

## Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Vickery – Canyon Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee

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**Meeting held:** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 12 – 1.30pm.

**Venue:** Face to face at WHC Gunnedah Office & via Zoom

**Present:**

Wade Hudson (WH) Gunnedah Shire Council  
Keith Blanch (KB) Community Representative  
Grant McIlveen (GM) Community Representative  
Ron Fuller (RF) Community Representative  
Scott Mitchell (SM) Whitehaven Coal  
Darren Swain (DS) Whitehaven Coal  
Mark Stevens (MS) Whitehaven Coal  
Barry Thompson (BT) Community Representative  
Cr Lloyd Finlay (LF) Narrabri Shire Council (Alt)

**Apologies:**

Steve O'Donoghue (SD) NSW Department of Planning  
Andrew Garratt (AG) Whitehaven Coal  
Cr Cathy Redding (CR) Narrabri Shire Council  
Cr Cameron Staines (CS) Narrabri Shire Council  
Cr Colleen Fuller (CF) Gunnedah shire Council  
Cr Rob Hooke (RH) Gunnedah Shire Council

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Item	Description	Action/ Responsibility
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome - RR</b>	
1.1	RR welcomes everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Agenda and apologies - RR</b>	
2.1	SO, AG, CR, CS, CF are apologies.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Declarations &amp; interest - RR</b>	
3.1	RR asks members to email her if there are any changes or updates to their interests in the project.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Actions and matters arising from previous meeting - RR</b>	
4.1	RR asks the CCC if there are any other issues from last meeting that they would like to be added to the agenda.  DS says that the agenda captures the majority of the issues listed as actions in the last meeting.  Other issues will be addressed at the end of the meeting.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Canyon/Vickery Environmental Report – Scott Mitchell</b>	
5.1	DS shares his screen, showing PowerPoint (see Appendix A). SM presents to the CCC on the Canyon/Vickery Environmental Report.  Regarding communication details to the community, DS informs RR that all the sites now have a dedicated email address that redirects straight to the appropriate people.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Project update – Mark Stevens</b>	
6.1	MS gives a project update to the CCC (see Appendix A).	
<b>7</b>	<b>EMP update – Scott Mitchell</b>	

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7.1	<p>SM presents on the EMP update (see Appendix A). In this section, all actions from the previous meeting were addressed.</p> <p>In response to a question from Meeting 12 regarding bores to the North and West, GM says that from the map in the slides, there seems to more bores to the south than to the north. GM says that the water would draw down to the west and the north of the pit once it is operational, so there ought to be more to the north.</p> <p>SM says the monitoring bore positions are based off expert advice from consultants such as what are the existing monitoring points and what are the baselines, targeted stratigraphy, and representative locations. SM noted that these are the Vickery related bores and there are already monitoring bores in the north and west relating to the Canyon mine, and refers to images from the EIS and the draft Water Management Plan of proposed monitoring locations. SM says that overtime there will be more drilling and there may be more bores proposed during the life of the project.</p> <p>RF notes in a few meetings back, there was a bore at the edge of the border near Maules's Creek which was for the Maules Creek mine.</p> <p>GM says that what RF is talking about is further down.</p> <p>GM asks a question regarding the rail line and will in be built in the air over the floodplain.</p> <p>DS says there is still work being done on the designs.</p> <p>GM says the community thought that the rail line would be on the western side of the river before the planning assessment commission. GM asks why there is no noise monitors on that side if the rail line will be built there?</p> <p>SM says that will be covered later on.</p> <p>Draft air quality and noise management plans were presented. Regarding the location of one Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance (TEOM) GM asks if the monitor is on Whitehaven's land?</p> <p>SM is not sure whose property it is on without a closer check however noted either on boundary of Whitehaven and private land.</p> <p>DS asks SM if they are still to be approved? DS says that the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) need to be approved by the EPA? Then it would be negotiated with the applicable landowner.</p> <p>SM says yes, the next slide may have a comment (see Appendix A). DS is partially right. The plan is in development and required consultation with the EPA. EPA has input on the representative monitoring locations. Some may be subject to negotiation with landholders or placed on adjacent mine owned land. An EPL will be required.</p> <p>DS says the idea is to put the monitors in the approximate location pending landowner approval.</p> <p>SM agrees and says that was applicable to either NA2 or NBO1.</p>	<p>SM to investigate GM's question about why there is no noise monitor near the</p>
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	<p>DS says that NA2 is the attended monitoring.</p> <p>GM asks why Whitehaven would not have attended noise monitoring on 144 which would be near the train line.</p> <p>SM says he will need to check on that for GM. SM suspects it is due to distance, and we cannot monitor everywhere. There may be the equivalent distance to be considered as a representative monitoring location.</p> <p>RR asks for any other questions or comments from the CCC on this section.</p> <p>No questions or comments.</p>	proposed rail line.
<b>8</b>	<b>Namoi River Bridge update</b>	
8.1	<p>WH says there was a request from Crown Lands to council asking if the bridge can be removed. The bridge existed and was created for mine activities, but since it is on private land not on Crown or council land, there would be no concern from council if the private landowners maintained the bridge. Similarly, if they wanted to remove the bridge, they could do it.</p> <p>WH says he provided this information to Whitehaven, GM and the landowner. The landowner did a FOI request to get some files which was where the issue ended. Since it is not a public bridge or road there is no obligation from council to do maintenance. It is up to Whitehaven and the landowners to decide what to do with it. It was built by Novacoal, a company that Whitehaven have acquired.</p> <p>GM said that after the last meeting, he talked to SO from DPIE and he said there was no plans for the bridge. GM says that is a shame the damage that has been done to the bridge over the last six to eight months.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Community update – Darren Swain</b>	
9.1	<p>DS provides the group with the community update (see Appendix A).</p> <p>Discussing Kurrumbede the former residence of Mackellar Family, RF asks if Whitehaven would want the property to be heritage listed?</p> <p>DS says the site is of local significance. Extent Heritage the Whitehaven heritage Consultant has reviewed the criteria and believe that it meets local significance but not state heritage. DS says it is not up to Whitehaven but it is up to the Heritage Council. Whitehaven will maintain and preserve the site whether it's listed or not.</p> <p>RF suggests that the site being heritage could limit Whitehaven's projects in the future.</p> <p>DS says that it may make approvals more complicated but Extent Heritage have drafted the Conservation Management Plan which was developed as if the site was of State Significance so will be managed appropriately in either case.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Next steps – Mark Stevens</b>	
10.1	<p>KB asks what happened to a proposed gas line that went through the Vickery lease about 15 months ago? It was partly chased up but then the issue went quiet.</p>	

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	<p>DS says there was a question in the Maules Creek CCC about that gas line. There is no gas line though through Maules Creeks biodiversity country.</p> <p>KB says he knows that when he got the link, the gas line was going through.</p> <p>DS says that he does not know, perhaps it was going through Vickery offsets. DS says he can investigate.</p> <p>WH says that council had discussions with the developer about 12 months ago. There has been a few communications since that time. WH says that council has the mapping that has been approved. The pipeline went near a Vickery project, and council advised the developer to talk to Whitehaven. WH is not certain of anything beyond the Gunnedah Shire boundary. WH says that council understands that they are progressing and are seeking modifications. There have been a few discussions but as of yet, they are not seeking formal modifications.</p> <p>MS says this issue came up in the shareholder meeting. The gas line is outside the boundary of the Vickery mine. The gas line is proposed to run through Whitehaven land but not the coalmine. This issue has gone quiet but it was raised at the AGM.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<b>General business - RR</b>	
11.1	<p>GM mentions that CS brought up adding more members to the CCC. GM suggests that it may be wise to advertise.</p> <p>RR says she is happy too.</p> <p>GM also asks if the CCC was invited to the IPC site hearing.</p> <p>RR says she does not know. RR wrote to them twice, but they did not answer her. RR says that the CCC was not invited through her.</p> <p>GM asks if the council representatives were invited?</p> <p>WH says he is not aware but notes that the invitation could have gone to the General Manager or the Director.</p>	RR to arrange a process for sourcing additional community members for the CCC.
<b>12</b>	<b>Next meeting - all</b>	
12.1	<p>The CCC agrees that the next meeting will likely be in February 2022, but DS will touch base with MS and SM to see if there are any plans or approvals happening that would be of interest to the CCC before that time.</p> <p>KB says he would like to see what the councillors came back with regarding the Namoi bridge.</p> <p>DS says he will get this information off AG. WH says that information was distributed three weeks after the last meeting.</p> <p>MS says Whitehaven will have the Namoi bridge tidied up but first they would have to obtain the right approvals and discuss the removal with the landowner on the other side of the river. MS says they do not think it was on their records. The neighbour said it was sold to someone but</p>	

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	<p>WHC could find any records of the sale both internally or externally. MS says happy to go in and tidy it up.</p> <p>GM asks about the timeframe for the Vickery start.</p> <p>MS said that Paul Flynn at the AGM stated we are looking at 18 months. There is still a lot of work to do such as geotech and geology.</p> <p>RR thanks everyone for the time investment in the CCC and for all the constructive questions. RR will look into advertising for new members.</p>	
	<p><b>These minutes have been endorsed by the meeting Chair</b></p> <p><b>Signed:</b> <b>ROBERTA RYAN</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>	



# Vickery – Canyon Coal Mine

## Community Consultative Committee Meeting

November 2021



WHITEHAVEN COAL

# Canyon Coal Mine

## Environmental Monitoring

- Biodiversity
- Air quality
- Groundwater
- Surface water



WHITEHAVEN COAL



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# Biodiversity Management

## Activities completed as per Rehabilitation Management Plan

- FY22 Q1 Pest Animal Monitoring indicates that foxes and pigs were in medium – high abundance. Pest Animal Control was elected not to be conducted on Canyon during the FY22 Q1



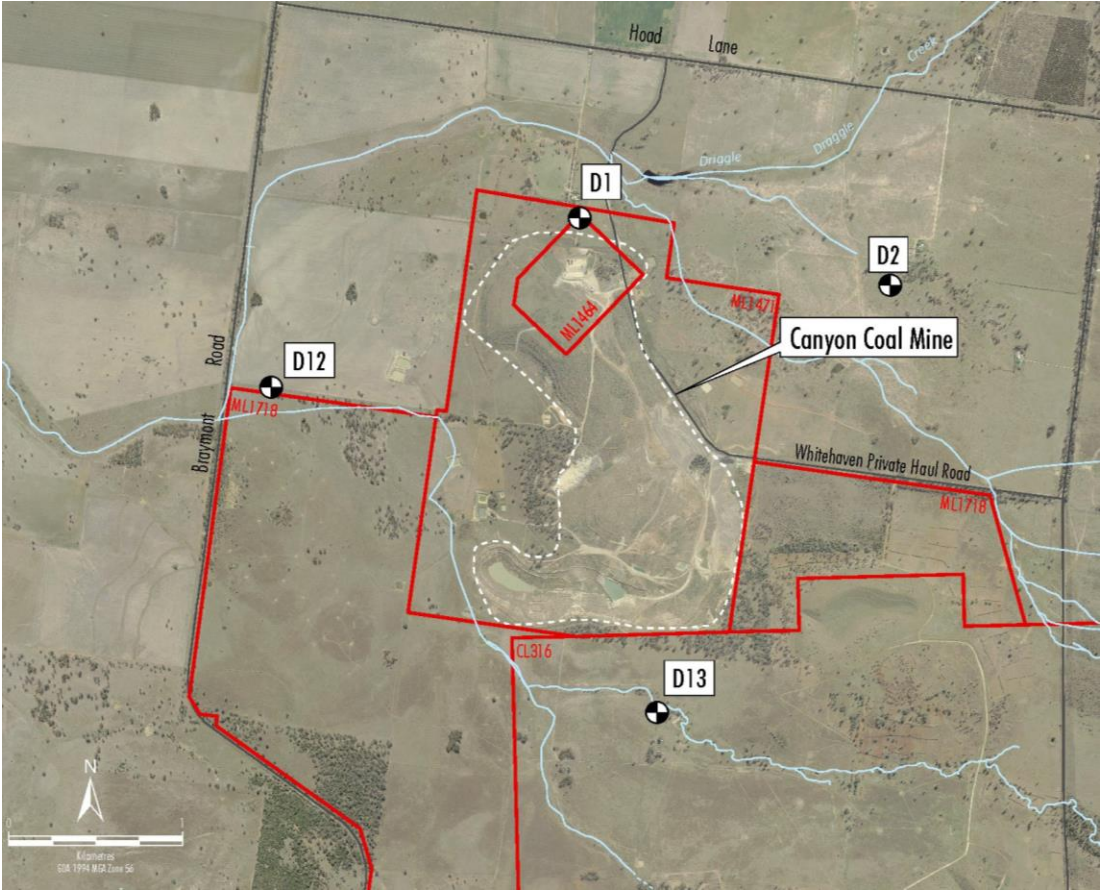


# Air Quality

## Depositional Dust Monitoring - Project Approval and Air Quality Management Plan

Depositional Dust (12-month insoluble matter results in g/m2/month)		
Site	Annual Average	Guideline
D1	1.6	Annual average to be below 4
D2	1.4	
D12	2.4	
D13	2.6	

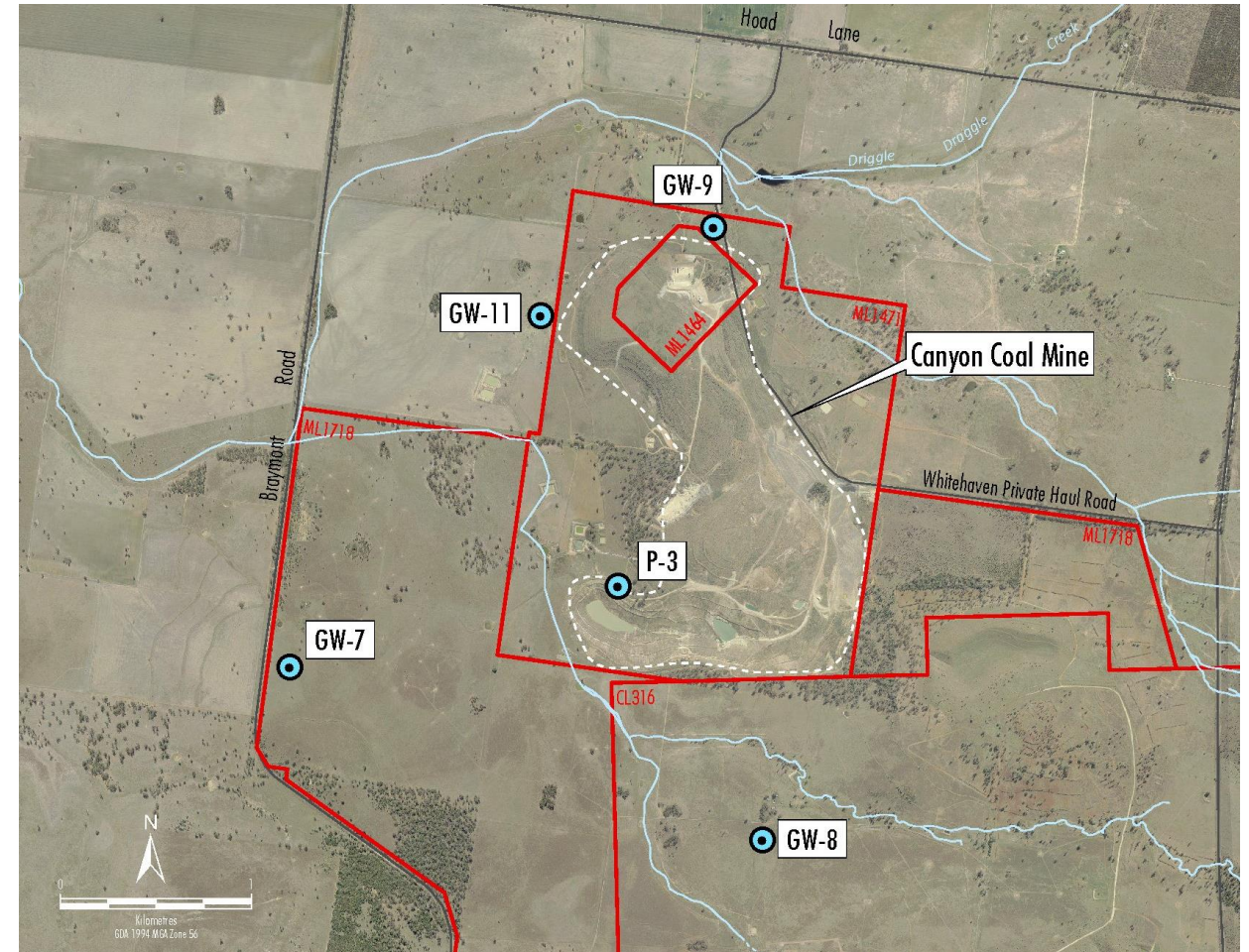
Compliant with Project Approval and Air Quality Management Plan.



# Groundwater

## Monitoring as per Project Approval and Water Management Plan

- All sites standing water level monitored every 6 months. Levels are consistent at all locations since the last CCC meeting.
- Sites GW-11 and P-3 have water quality assessed every six months to review temporal trends. The results remain steady since the last CCC Meeting.

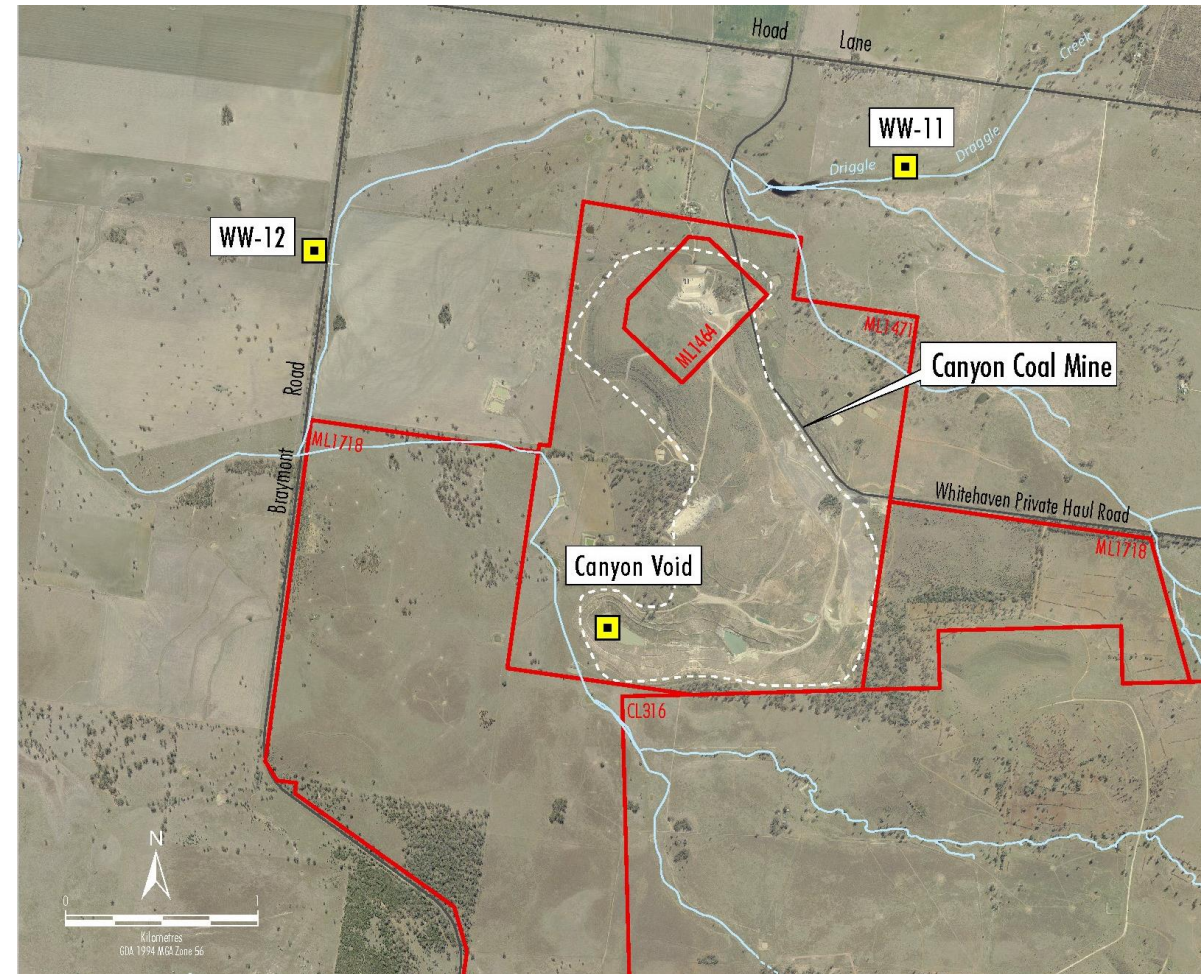




# Surface Water

## Monitoring as per Project Approval and Water Management Plan

- On average, the site received 50.8 mm of rain each month since the last CCC meeting. No monitoring was undertaken as no discharge occurred.
- Canyon Void water levels and quality are monitored on a 6 monthly basis. Water level and quality is generally consistent since the last CCC Meeting.
- pH, EC, Oil & grease results consistent, and TSS decreased.





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# Complaints

No complaints received

<https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/canyon-mine/>

Contact us via email or our community hotline for more information, to provide feedback or to lodge a complaint.

 1800 WHAVEN (1800 942 836)

# Vickery Coal Mine

**Vickery Extension Approval Status**  
**Vickery Design status**

## **Environmental Monitoring**

- Biodiversity
- Air quality
- Groundwater
- Surface water



**WHITEHAVEN COAL**

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# VEP - Approval Status

## Primary Approvals

- NSW – Vickery Extension Project Development Consent granted by IPC on 12 August 2020
- Commonwealth – EPBC Act Approval pending approval. Timing for determination extended to August 2021.
- Mining Lease Application to be finalised 2021

## Secondary Approvals

- Majority of Environmental Management Plans (EMP's) for early works submitted to DPIE
- EMP's progressing during Q3-4 2021. Environmental Management Strategy and Blast Management Plan approved.
- EPL variation Q3-4 2021



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# VEP – Design Status

Whitehaven and specialist design engineers are progressing detailed design aspects of the Vickery Extension Project, including:

- Mine planning
- Coal Handling & Preparation Plant
- On-Site and Off-Site Infrastructure
  - Mine Infrastructure Area
  - Water Management System
  - Power supply
  - Rail

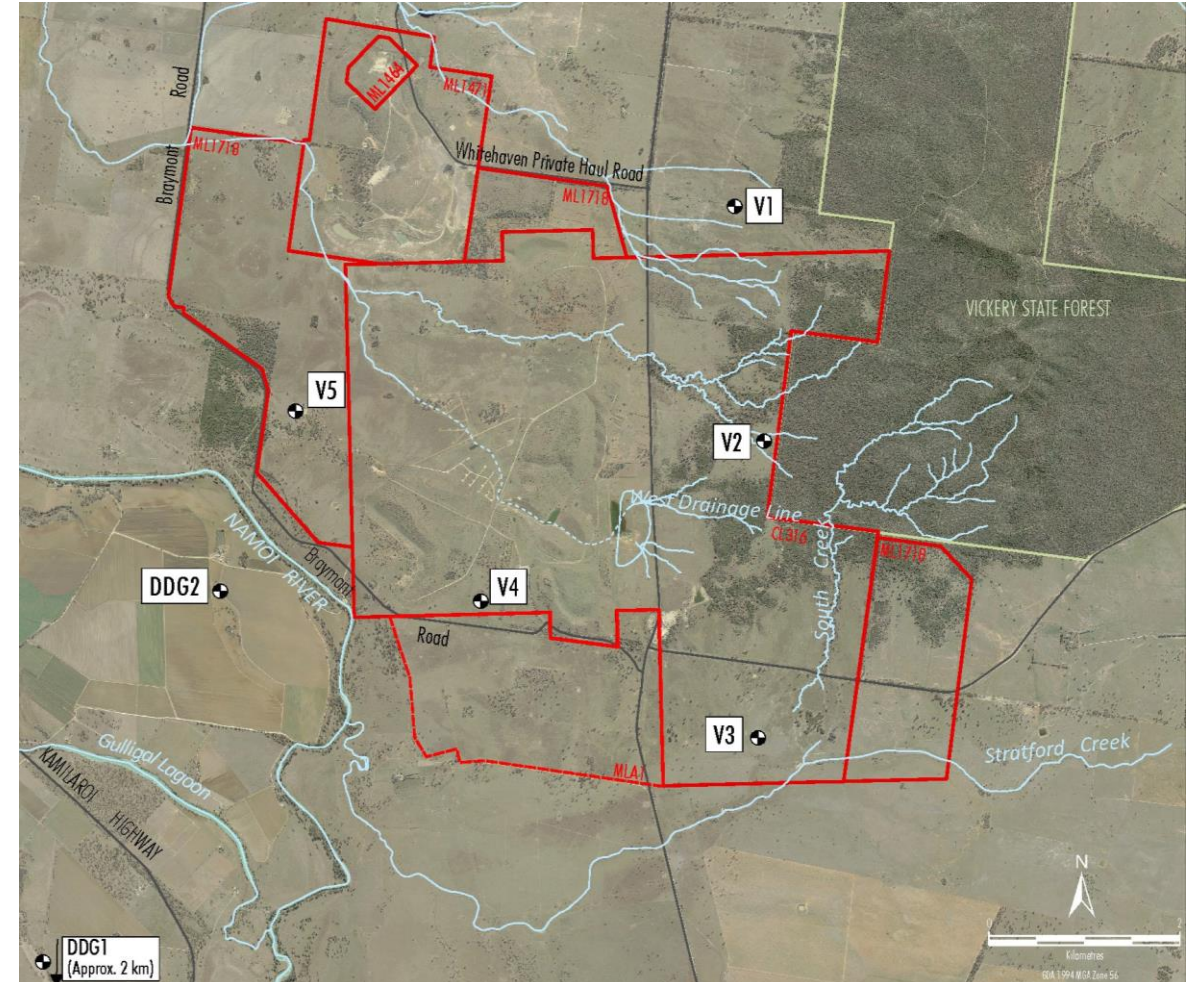
# Air Quality

## Depositional Dust monitoring as per Project Approval

Depositional Dust (12-month insoluble matter results in g/m2/month)		
Site	Annual Average	Guideline
DG1	6.2	Annual average to be below 4
DG2	2.2	
V1	3.3	
V2	0.6	
V3	2.0	
V4	1.3	
V5	2.2	

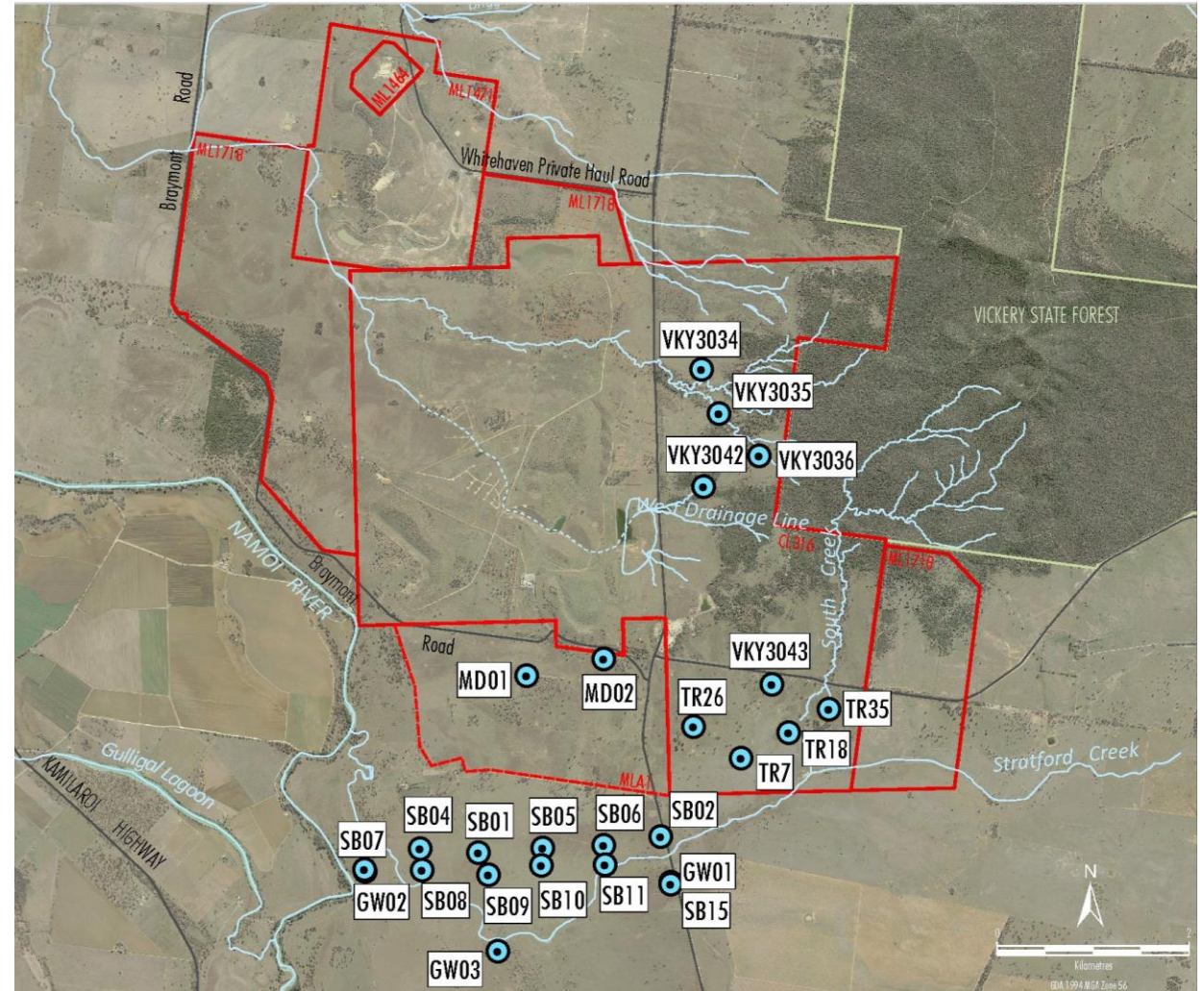
Dust emissions are not a result of the development.

- DG1 results affected by slashing and cropping around the gauge.
- Located on Whitehaven owned property.



# Groundwater

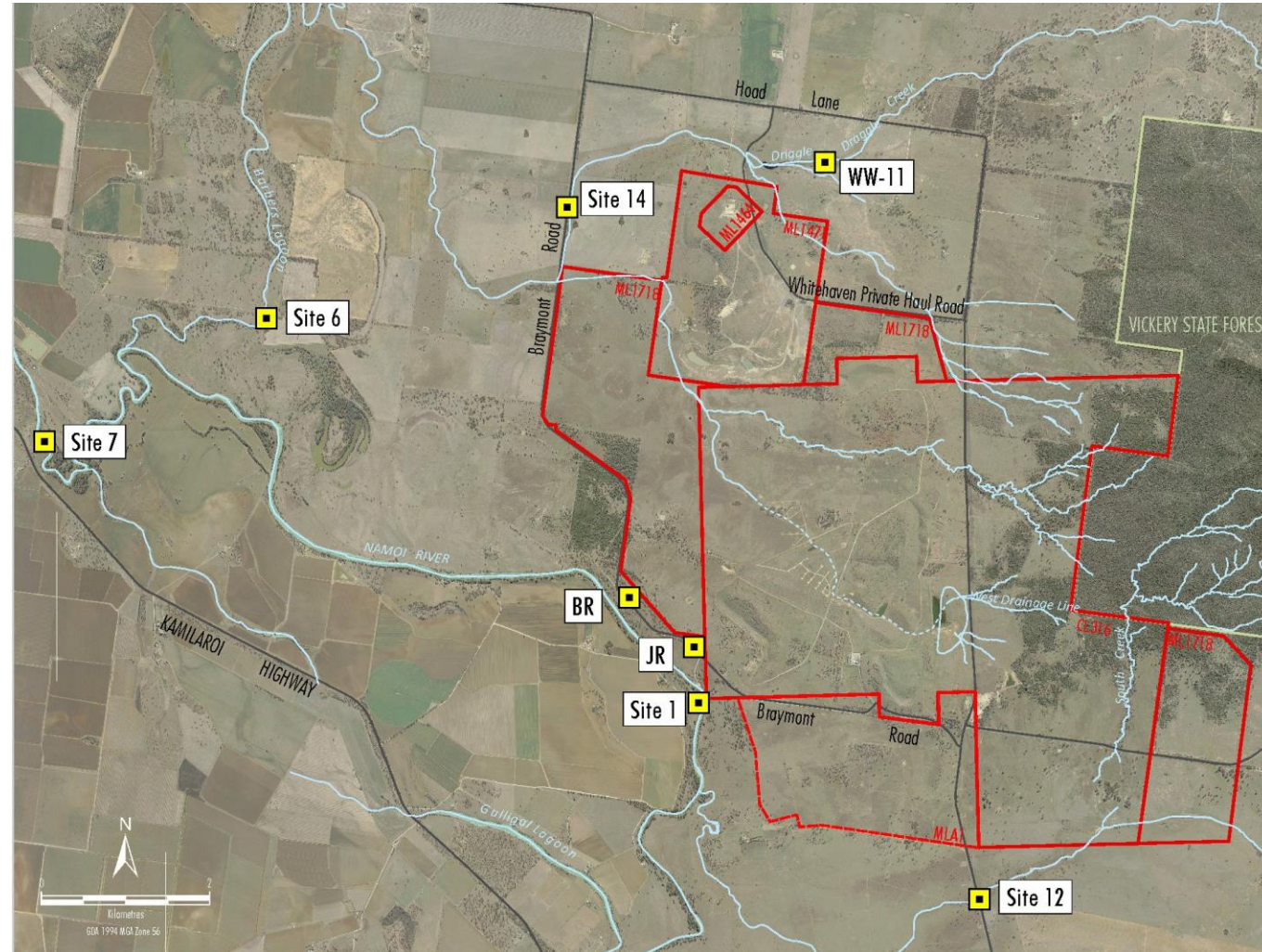
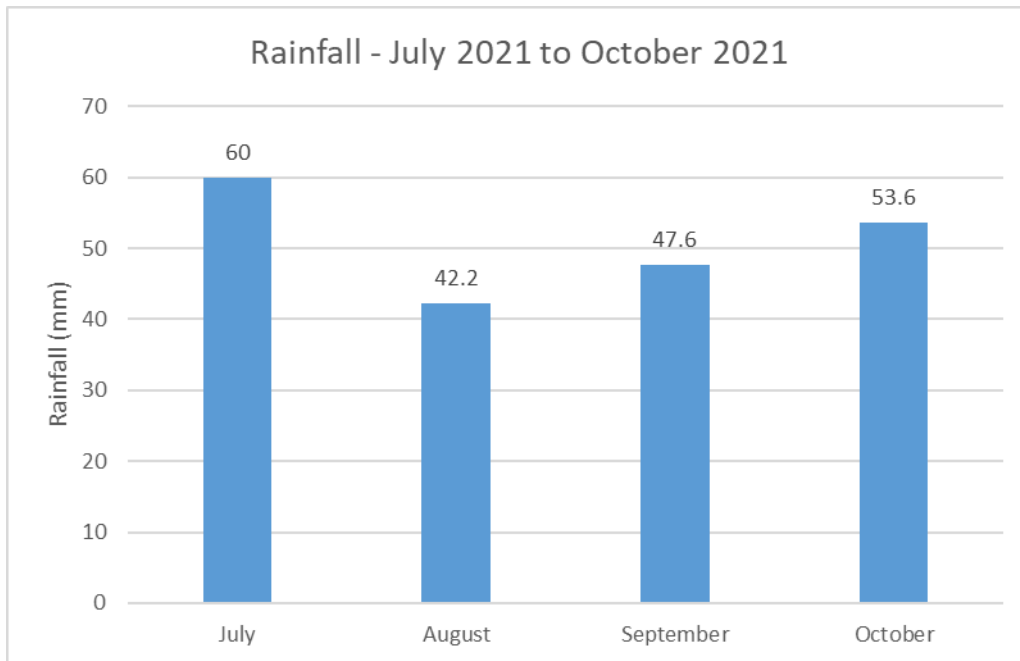
- Groundwater levels at 25 standpipe locations were last recorded in April 2021.
- Results showed generally consistent levels since the last CCC Meeting.





# Surface Water

- Surface water flow occurred since the last CCC meeting through a number of rain events.
- Water sampling undertaken in the Namoi River.



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# Complaints

No complaints received


<https://whitehavencoal.com.au/our-business/our-assets/vickery-extension-project/>

## Contacts

### Vickery Extension Project

Contact us via email or our community hotline for more information, to provide feedback or to lodge a complaint.

 1800 WHAVEN (1800 942 836)

 VICKERYFEEDBACK@WHITEHAVENCOAL.COM.AU

ALL CONTACTS →

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# Thank you

[www.whitehavencoal.com.au](http://www.whitehavencoal.com.au)