

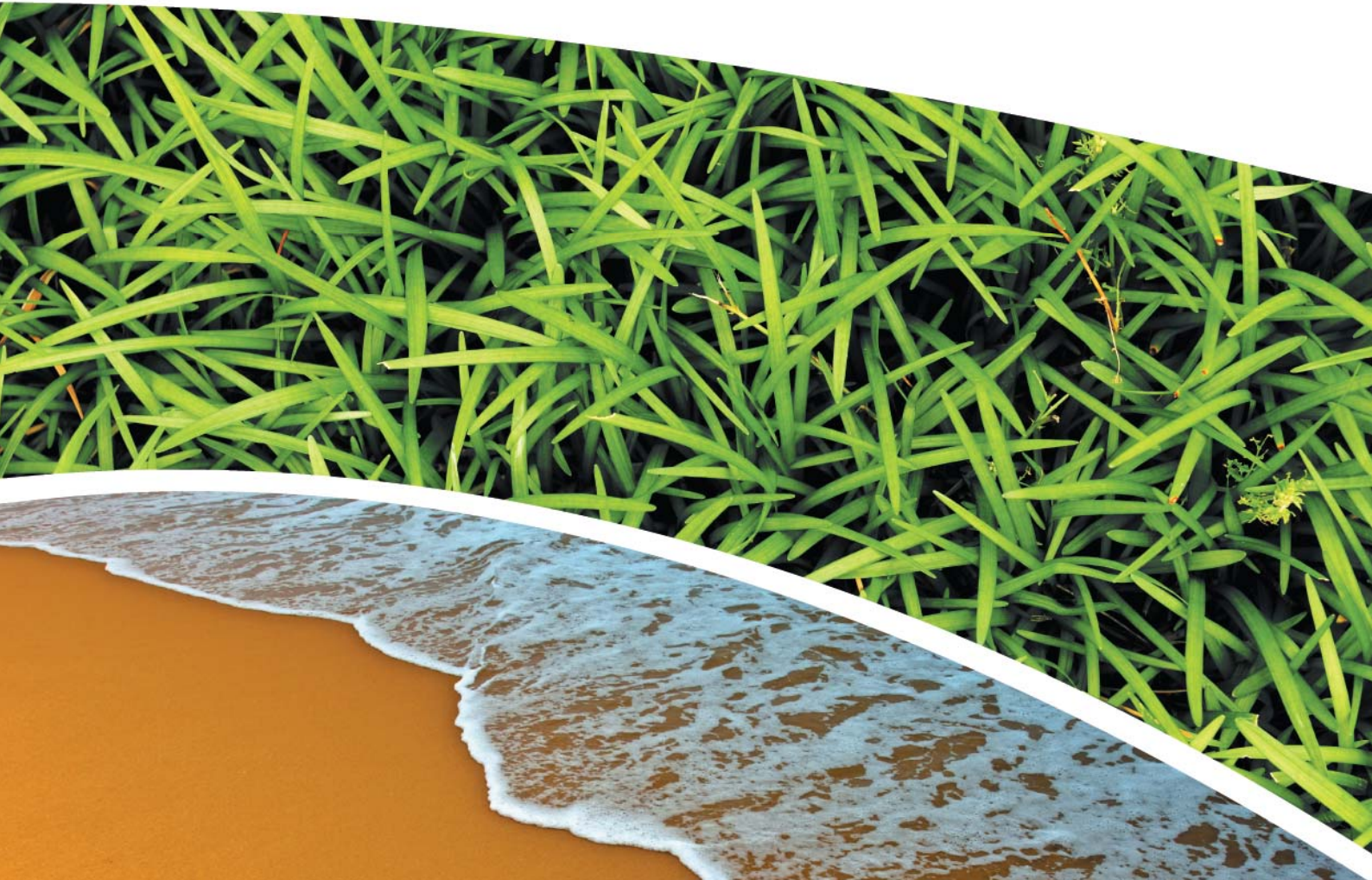
**GROUNDWATER, SURFACE WATER, DEPOSITIONAL DUST,
HVAS AND METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING**

Prepared for Pine Dale Mine Community Consultative Committee

Prepared by RCA Australia

RCA ref 6880-824/0

May 2013



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25 June 2013

Pine Dale Mine
PO Box 202
WALLERAWANG NSW 2845

Attention: Mr Graham Goodwin

**REPORT COMPILED FOR
PINE DALE MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
DETAILING GROUND WATER, DEPOSITIONAL DUST
HVAS AND METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING
MAY 2013**

1 GENERAL COMMENTS

Job Number: 6880.

Date Samples Received: During the month of May 2013.

Samples received were sampled by RCA Laboratories – Environmental staff.

This report satisfies the requirements to monitor environmental parameters as presented in the Pine Dale Mine Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 4911). Additional site groundwater bore monitoring results are also presented in this report.

2 ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES

The analytical procedures used by RCA Laboratories – Environmental are based on established internationally recognised procedures such as APHA and Australian Standards. Analytical test methods are detailed in **Table 1**. When an external testing laboratory is used to obtain the analysis of samples which become a part of this report, then the details of that laboratory's official report will be attached in an Appendix.

Table 1 Analytical Test Methods

| ANALYSIS | METHOD | UNITS | ANALYSING LABORATORY | NATA / NON-NATA ANALYSIS |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Determination of Suspended Particulate Matter | ENV-LAB003 | µg/m ³ | RCA Laboratories - Environmental | NATA Analysis |
| Determination of Particulate Matter – Deposited Matter | ENV-LAB004 | g/m ² /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 ₄) | 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 |

3 WATER ANALYSIS RESULTS

3.1 GROUNDWATER

A total of 5 on-site groundwater samples were collected during the month of May 2013. No sample was collected from groundwater monitoring location P4 as the bore did not contain sufficient water to sample. Water quality analysis results are shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2 *Groundwater Analysis Results*

| ANALYSIS | UNITS | P2 | P3 P6 P7 | | | P7a |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sample Number | | 05136880019 | 05136880020 | 05136880010 | 05136880021 | 05136880022 |
| Date Sampled | - | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 |
| Time Sampled | - | 13:20 | 13:10 | 11:35 | 11:55 | 12:00 |
| Standing Water Level | m | 4.39 | 5.34 | 25.83 | 6.78 | 5.04 |
| Standpipe Height | m | 0.95 | 0.66 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 0.90 |
| Relative Standing Water Level* | m | 4.39 | 5.34 | 25.83 | 6.68 | 5.04 |
| pH | pH unit | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 7.3 | 7.2 |
| Conductivity | µS/cm | 246 | 622 | 1072 | 762 | 984 |

NOTES: *Depth relative to ground level (not standpipe height).

Groundwater monitoring locations are shown in **Appendix 1**.

3.2 EPA SURFACE WATER MONITORING

Routine quarterly surface water monitoring was undertaken during the month of May 2013 at three surface water sites. Sampling was not required at Points 4, 5 and 13 as the mine was not discharging. Water quality analysis results are shown in **Table 3**.

Table 3 EPA Surface Water Analysis Results

| ANALYSIS | UNITS | EPA Point 2 Neubeck's Ck Upstream | EPA Point 3 Neubeck's Ck Downstream | EPA Point 14 Cox's River Downstream |
|------------------------|-------|---|---|---|
| Sample Number | - | 05136880043 | 05136880014 | 05136880045 |
| Date Sampled | - | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 22/05/2013 |
| Time Sampled | - | 14:50 | 13:30 | 15:45 |
| Temperature | °C | 8.0 | 8.0 | 14.0 |
| Flow | - | Slow | Slow | Fast |
| pH | pH | 7.6 | 7.5 | 8.7 |
| Conductivity | µS/cm | 1607 | 1611 | 960 |
| Sulfate | mg/L | 725 | 742 | 87 |
| Dissolved Iron | mg/L | 0.21 | 1.69 | <0.05 |
| Total Suspended Solids | mg/L | <5 | 9 | <5 |
| Turbidity | NTU | 1 | 5 | 3 |

4 AIR QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

4.1 HIGH VOLUME AIR SAMPLERS (HVAS)

HVAS at this facility conform to AS/NZS 3580.9.3:2003, AS/NZS 3580.9.6:2003 and AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2007.

HVAS Total Suspended Particulate analysis results are shown in **Table 4**;

PM₁₀ Suspended Particulate Matter results are shown in **Table 5**.

Table 4 Total Suspended Particulates ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ 0°C 101.3 kPa)

| RUN DATE | TSP ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) | SAMPLE NUMBER | FILTER NUMBER | DATE FILTER OFF | TIME FILTER OFF | FIELD TECH | HOURS RUN |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 03-May-13 | 46 | 05136880046 | 8698269 | 07-May-13 | 10:10 | Client | 24.00 |
| 09-May-13 | 60 | 05136880048 | 8698222 | 13-May-13 | 13:02 | Client | 24.00 |
| 15-May-13 | 13 | 05136880050 | 8698224 | 22-May-13 | 10:05 | Client | 24.09 |
| 22-May-13 | 14 | 05136880052 | 8698226 | 23-May-13 | 10:50 | K Hawes | 24.00 |
| 27-May-13 | 20 | 05136880054 | 8698228 | 29-May-13 | 14:25 | Client | 24.00 |

Table 5 *Suspended Particulate Matter PM₁₀ (µg/m³ 0°C 101.3 kPa)*

| RUN DATE | PM ₁₀ (µg/m ³) | SAMPLE NUMBER | FILTER NUMBER | DATE FILTER OFF | TIME FILTER OFF | FIELD TECH | HOURS RUN |
|-----------|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 03-May-13 | 14 | 05136880047 | 8698270 | 07-May-13 | 10:10 | Client | 24.00 |
| 09-May-13 | 18 | 05136880049 | 8698223 | 13-May-13 | 13:02 | Client | 24.00 |
| 15-May-13 | 11 | 05136880051 | 8698225 | 22-May-13 | 10:15 | Client | 33.43 |
| 22-May-13 | 7 | 05136880053 | 8698227 | 23-May-13 | 10:50 | K Hawes | 24.17 |
| 27-May-13 | 10 | 05136880055 | 8698229 | 29-May-13 | 14:25 | Client | 24.00 |

4.1.1 Allowable TSP Limits

The EPA Annual Mean TSP allowable limit is 90µg/m³. All TSP HVAS results recorded during this monitoring period are in compliance with consent conditions, as the *current rolling annual mean* (from June 2012 to May 2013) for the TSP unit is 30.6µg/m³, which is well below the allowable limit of 90µg/m³.

4.1.2 Allowable PM₁₀ Limits

The EPA 24h Maximum PM₁₀ allowable limit is 50µg/m³. The EPA Annual Mean PM₁₀ allowable limit is 30µg/m³. All PM₁₀ HVAS results recorded during this monitoring period conform to consent conditions, as the *current rolling annual mean* for the PM₁₀ unit is 12.0µg/m³, which is below the allowable limit of 30µg/m³. The 24 hour maximum allowable limit of 50µg/m³ was not exceeded on any run day during the May 2013 monitoring period.

4.1.3 Comments

HVAS monitoring locations are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Graphical HVAS results presentations are shown in **Appendix 2**.

4.2 DEPOSITIONAL DUST

Depositional Dust Gauges at this facility conform to AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003 and AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2007. Depositional Dust monitoring results are shown in **Table 6**.

Table 6 *Depositional Dust Monitoring - Deposited Matter April 2013*

| SAMPLE NO | DEPOSIT GAUGE | DATE SAMPLE STARTED | DATE SAMPLE COMPLETED | NO OF DAYS | NOTES | INSOLUBLE SOLIDS (g/m ² /month) | ASH (g/m ² /month) | COMBUSTIBLE MATTER (g/m ² /month) |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| 05136880033 | D1 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 05136880034 | D2 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| 05136880035 | D3 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| 05136880036 | D4 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 05136880037 | D5 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.2 |
| 05136880038 | D6 | 22/04/2013 | 22/05/2013 | 30 | I | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 |

4.2.1 Glossary of Terms Used in Notes

I Insects (e.g. ants, spiders)

4.2.2 Allowable Depositional Dust Limits

The EPA Long Term (Annual Average) Dust Limit is 4g/m² per month. All Depositional Dust results during this monitoring period are in compliance with consent conditions. The Annual Average for Dust Gauges D1, D2, D3, D4, D5 and D6 are all less than 1.0g/m² per month, which is below the allowable Annual Average Long Term Limit of 4g/m² per month.

Depositional Dust monitoring locations are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Graphical Depositional Dust results are shown in **Appendix 2**.

5 BLASTING RESULTS

Blasting results for the month of May are shown in **Table 7**.

Table 7 *Blasting Results- Airblast Overpressure (dB) and Ground Vibration (mm/sec)*

| Date | <i>Park</i> | | <i>Noon St.</i> | | <i>Summer St.</i> | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Overpressure (dB) | Vibration (mm/sec) | Overpressure (dB) | Vibration (mm/sec) | Overpressure (dB) | Vibration (mm/sec) |
| 2/05/2013 | NA | NA | 99.1 | 0.23 | NT | NT |
| 9/05/2013 | NA | NA | 110.2 | 0.58 | 106.9 | 0.56 |
| 16/05/2013 | NA | NA | 102.5 | 0.24 | 108.4 | 0.25 |
| 24/05/2013 | NA | NA | 102.2 | 0.40 | 99.9 | 0.40 |
| 2012- 2013 Year to Date Information | | | | | | |
| Minimum | 111.30 | 3.50 | 91.2 | 0.08 | 87.20 | 0.10 |
| Average | 112.9 | 3.5 | 106.7 | 1.1 | 107.8 | 1.3 |
| Maximum | 114.5 | 3.57 | 114.4 | 2.69 | 116.30 | 3.47 |
| % > EPL 95% Compliance Criteria | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.6% | 0.0% |
| % > EPL 100% Compliance Criteria | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

Notes: NT No Trigger. Blast monitoring unit was not triggered during the blast.

NA No monitoring conducted at this location.

5.1.1 Allowable Blasting Limits

Conditions of EPL 4911 state that in relation to airblast overpressure levels a result of greater than 115dB must not be observed at any noise sensitive location for more than 5% of the total number of blasts over each annual reporting period. All blasts within the annual reporting period (100% of blasts) are not to exceed the compliance criteria of 120dB. Ground vibration peak velocity levels must not exceed 5mm/sec for 95% of blasts, whilst an intensity of 10mm/sec must not be exceeded by any blast during the reporting period. The reporting period runs as a rolling 12-month average from June 2012 to May 2013.

During May 2013, there were nil exceedances of the EPL conditions for both overpressure and vibration levels. For the rolling annual average, there have been zero blasts which have exceeded the 100% compliance conditions of 120dB and 10mm/sec for overpressure and vibration respectively. The overpressure and vibration criteria of 115dB and 5mm/sec, respectively, have not been exceeded for more than 5% of the blasts during the reporting period.

Graphical blasting results from overpressure and vibration are presented in **Appendix 2**.

6 NOISE MONITORING RESULTS

Routine quarterly noise monitoring was not required to be undertaken this month. Quarterly noise monitoring is next scheduled to be undertaken during the July 2013 period.

7 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Pine Dale Mine production rates in May 2013 were achieved, with a slight reduction in workforce due to the Irondale coal seam mined under the current Approval.

Relatively low rainfall was observed throughout the month, 22.6 mm total, which predominantly fell on the 14th and 23rd of the month. Production material targets have been achieved this month as rainfall had little impact upon operations. In total 187,000 tonnes of overburden were excavated and 36,000 tonnes of coal delivered to Mt Piper Power Station. Operations this month were principally undertaken with the use of one excavator and three trucks.

Monitoring of the Purple Copper Butterfly has ceased at present due to the dormant winter period.

8 SUMMARY

During the month of May 2013 all environmental monitoring constituents were found to be in compliance with EPL 4911.

Quarterly surface water sampling was conducted in May 2013. All required sites were sampled during this monitoring round. EPA Points 4, 5 and 13 were not sampled this month because the site was not discharging.

Rolling annual averages from both the TSP and PM₁₀ High Volume Air Samplers are currently well below the EPA Annual Mean TSP and PM₁₀ criterion of 90µg/m³ and 30µg/m³ respectively. There were zero exceedances of the PM₁₀ short term impact assessment criteria of 50µg/m³ over twenty-four hours during May 2013.

Currently there are no depositional dust gauge results which are greater than the EPA Long Term (annual average) criteria of 4g/m²/month based upon a rolling average of the past 12 months.

During May there were nil exceedances of the blasting requirements documented in the Pine Dale Mine EPL. During the previous twelve month reporting period, there were nil non-conformance's based upon the 95% or 100% limits for either overpressure or vibration levels.

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Please contact the undersigned if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely



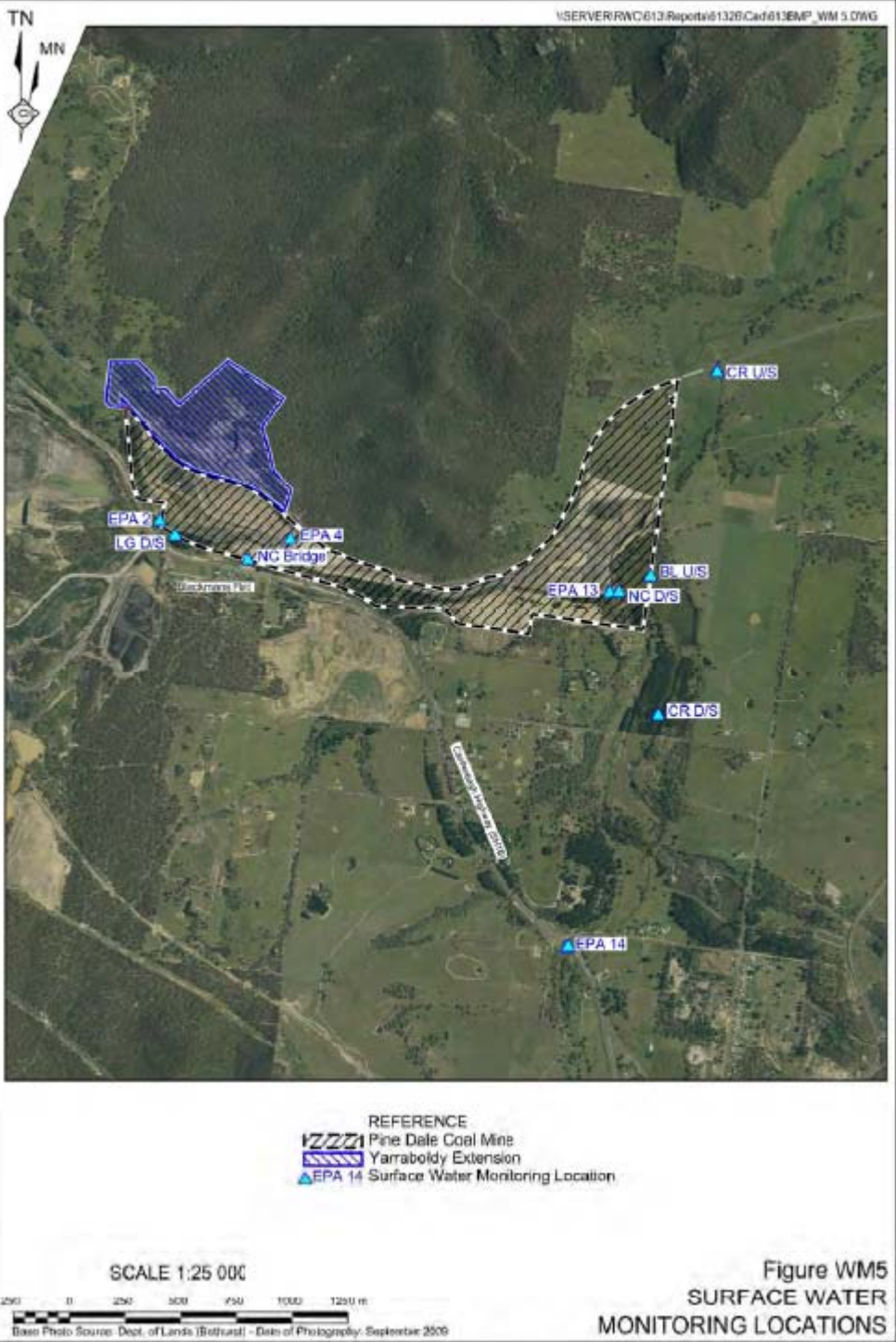
Katy Shaw
Environmental Scientist
RCA Australia Pty Ltd trading as
RCA Laboratories – Environmental



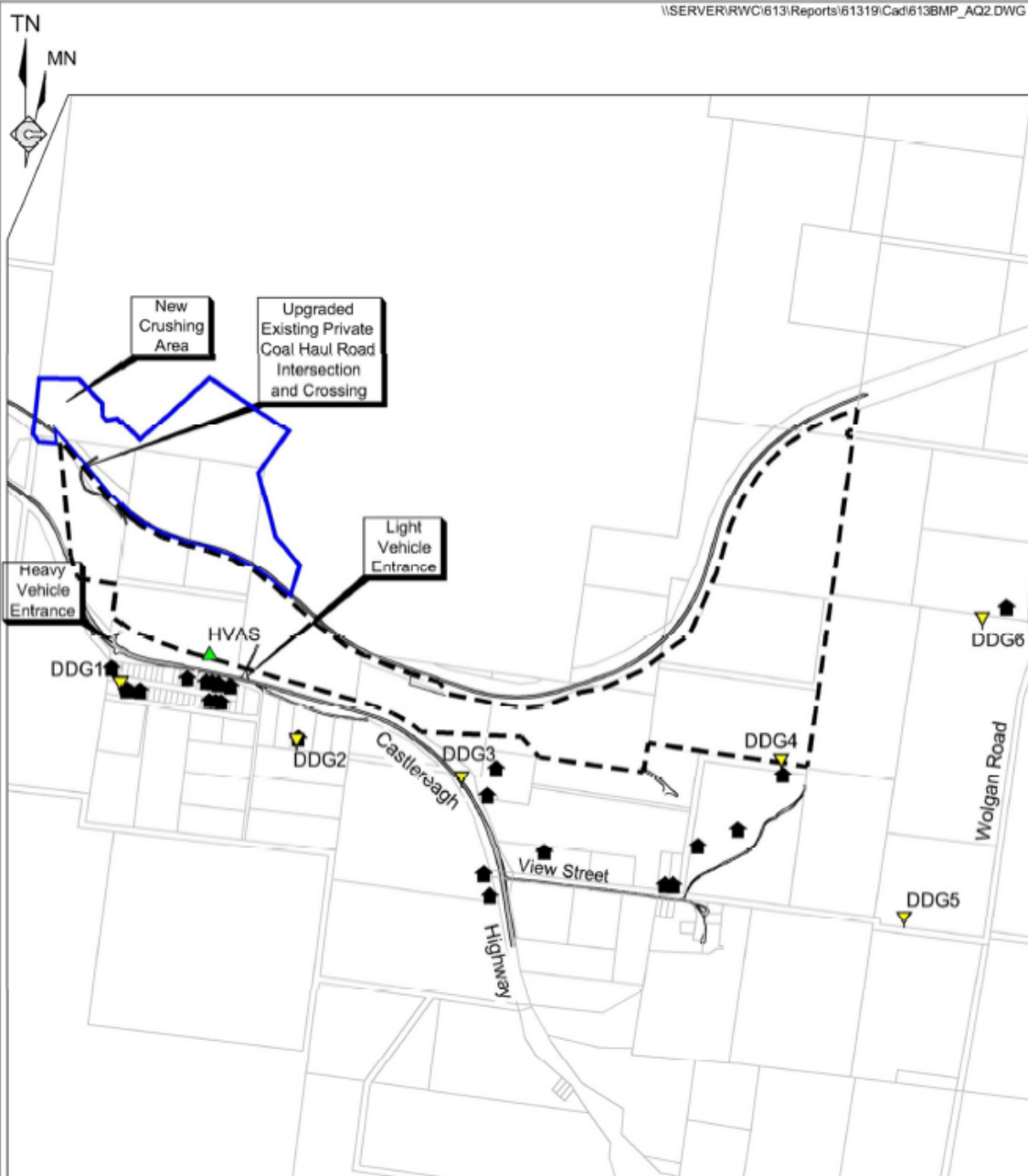
Karen Tripp
Senior Environmental Scientist/Hygienist
RCA Australia Pty Ltd trading as
RCA Laboratories – Environmental

Appendix 1

Surface Water Groundwater and Air Quality Monitoring Locations







- REFERENCE
- - - Pine Dale Coal Mine
 - Yarraboldy Extension
 - Cadastral Boundary
 - 🏠 Residence
 - DDG1 ▽ Air Quality Monitoring Location (Deposited Dust)
 - HVAS ▲ Air Quality Monitoring Location (High Volume Sampling)

SCALE 1:20 000

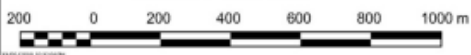
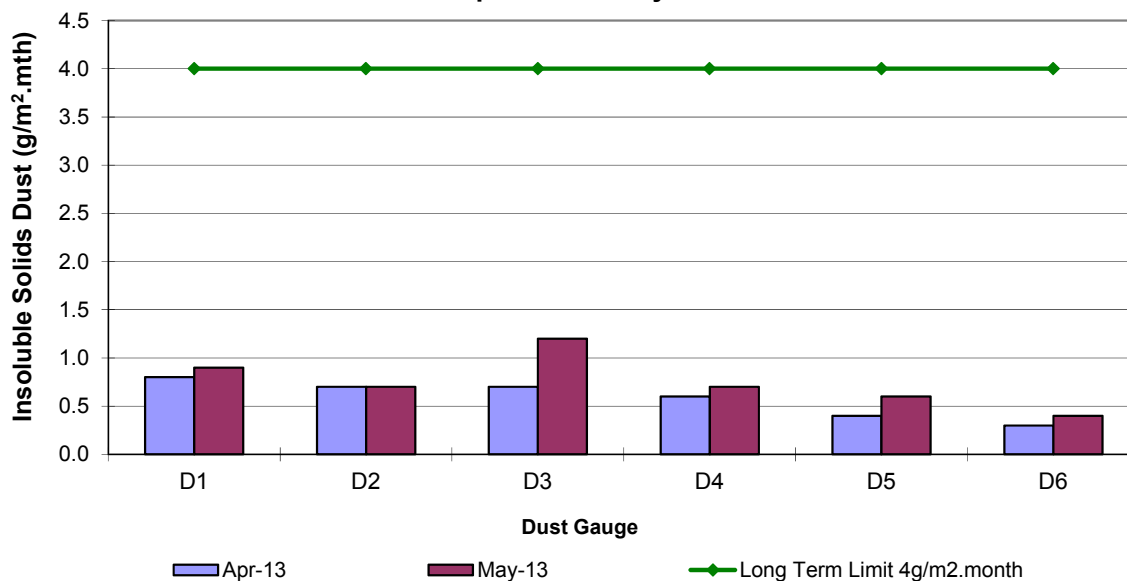


Figure AQ2
AIR QUALITY MONITORING
LOCATIONS

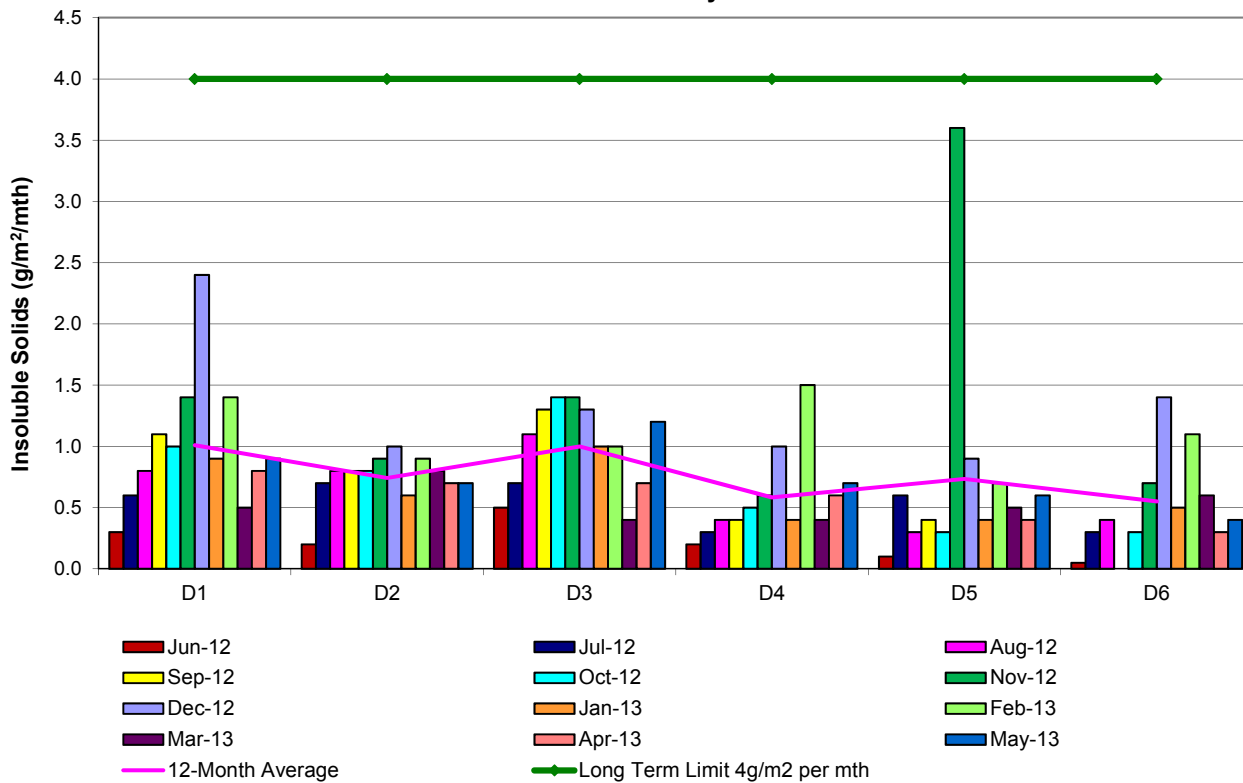
Appendix 2

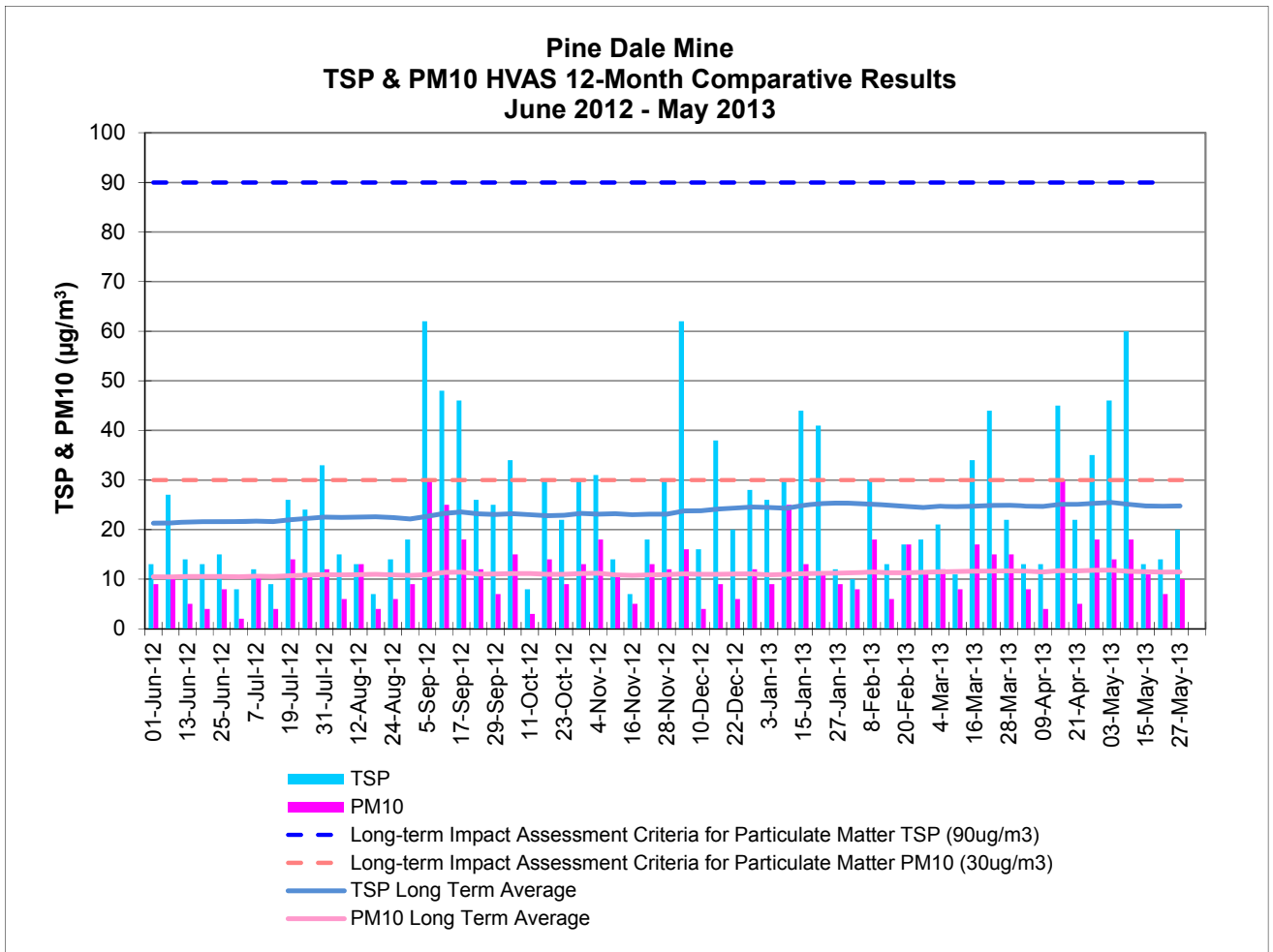
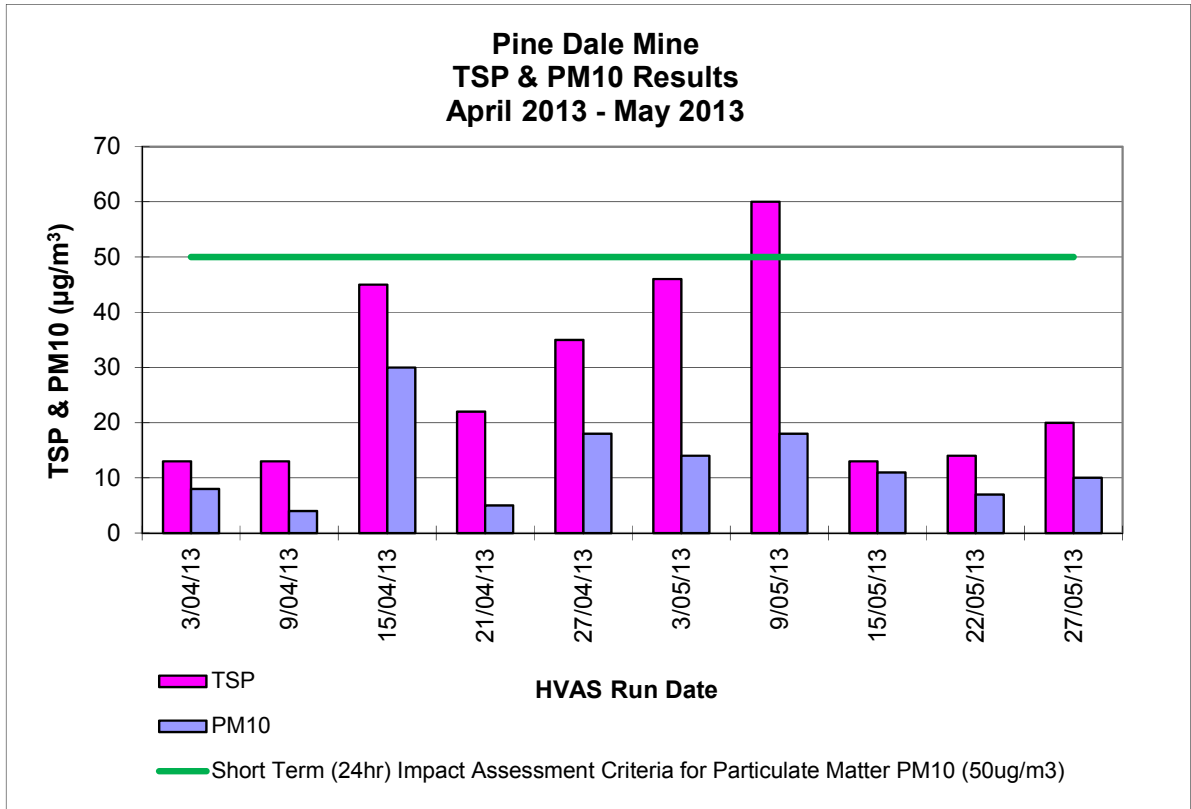
Depositional Dust, HVAS and Blast Result Graphs

**Pine Dale Mine
Depositional Dust Gauge Comparative Results
April 2013 - May 2013**

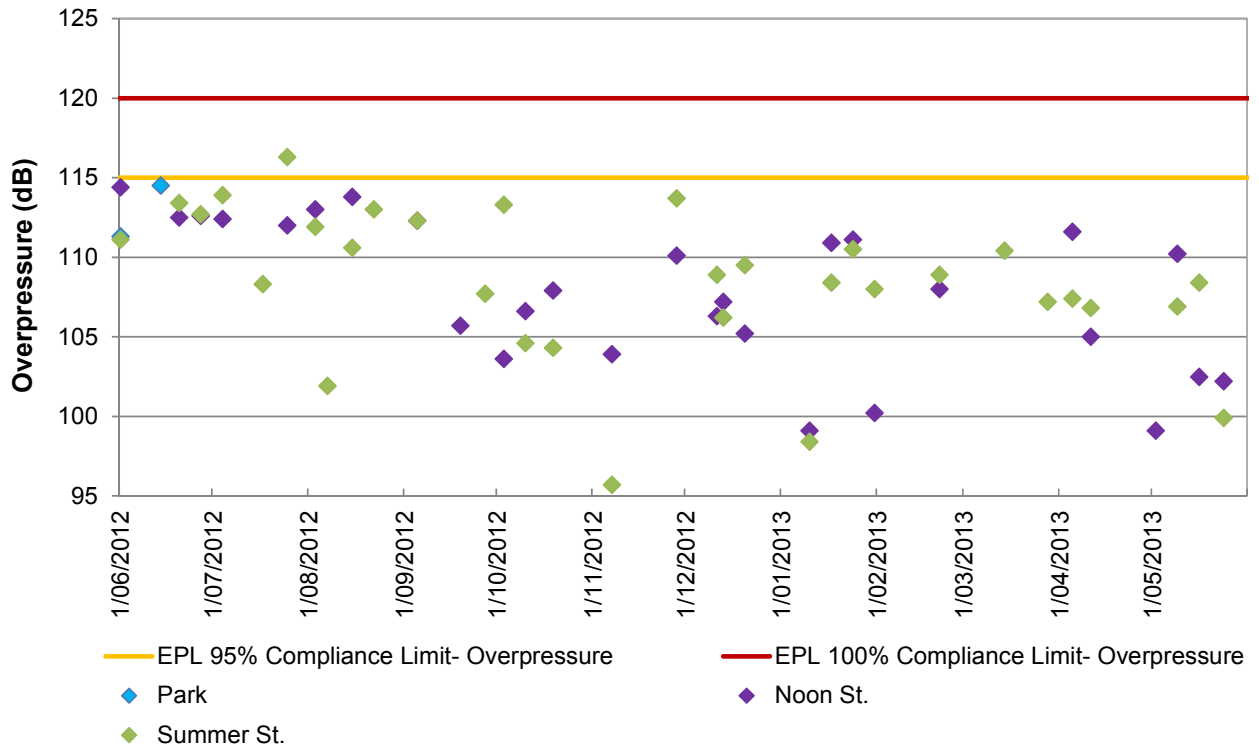


**Pine Dale Mine
Deposited Matter - Insoluble Solids 12 Months Comparative Results
June 2012 - May 2013**

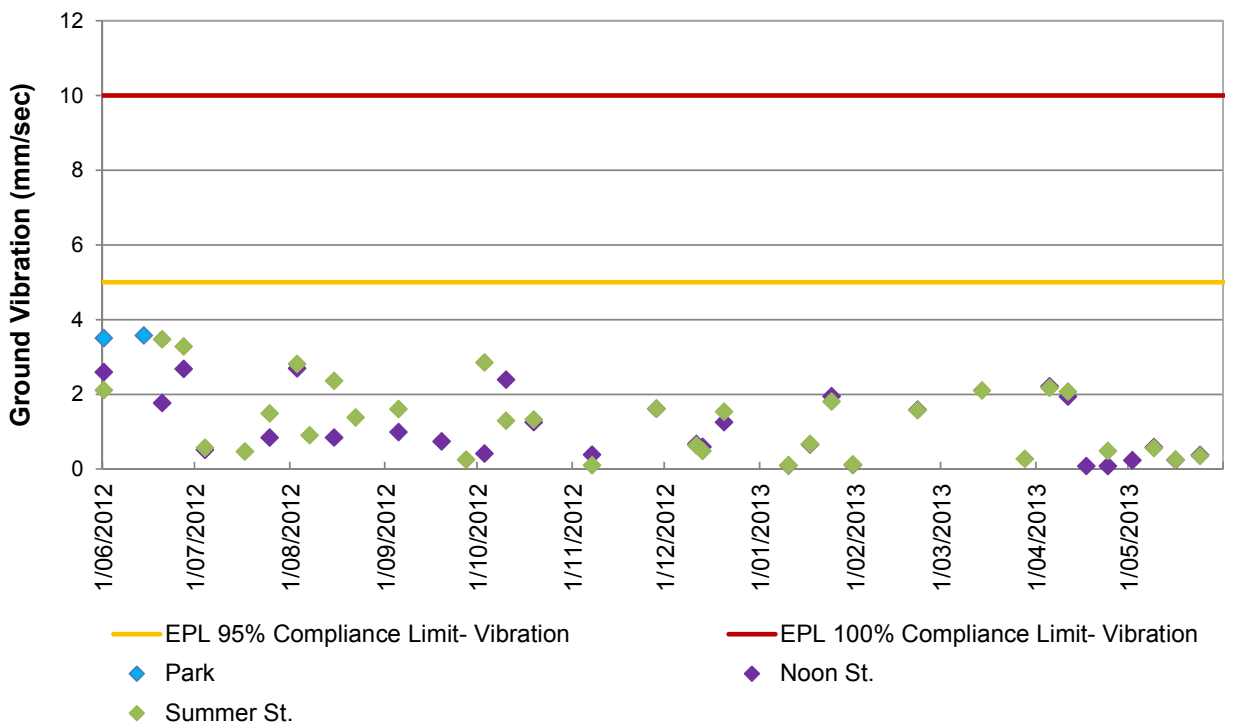




**Pine Dale Mine
Blasting- Airblast Overpressure
June 2012 to May 2013 Comparable Data**



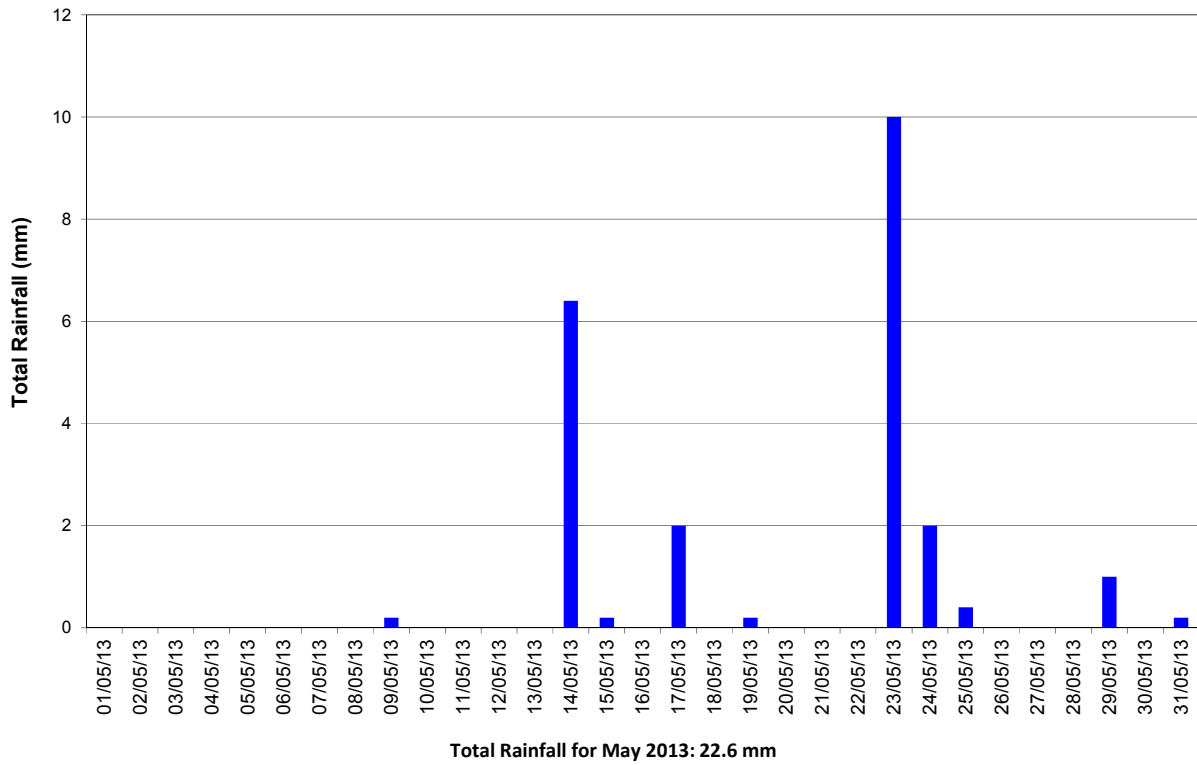
**Pine Dale Mine
Blasting- Ground Vibration
June 2012 to May 2013 Comparable Data**



Appendix 3

Meteorological Data

Blackmans Flat NSW
Total Rainfall - Period: 1/05/2013 to 31/05/2013



Blackmans Flat NSW
Average Air Temperature - Period: 1/05/2013 to 31/05/2013

