



**DECEMBER 2021 AIR, WATER, NOISE AND METEOROLOGICAL  
MONITORING**

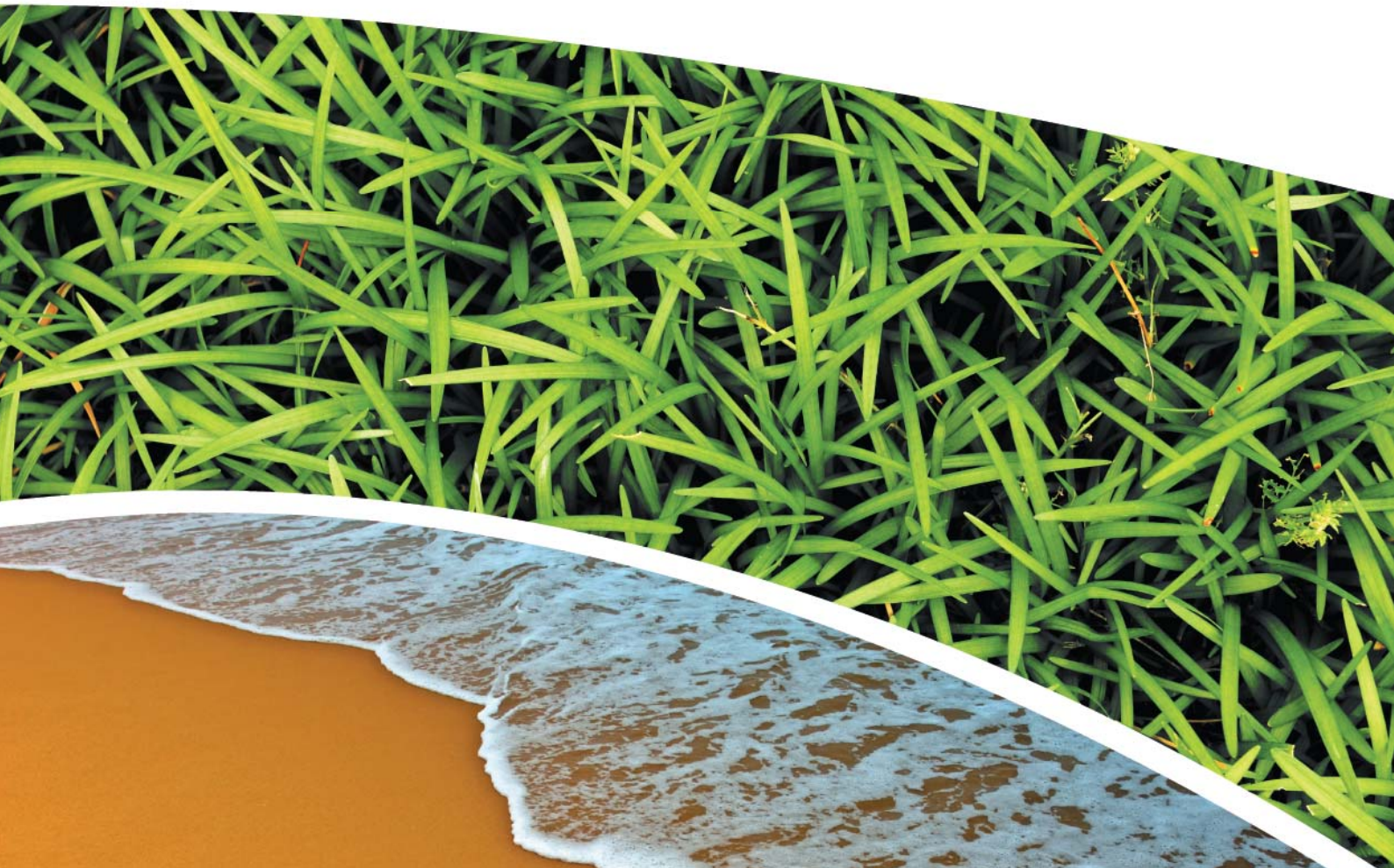
**PINE DALE MINE, BLACKMANS FLAT**

**Prepared for Pine Dale Mine Community Consultative Committee**

**Prepared by RCA Australia**

**RCA ref 6880-1872/1**

**JANUARY 2022**



## RCA AUSTRALIA

ABN 53 063 515 711

92 Hill Street, CARRINGTON NSW 2294


Telephone: +61 2 4902 9200

Facsimile: +61 2 4902 9299

Email: [administrator@rca.com.au](mailto:administrator@rca.com.au)

Internet: [www.rca.com.au](http://www.rca.com.au)

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RCA ref 6880-1872/1



12 January 2022

Enhance Place Pty Ltd  
PO Box 202  
WALLERWANG NSW 2845

Attention: Mr Graham Goodwin



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**REPORT COMPILED FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
DETAILING AIR, WATER AND METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING AT PINE DALE  
UNDERTAKEN IN DECEMBER 2021**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

This report presents the results of air, water, noise and meteorological monitoring undertaken at Pine Dale Mine, Blackmans Flat during the month of December 2021.

Air and water samples were collected by RCA Laboratories – Environmental staff. Meteorological data was obtained from the site weather station.

This report satisfies the requirements to monitor environmental parameters as presented in the Pine Dale Mine Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 4911).

## **2 ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES**

The analytical procedures used by RCA Laboratories – Environmental (NATA Accreditation number 9811) are based on established internationally recognised procedures such as APHA and Australian Standards. Analytical test methods are detailed in **Table 1**.

**Table 1** Analytical Test Methods

Analysis	Method	Units	Analysing Laboratory	NATA Accreditation Status
Determination of Suspended Particulate Matter	ENV-LAB003	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	RCA Laboratories – Environmental	NATA Analysis
Determination of Particulate Matter – Deposited Matter	ENV-LAB004	g/m <sup>2</sup> per month	RCA Laboratories – Environmental	NATA Analysis
pH	ENV-LAB006	pH	RCA Laboratories – Environmental	NATA Analysis
Conductivity	ENV-LAB010	µS/cm	RCA Laboratories – Environmental	NATA Analysis
Total Suspended Solids	ENV-LAB009	mg/L	RCA Laboratories – Environmental	NATA Analysis
Turbidity	ENV-LAB037	NTU	RCA Laboratories - Environmental	NATA Analysis
Oil and Grease	ENV-LAB022	mg/L	RCA Laboratories - Environmental	Non-NATA Analysis
Major Anions (Alkalinity, Cl, SO <sub>4</sub> )	ED037, ED041, ED045	mg/L	ALS	NATA Analysis
Major Cations (Ca, Mg, Na, K)	ED093	mg/L	ALS	NATA Analysis
Dissolved Metals	EG020F	mg/L	ALS	NATA Analysis

ALS Environmental has been used to obtain analysis of anions, cations and dissolved metals (NATA Accreditation number 825).

### 3 WATER MONITORING RESULTS

#### 3.1 GROUNDWATER

A total of two (2) groundwater samples were collected from within the Pine Dale Mine site during December 2021. Water quality analysis results are shown in **Table 2**. Groundwater monitoring locations are shown in **Appendix A**.

**Table 2** Groundwater Analysis Results

ANALYSIS	UNITS	P6	P7
Sample Number	-	12216880012	12216880013
Date Sampled	-	6/12/21	6/12/21
Time Sampled	-	16:28	17:11
Depth to Water from Surface	m	22.16	4.59
Water Level (AHD)	m	894.79	889.81
Temperature	°C	16.0	14.4
pH	pH	6.53	6.90
Conductivity	µS/cm	<b>1370</b>	826
Turbidity	NTU	12	
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	2.1	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24.0	
Oil and Grease	mg/L	<5	
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	120	
Total Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	120	
Sulphate (as SO <sub>4</sub> )	mg/L	576	
Chloride	mg/L	42	
Calcium	mg/L	146	
Magnesium	mg/L	59	
Sodium	mg/L	59	
Potassium	mg/L	21	
Cobalt (dissolved)	mg/L	0.05	
Manganese (dissolved)	mg/L	2.2	
Nickel (dissolved)	mg/L	0.095	
Zinc (dissolved)	mg/L	0.03	
Iron (dissolved)	mg/L	26.5	
<b>Trigger Values</b>			
pH trigger level <sup>a</sup>	pH	6.2 – 8.0	6.3 – 8.0
Conductivity trigger level	µS/cm	1180	852
Water Level (AHD) <sup>b</sup>	m	887.90	883.28
<b>Revised Trigger Values<sup>c</sup></b>			
pH trigger level <sup>d</sup>	pH	5.6	6.3
Water Level (AHD) <sup>b</sup>	M	887.9	--

■ Indicates analysis was not required.

<sup>a</sup> pH trigger value is exceeded if the pH is outside the nominated range.

<sup>b</sup> Water Level trigger is exceeded if the AHD water level drops below the nominated trigger level.

<sup>c</sup> Proposed trigger values to be used alongside the currently approved trigger values.

<sup>d</sup> pH trigger value is exceeded if pH is below the nominated value.

Results shown in ***bold italics*** indicates exceedance of trigger value.

Results shown in underline indicates exceedance of revised trigger value.

### 3.2 SURFACE WATER MONITORING

Quarterly ambient surface water monitoring was undertaken during November 2021 and as such is not required until February 2022.

## 4 AIR QUALITY RESULTS

### 4.1 HIGH VOLUME AIR SAMPLERS (HVAS)

Monitoring for TSP and PM<sub>10</sub> using HVAS was removed from Environment Protection Licence 4911 in November 2020. The Pine Dale Mine Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan (AQGGMP) was reviewed and updated to reflect this change. The updated AQGGMP was submitted to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) for endorsement. The AQGGMP was endorsed by DPIE on 4 December 2020 and was subsequently uploaded onto the Pine Dale Mine website.

### 4.2 DEPOSITIONAL DUST MONITORING

The depositional dust monitoring exposure period for December 2021 was 4 November 2021 – 6 December 2021. Depositional dust gauges at this facility conform to AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2016 and AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2016. The December exposure period was 32 days which is within the 30 ± 2 days dust exposure period stipulated in AS/NZS 3508.10.1:2016. Depositional dust monitoring results are shown in **Table 3**. Depositional dust monitoring locations are shown in **Appendix A**.

**Table 3** *Depositional Dust Monitoring*

Deposit Gauge	Number of Days	Notes	Insoluble Solids	Ash	Combustible Matter
D1	32	I	0.3	<0.1	0.3
D3	32	I	6.6	0.1	6.5
D4	32	I	0.1	0.1	<0.1
D5	32	I	0.1	<0.1	0.1
D6	32	IT	1.8	1.1	0.7

All units are g/m<sup>2</sup>/month

I – Insects (eg, Ants, Spiders)

T – Tree litter (leaves, gumnuts)

Results of D3 have been influenced by the presence of organic matter, comprising 98% of the insoluble solids concentration. Field sheets note that the organic matter contamination was caused by insects collected in the dust gauge bottle. Rainfall for the exposure period was 164.6mm, with wet conditions throughout. In addition to this, there were no dust generating activities at Pine Dale Mine throughout the exposure period. Therefore it is considered unlikely that the December D3 result was caused by dust fallout.

#### **4.2.1 ALLOWABLE DEPOSITIONAL DUST LIMITS**

The EPA long term (annual average) deposited dust limit is 4g/m<sup>2</sup> per month. The rolling annual average depositional dust results for all sites within the period (January 2021 – December 2021) are in compliance with consent conditions. The annual average for dust gauges D1, D3, D4, D5 and D6 are all less than or equal to 1.0g/m<sup>2</sup> per month. Annual averages are shown in the depositional dust gauge graphs provided in **Appendix B**.

### **5 METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING**

As of 10 November 2021, as authorised via an approved variation to the EPL, the location of the meteorological monitoring has been moved to the weather station situated at Mt Piper power station. Details of the weather data recorded during the period 1 to 31 December 2021 are shown in **Appendix C**: data capture was 100%.

### **6 BLASTING RESULTS**

No blasting was undertaken during this month as mining operations have ceased since the end of March 2014.

### **7 NOISE MONITORING RESULTS**

Quarterly noise monitoring was undertaken on 13 December. Results are contained within the Pine Dale Mine Environmental Noise Survey Report (RCA Report 13856-414/0). There were no measured noise contribution from Pine Dale Mine identified during the noise survey.

The next monitoring round is due before the end of March 2022.

### **8 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

All of the approved minable reserves at the Pine Dale Mine have now been exhausted. Operational mining and the last coal sales ceased as of the end of March 2014.

Pine Dale Mine has been placed in care and maintenance since April 2014. All former operators have been made redundant; however, some statutory positions still remain.

### **9 SUMMARY**

During the month of December 2021 groundwater and surface water monitoring results were found to be generally in compliance with stipulated criteria with the exception of the electrical conductivity at onsite groundwater location P6 which was above the site-specific trigger value. The pH at P6 and P7 were both compliant with the respective revised site-specific trigger values; there is no limit for electrical conductivity as part of the revised trigger values and therefore the electrical conductivity concentration at P7 is compliant.

All depositional dust gauge results are well below the EPA Long Term (annual average) criteria of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>.month based upon a rolling average of the past 12 months.

Meteorological monitoring was undertaken for the entire month of December with 100% data capture at the Mt Piper Weather Station.



Quarterly noise monitoring was undertaken during December 2021. The noise monitoring survey results show no noise contribution from Pine Dale Mine. The next monitoring round is due before the end of March 2022.

Pine Dale Mine ceased operation in March 2014 and therefore no blasting occurred at the site.

## 10 LIMITATIONS

This report has been prepared for Enhance Place Pty Ltd in accordance with an agreement with RCA Australia (RCA). The services performed by RCA have been conducted in a manner consistent with that generally exercised by members of its profession and consulting practice.

This report has been prepared for the sole use of Enhance Place. The report may not contain sufficient information for purposes of other uses or for parties other than Enhance Place. This report shall only be presented in full and may not be used to support objectives other than those stated in the report without written permission from RCA Australia.

The information in this report is considered accurate at the date of issue with regard to the current conditions of the site. Conditions can vary across any site that cannot be explicitly defined by investigation.

Environmental conditions including contaminant concentrations can change in a limited period of time. This should be considered if the report is used following a significant period of time after the date of issue.

Yours faithfully

**RCA AUSTRALIA**

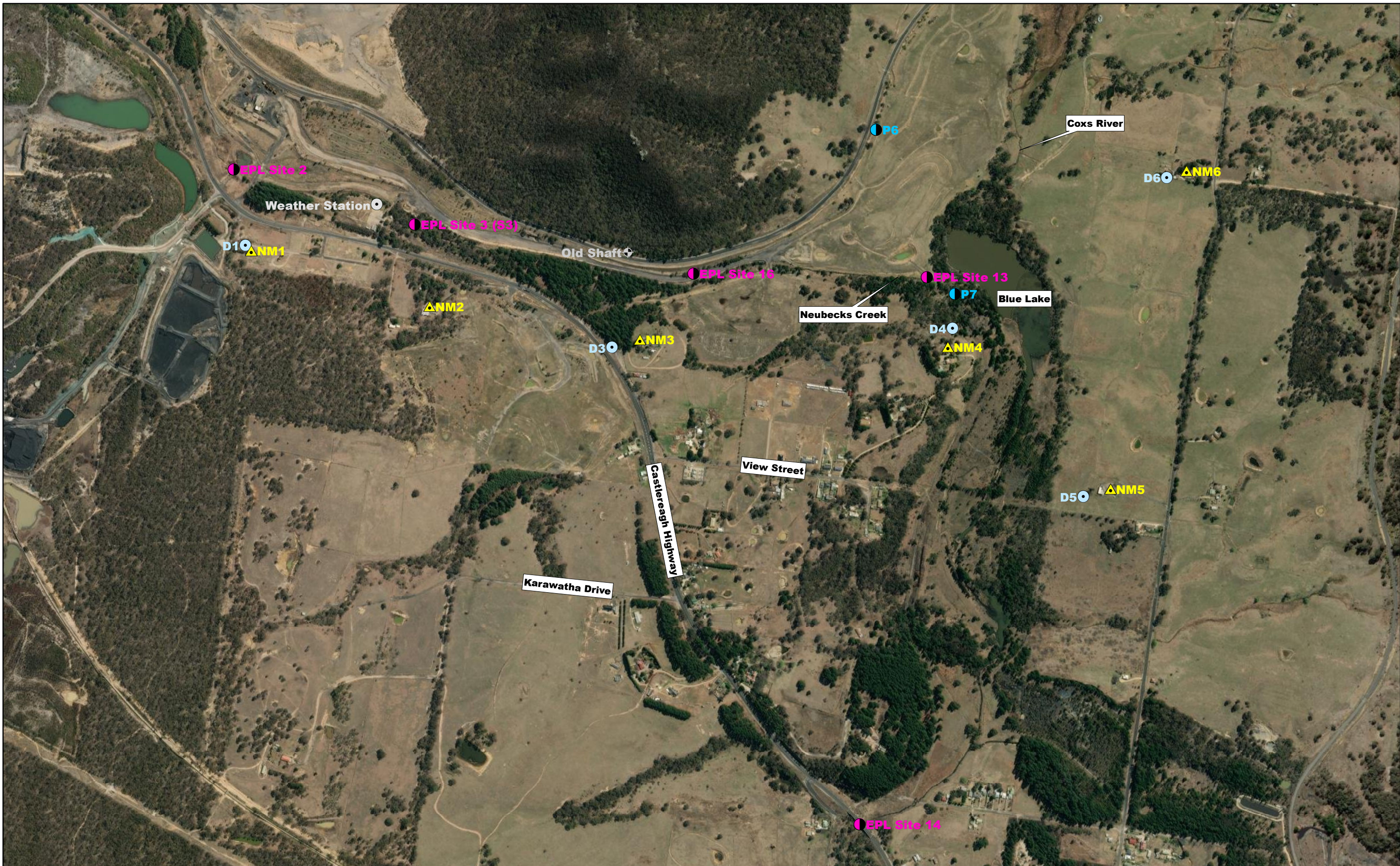


Fiona Brooker  
Manager of Environmental Services  
RCA Australia

# Appendix A

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## Monitoring Locations

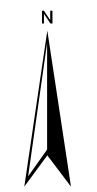


**LEGEND**

Noise Monitoring Location	Historic Meteorological Monitoring Location
Depositional Dust Monitoring Location	Surface Water Monitoring Location
Groundwater Monitoring Location	Historical groundwater monitoring location

Note: Aerial taken from ArcGis Base Map, September 10 2018

0 62.5 125 250 375 500  
 1:10000 (metres)

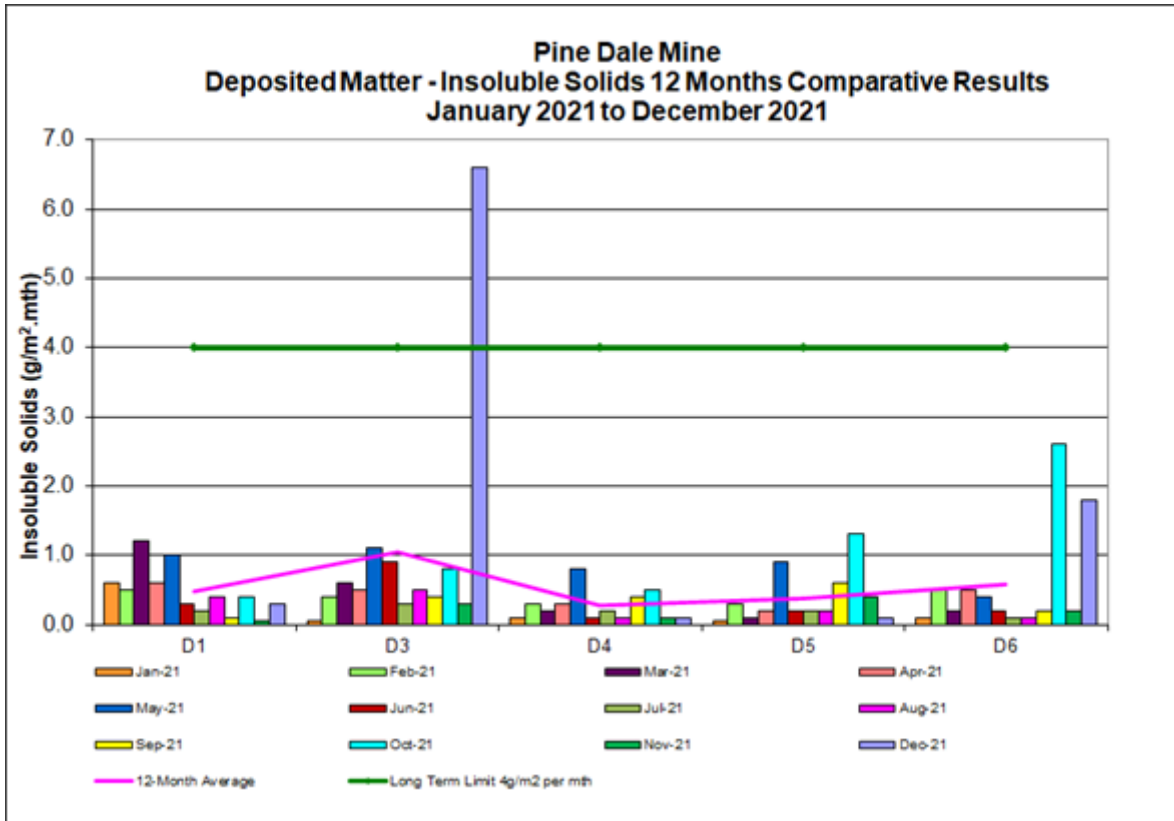


PINE DALE MINE  
 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING  
 LOCATION PLAN

# Appendix B

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Depositional Dust Graph



# Appendix C

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Meteorological Data (Mt Piper weather station)

