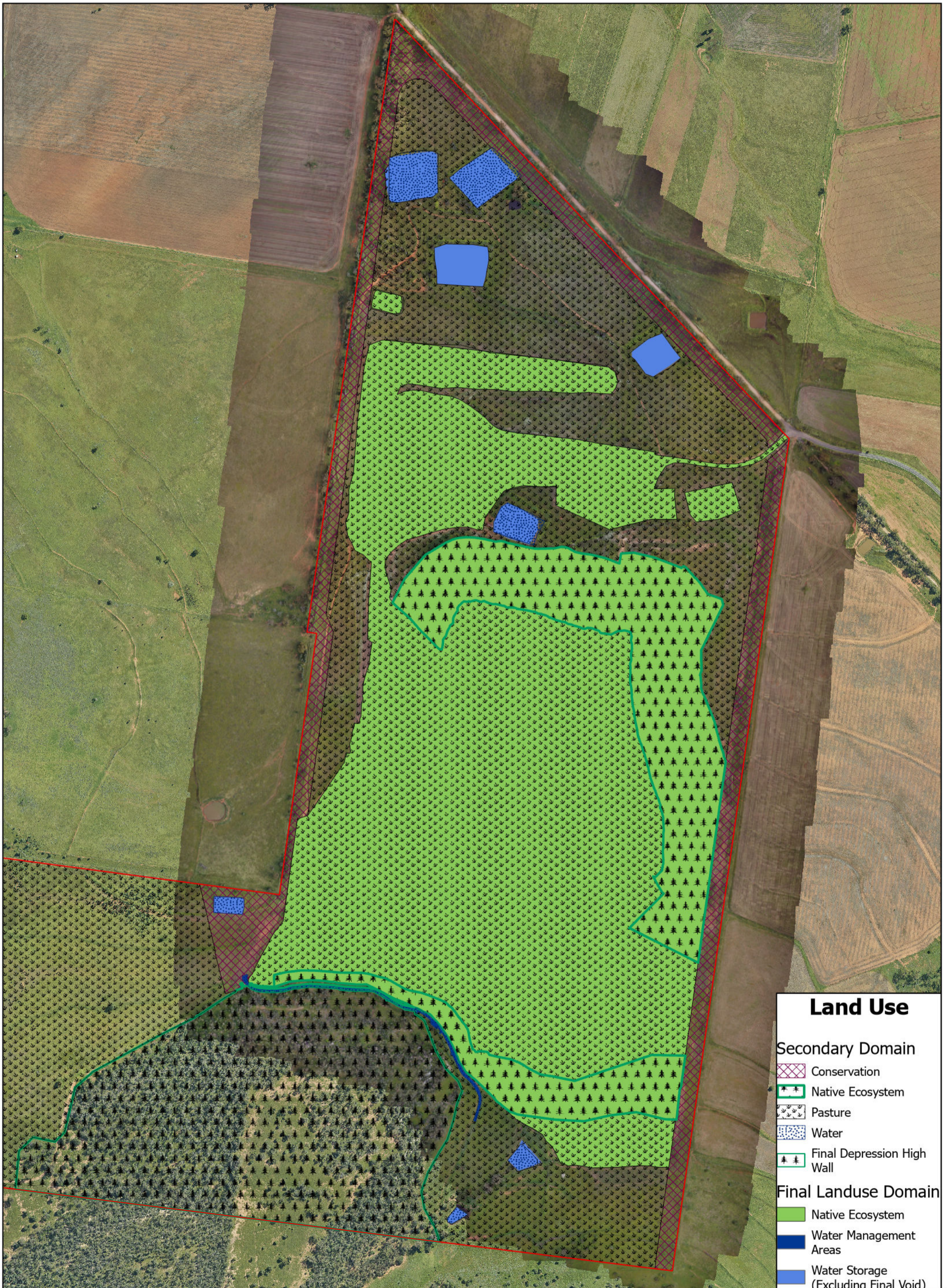
In the 2023 monitoring year, all rehabilitation areas met the phase-specific completion criterion target except for the rehabilitation established in 2012, which was slightly below the threshold (see figure below).



### Pasture Domain – Surface Cover

To achieve the completion criterion target for this indicator, surface cover is to be greater than 85% during the Ecosystem Development Phase (RMP tbl 12). Additionally, no bare surfaces greater than 20 m x 20 m in area or greater than 10 m in length down slope are to be present at year 5 following establishment (RMP tbl 12). No rehabilitation sites were recorded as having large bare surfaces. Pasture domain surface cover results shown in figure below.





**Land Use**

**Secondary Domain**

- Conservation
- Native Ecosystem
- Pasture
- Water
- Final Depression High Wall

**Final Landuse Domain**

- Native Ecosystem
- Water Management Areas
- Water Storage (Excluding Final Void)

**WHITEHAVEN COAL**

Datum: MGA Zone 56 Author: A.Raal Image: June 2022,  
 Date: Feb 2023 Size/Scale: 1:7,000 (A3)

**Status of Mining and Rehabilitation**

**Figure 13**

ML1624 (Project Boundary)

MCR178: -Spatial\ARCGIS\Sunnyside\Sunnyside.gdb

0 100 200  
Meters

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