

**MT ARTHUR MINE COMPLEX**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday 4 April, 2012**

# **AGENDA**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Person</u>
4:00	1 Welcome and apologies	Chairperson
4:02	2 House keeping and safety	MAC
4:05	3 Declaration of pecuniary interest	Chairperson
4:07	4 Confirmation of previous meeting minutes	Chairperson
4:10	5 Action points since last meeting	MAC
4:30	6 Overview of operations to date	MAC
4:45	7 Rehabilitation & Biodiversity Management Plan	MAC
5:15	8 Environmental monitoring data	MAC
5:30	9 Overview of community support	MAC
5:45	10 General business	Chairperson
6:58	11 Next meeting date	Chairperson
6:00	12 Meeting close	Chairperson

## Overview of Operations (January – February 2012)

### Operations Summary:

- RX1 equipment continued to be delivered (Hitachi 5600 excavator and ancillary equipment)
- Production heavily affected due to a large amount of wet weather
- VD1 reshaping delayed due to a large amount of wet weather
- Unlocking of Modular mining system continued on the overburden fleet.
- The total number of people employed by NSW Energy Coal was 1,418 FTE at the end of February.

## Environmental Monitoring Data (January – February 2012)

This monitoring data is provided for your perusal prior to the meeting. We will discuss any exceedances or elevated results since the last meeting by exception only.

### 1. Blasting Data (January – February 2012)

#### Blasting Criteria:

Blast Impact Assessment Criteria			
10. The Proponent shall ensure that blasts on site do not cause exceedances of the criteria in Table 8.			
<i>Table 8: Blasting impact assessment criteria</i>			
Location	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance
Residence on privately owned land	120	10	0%
	115	5	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months
Heritage sites, including Edinglassie and Rous Lench	133	10	0%

#### Blasting Summary:

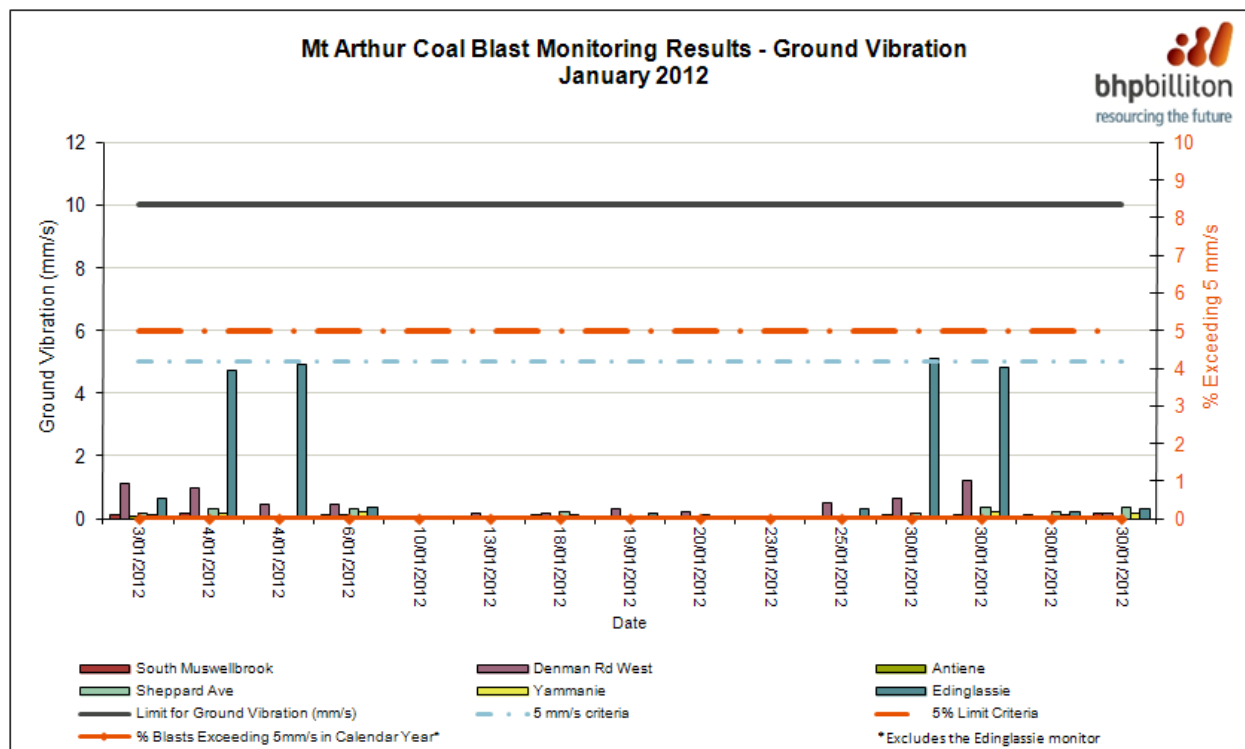
- All licensed blast monitoring stations recorded results below regulatory criteria for the January to February 2012 monitoring period.
- There were two road closures in the January to February 2012 monitoring period.
- There were 24 blasts fired in the January to February 2012 monitoring period.
- Twenty-nine blasts were delayed due to unfavourable weather conditions.

#### Blast Monitor Data Capture Rates:

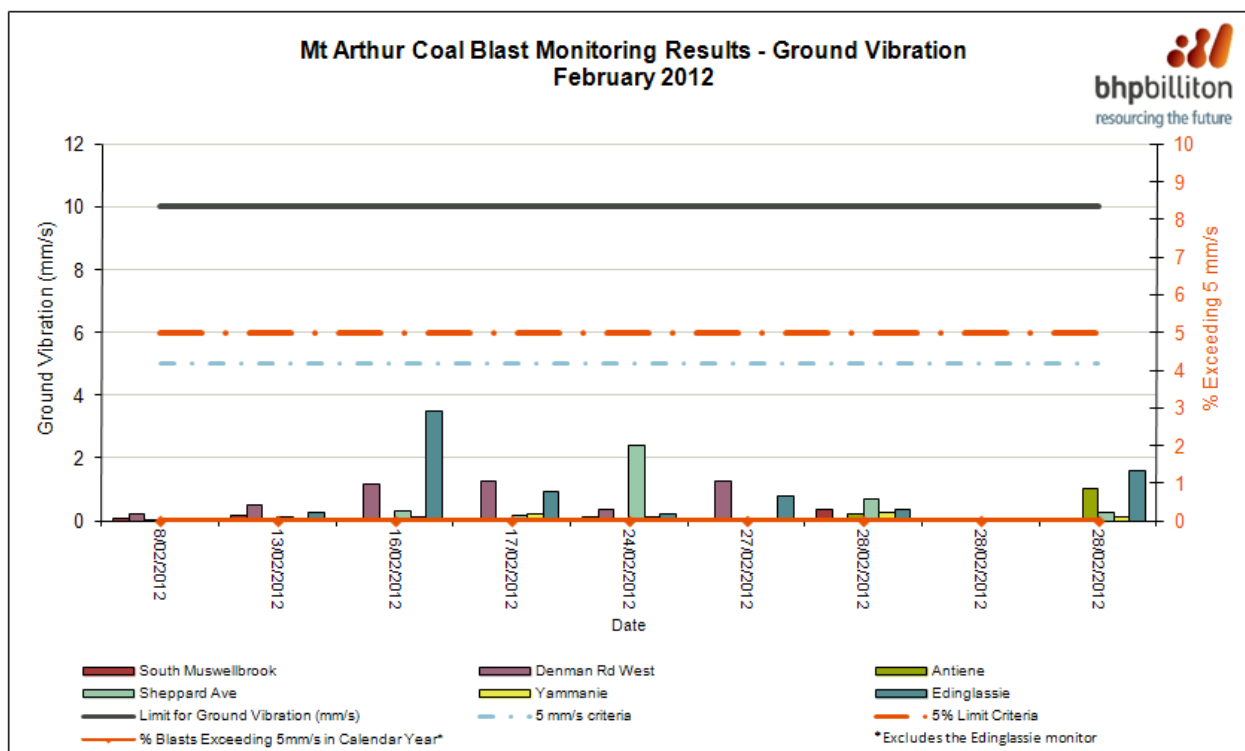
	Antiene	Denman Road West	Edinglassie	Racecourse	South Muswellbrook	Yammanie
Jan-12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Feb-12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note. The data capture rate is the percentage of the total number of blasts for which blast monitoring results were obtained

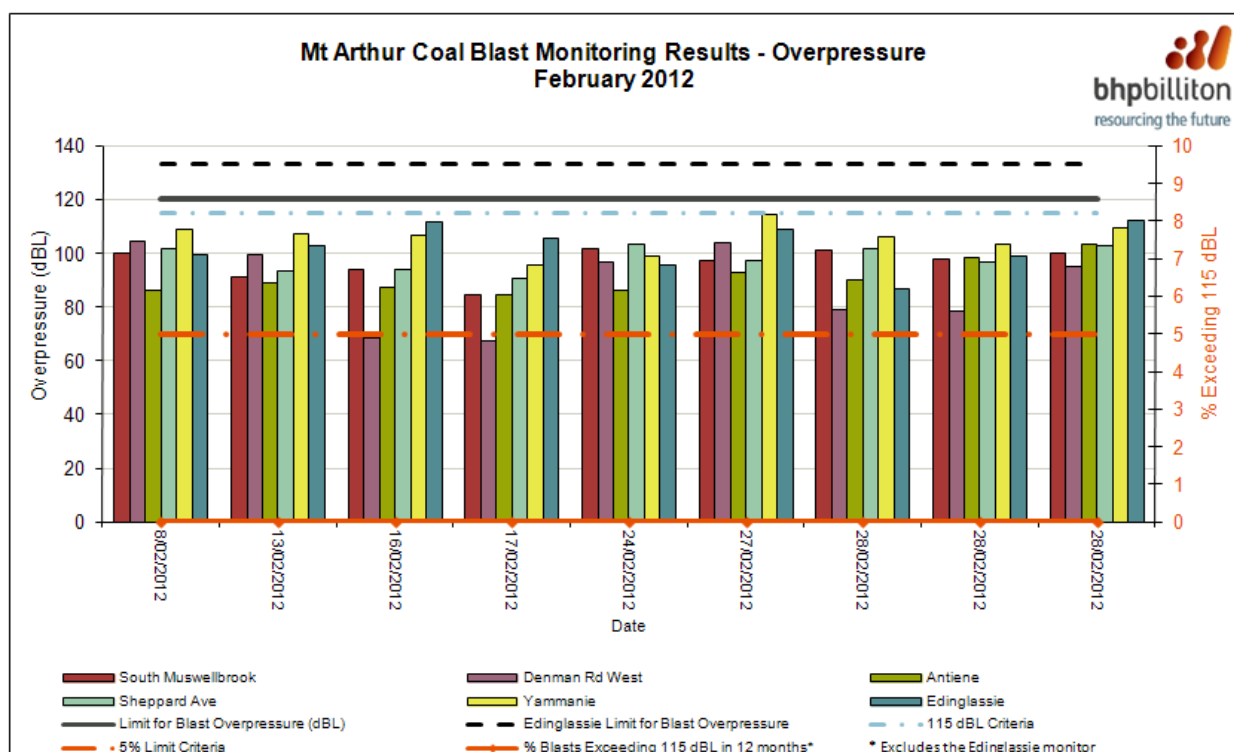
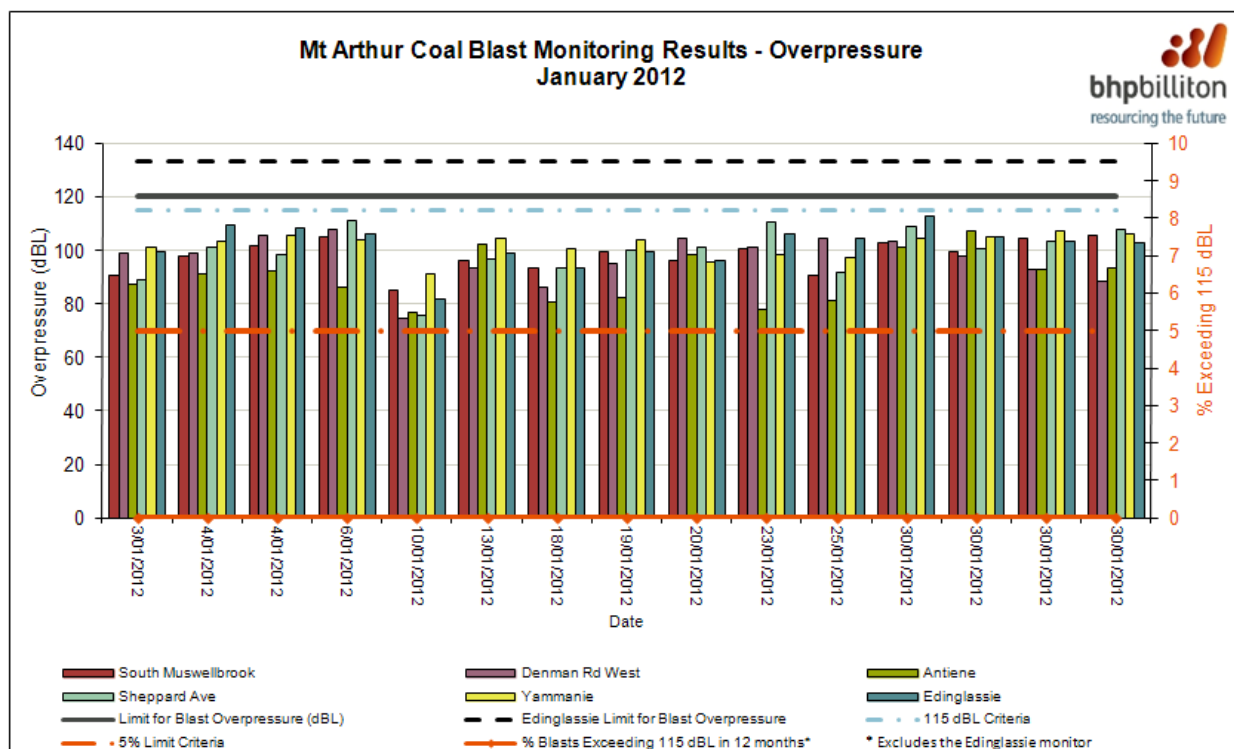
## Ground Vibration



Ground vibration results on 4 January and 30 January 2012 at the Edinglassie monitor were lower than statutory limits but were higher than typical. All of these blasts were located within 810m of the Edinglassie monitor. The holes for these blasts were also relatively deep compared to other blasts close to the Edinglassie monitor. Deeper holes contain a higher amount of explosives, resulting in a higher maximum instantaneous charge (MIC) and therefore higher ground vibration results.

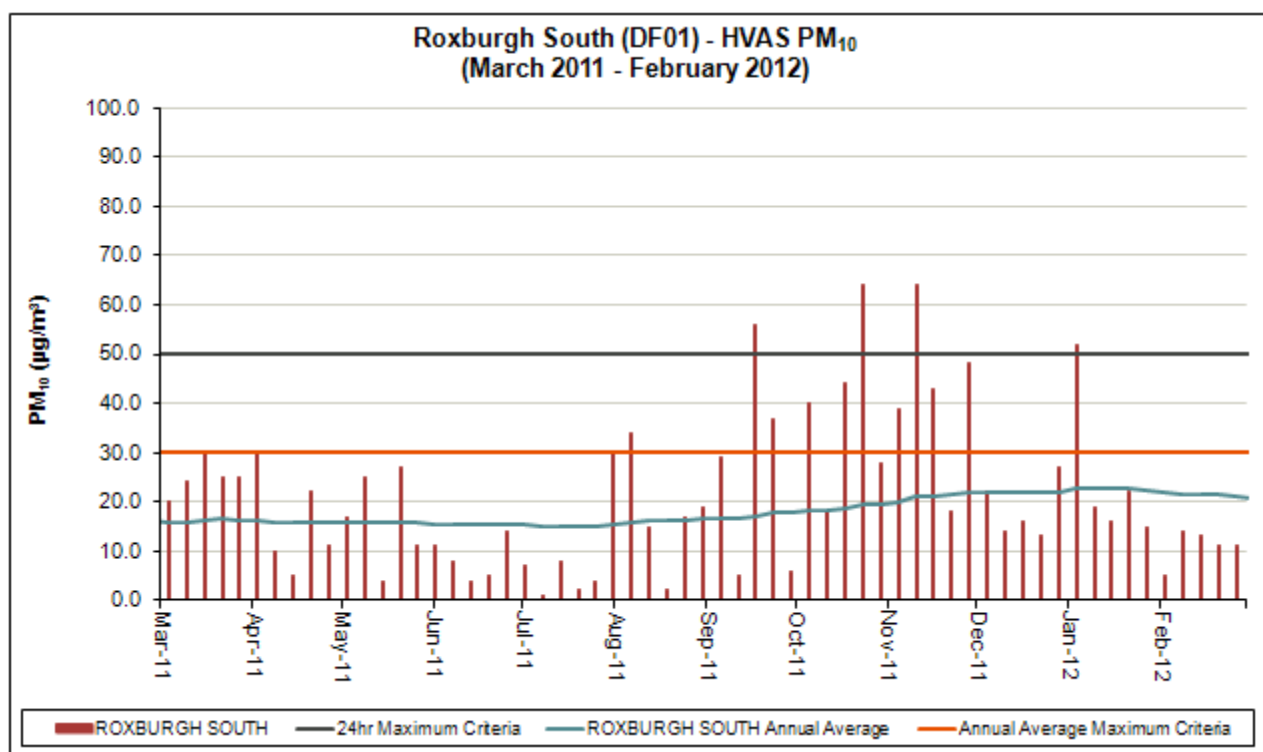


## Overpressure

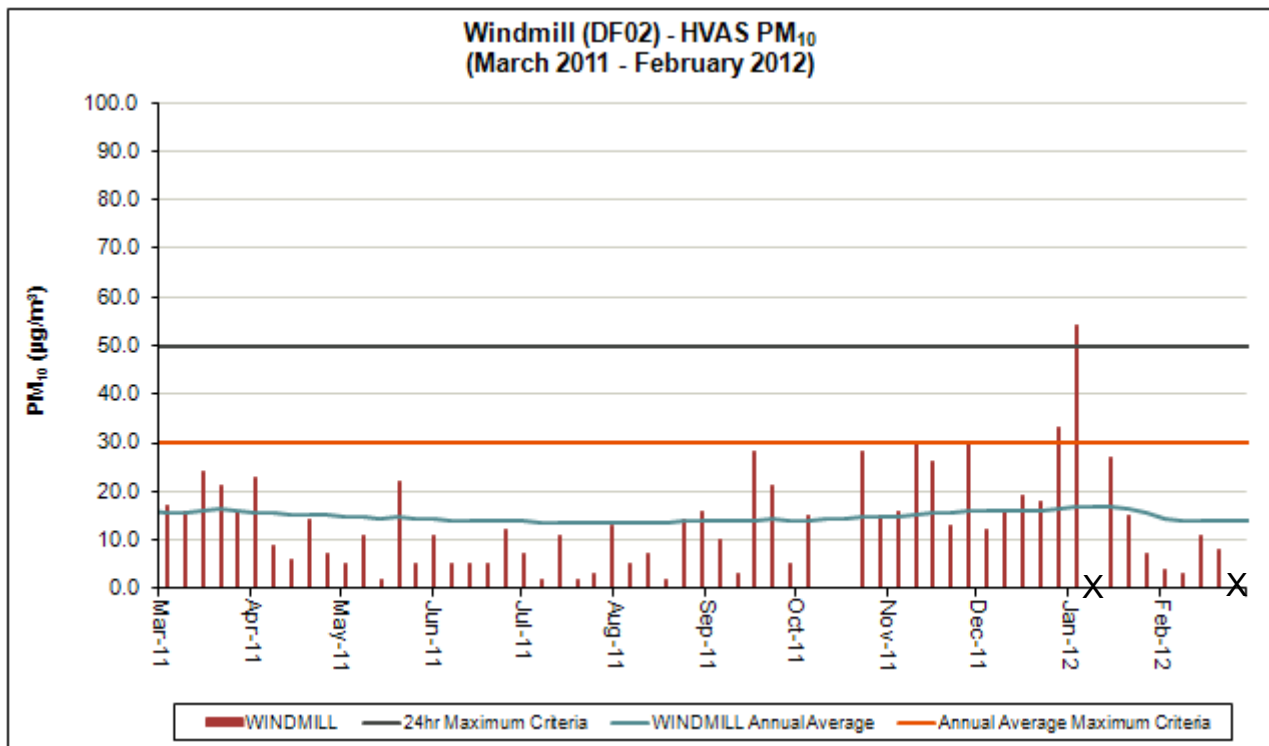




Data capture rates were 100 per cent at all monitors except Windmill (DF02). One HVAS result was not obtained at the Windmill HVAS monitor on 9 January 2012 due to equipment failure. This monitor was subsequently replaced. One HVAS result was also not obtained at the Windmill HVAS monitor 26 February 2012 due to a major blockage in the replacement monitor that was related to moisture getting into the flow sensor. Another replacement unit is currently being sourced for this monitor.



**3 January 2012** – This monitor is located to the west of the operation. For 68 per cent of this day DF01 was not downwind of the Mt Arthur Coal operation. Winds were highly variable and the temperature high with higher than typical readings recorded at all other HVAS units. This indicates a regional dust event.

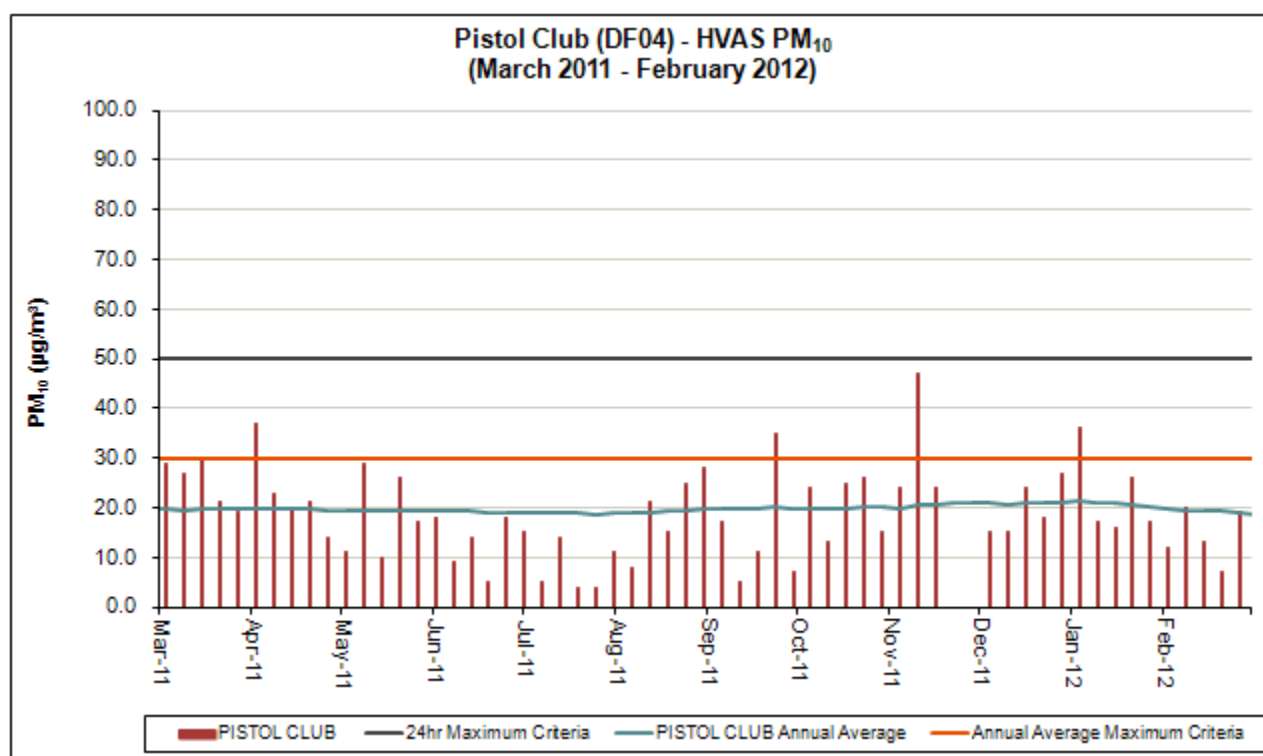
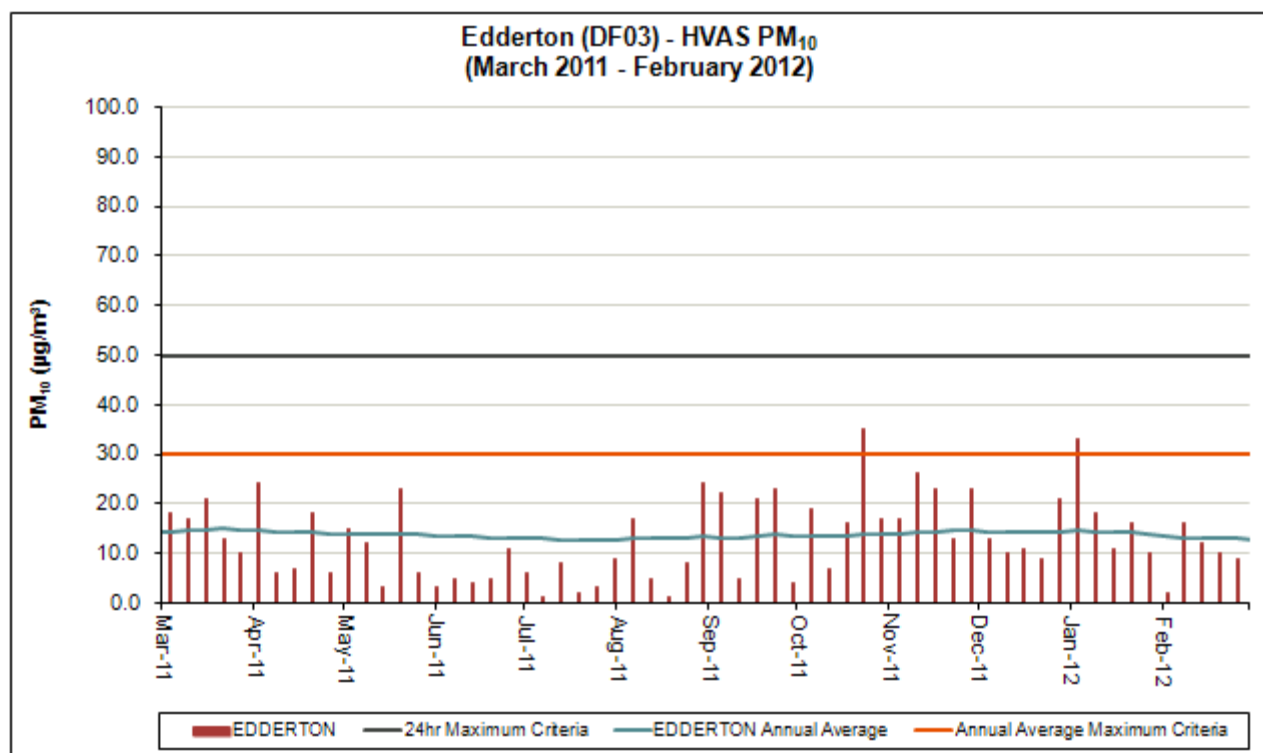


X – No result recorded.

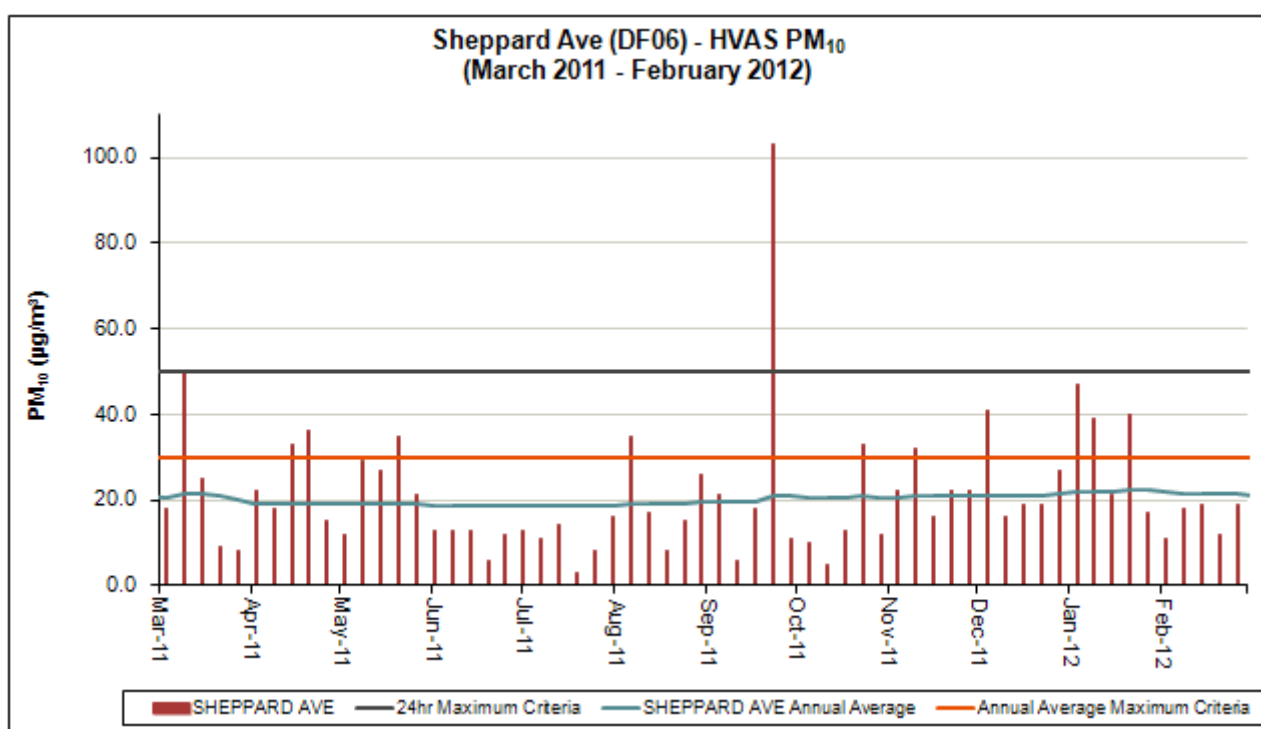
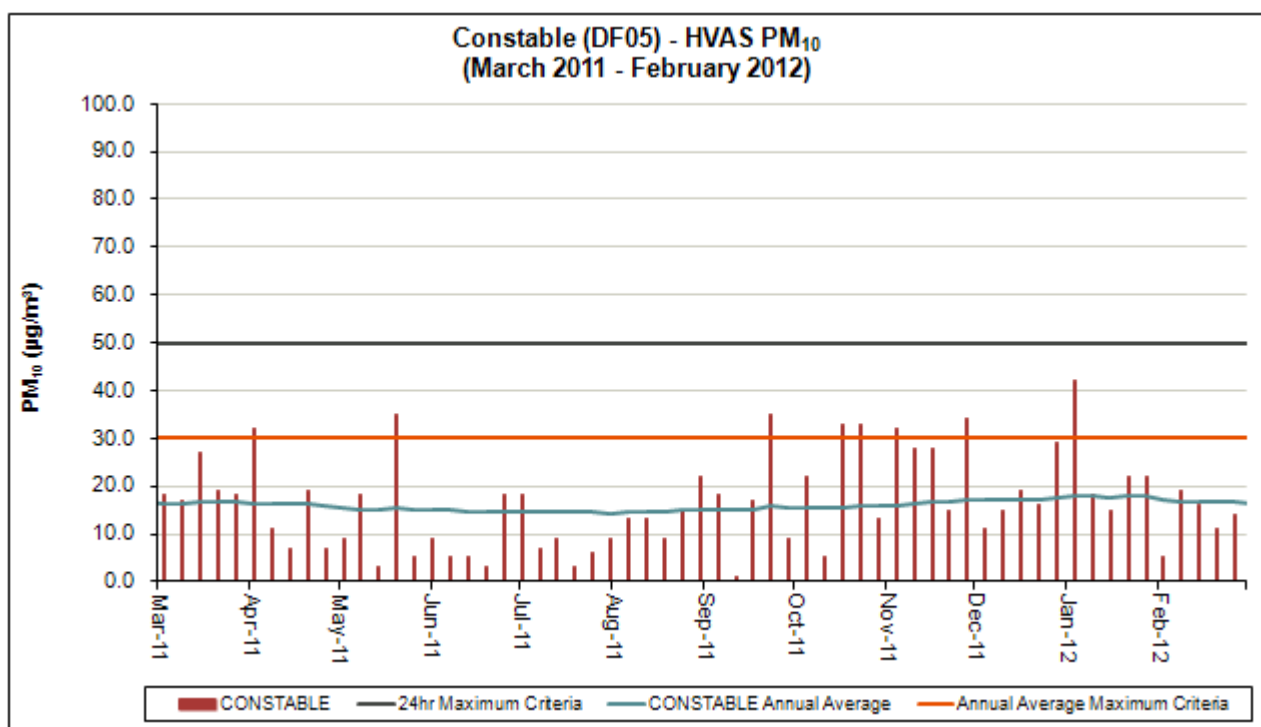
**3 January 2012** – This monitor is located to the north west of the operation. For 61 per cent of this day DF02 was not downwind of the Mt Arthur Coal operation. Winds were highly variable and the temperature high with higher than typical readings recorded at all other HVAS units. This indicates a regional dust event.

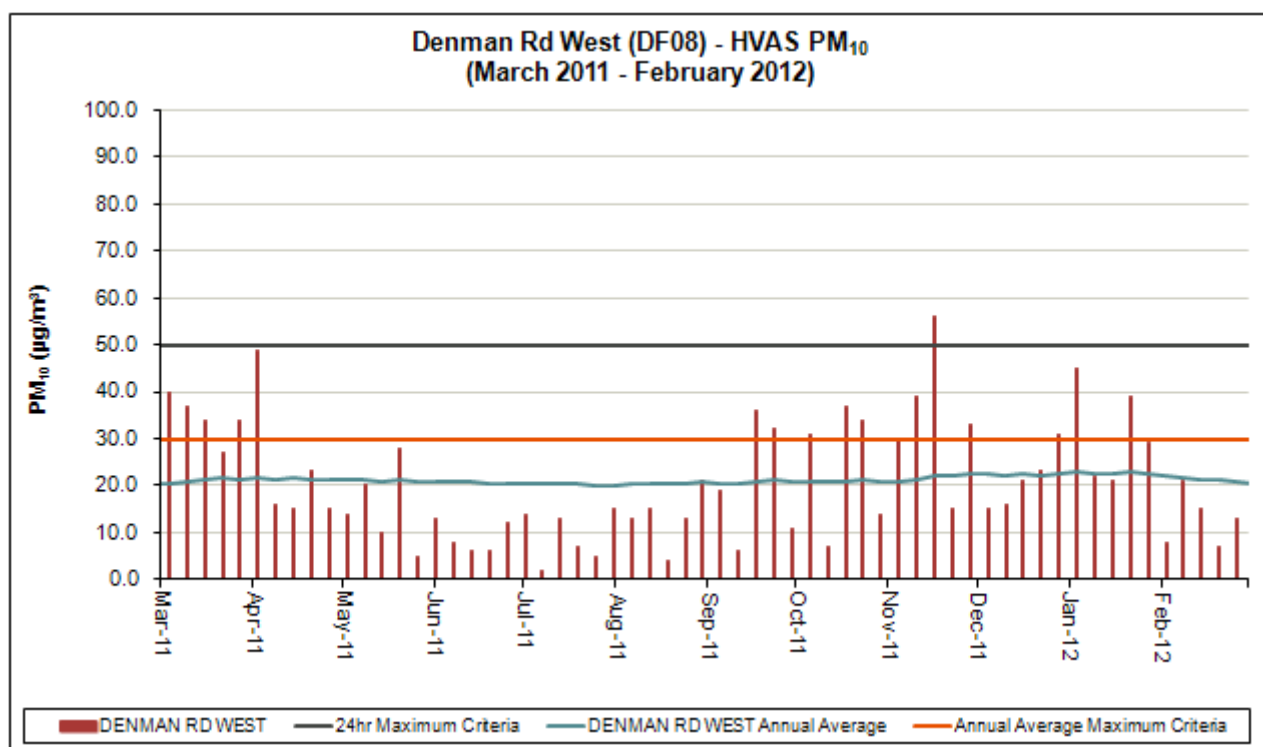
**9 January 2012** - No result due to equipment failure. A replacement was subsequently installed.

**26 February 2012** - No result. Equipment failed to run due to a major blockage in the replacement monitor related to moisture getting into the flow sensor. Another replacement unit is currently being sourced for this monitor.









### 3. Real-time Air Quality Monitors

#### Real-time Air Quality Monitor Criteria:

## Impact Assessment Criteria

20. The Proponent shall ensure that the dust emissions generated by the Mt Arthur mine complex do not cause additional exceedances of the air quality impact assessment criteria listed in Tables 9, 10 and 11 at any residence on privately owned land, or on more than 25 percent of any privately owned land, except where such exceedance is predicted in the EA. For these properties, the Proponent shall comply with the air quality predictions in the EA.

*Table 9: Long term impact assessment criteria for particulate matter*

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Averaging period</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Basis</b>
Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	90 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>1</sup>
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Annual	30 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>1</sup>

*Table 10: Short term impact assessment criterion for particulate matter*

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Averaging period</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Basis</b>
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	24 hour	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>1</sup>

#### Real-time Air Quality Monitor Summary:

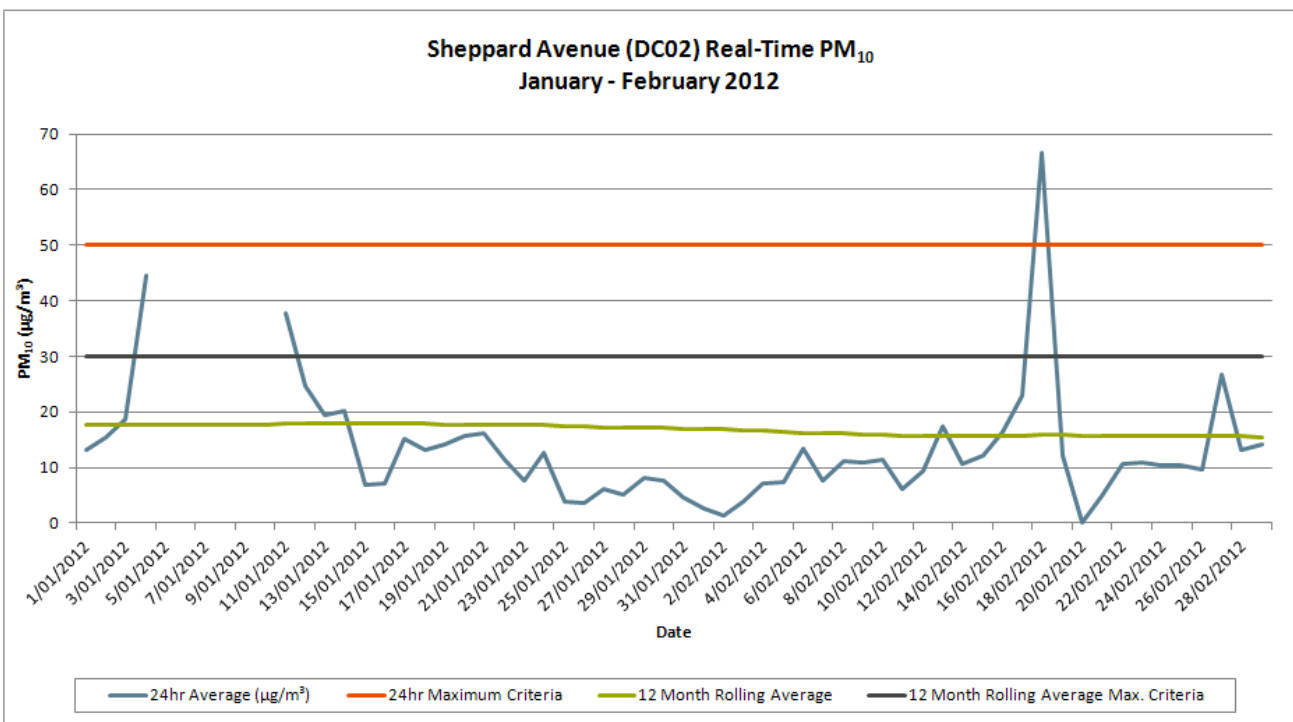
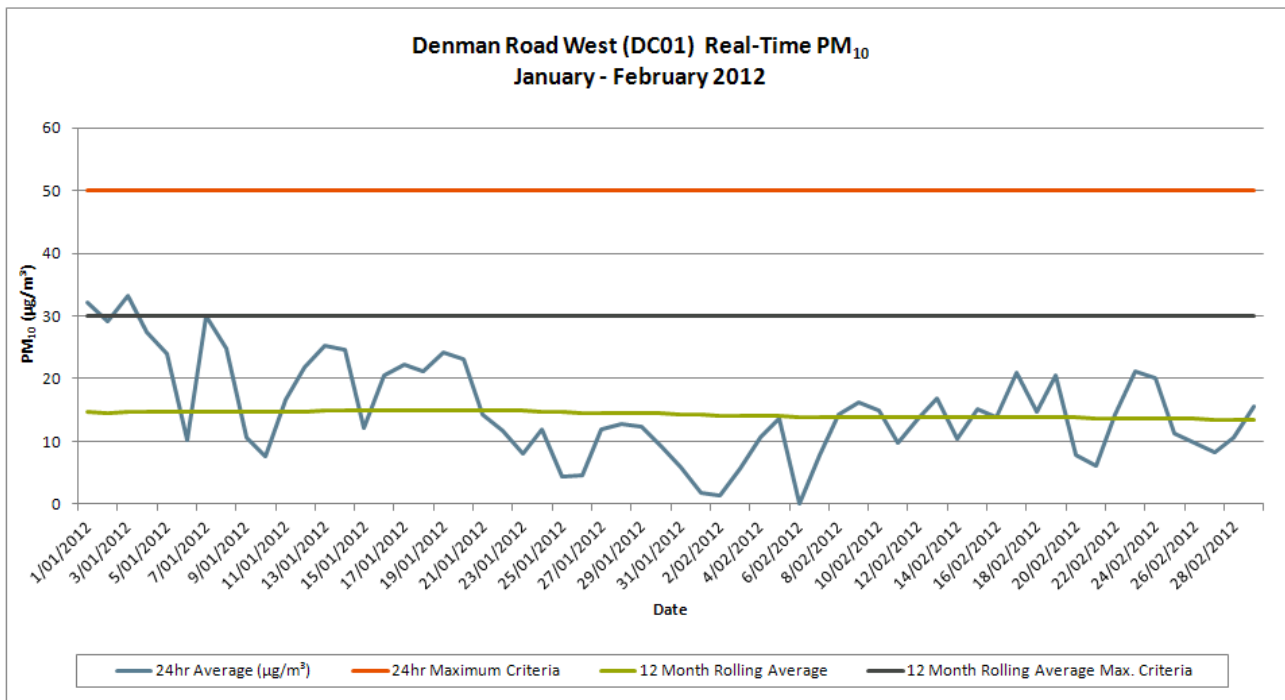
- All real-time air quality monitors currently have annual averages below relevant development consent criteria.
- All real-time air quality monitoring results were below the 24 hour average limit during the January to February 2012 monitoring period except:
  - Sheppard Avenue (DC02), 18 February 2012 (66.5µg/m<sup>3</sup>/24 hrs)** - This monitor is located to the north of the operation. Wind direction was highly variable on this day. During approximately 18% of the day this monitor was located downwind of Mt Arthur Coal's operation. A race meet was also held at Muswellbrook racecourse, where DC02 is located, on this day. When compared to other real time monitors, this result is inconsistent and can be attributed to a localised source.

#### Real-time Air Quality Monitor Data Capture Rates:

	Denman Road West	Sheppard Avenue	Yammanie	South Muswellbrook	Roxburgh Road	Edderton
Jan-12	100%	77%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Feb-12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

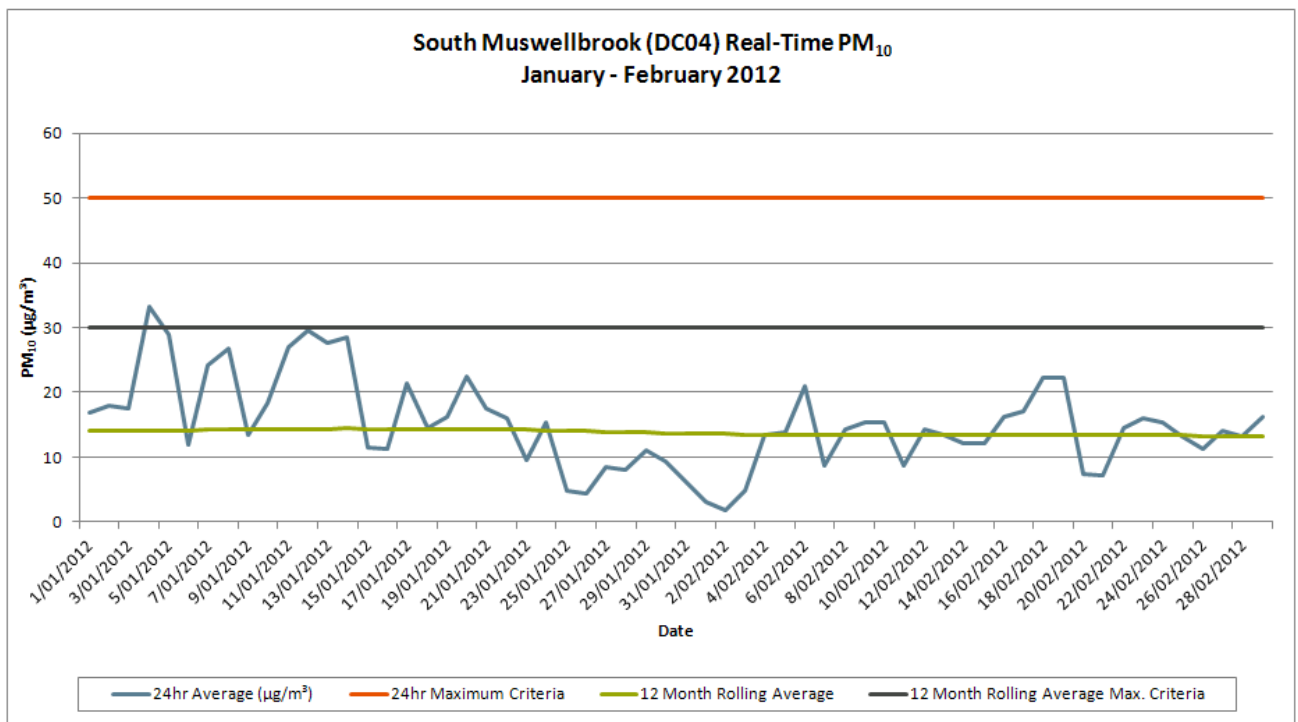
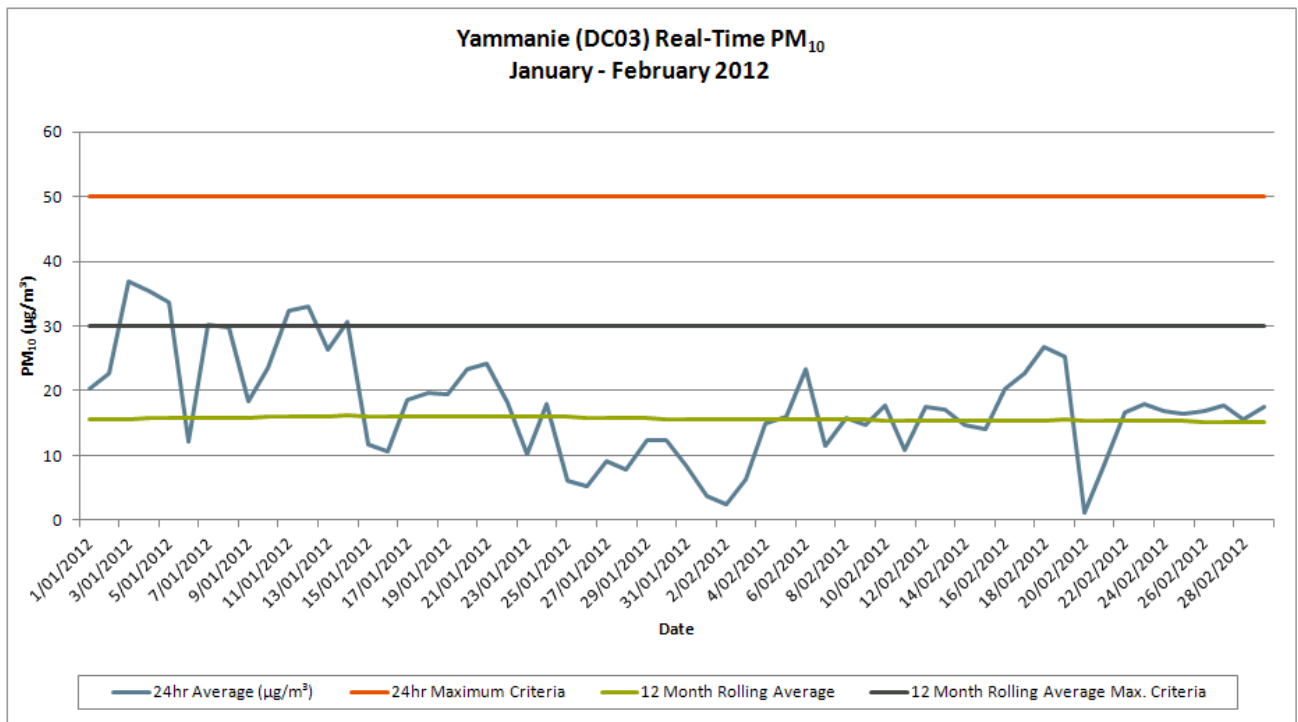
Data capture rates were 100 per cent at all real-time monitors except:

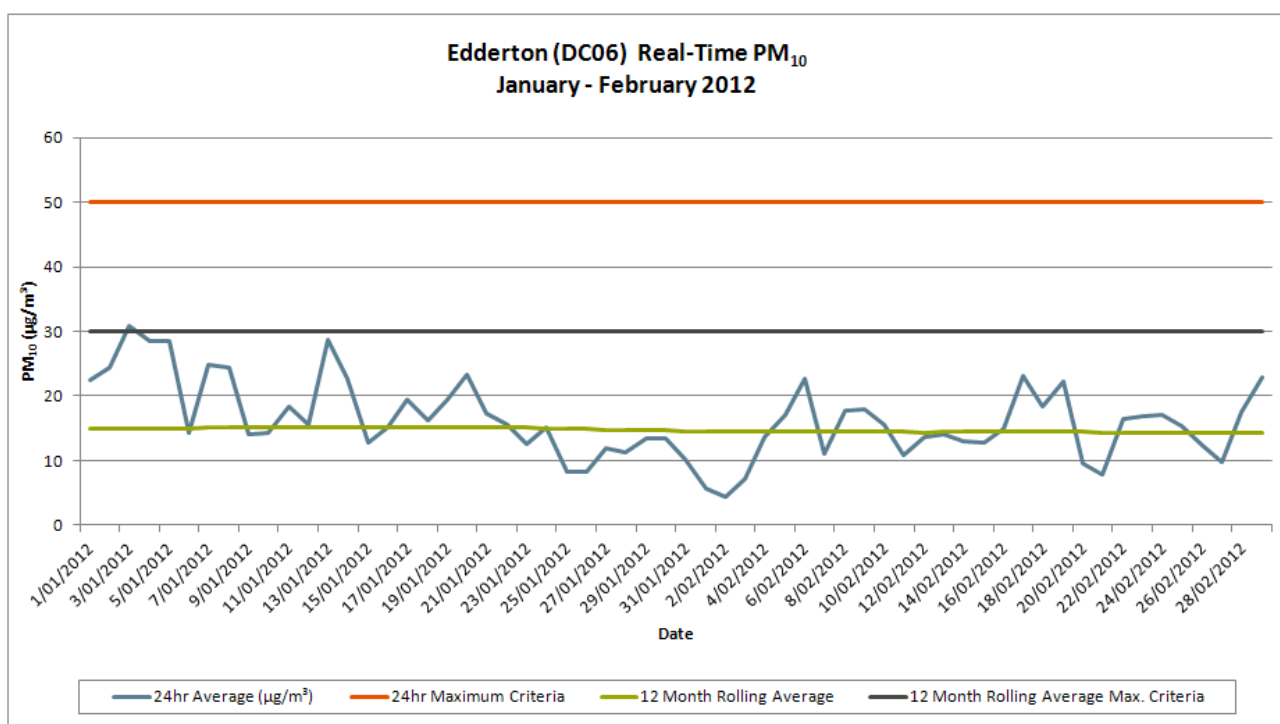
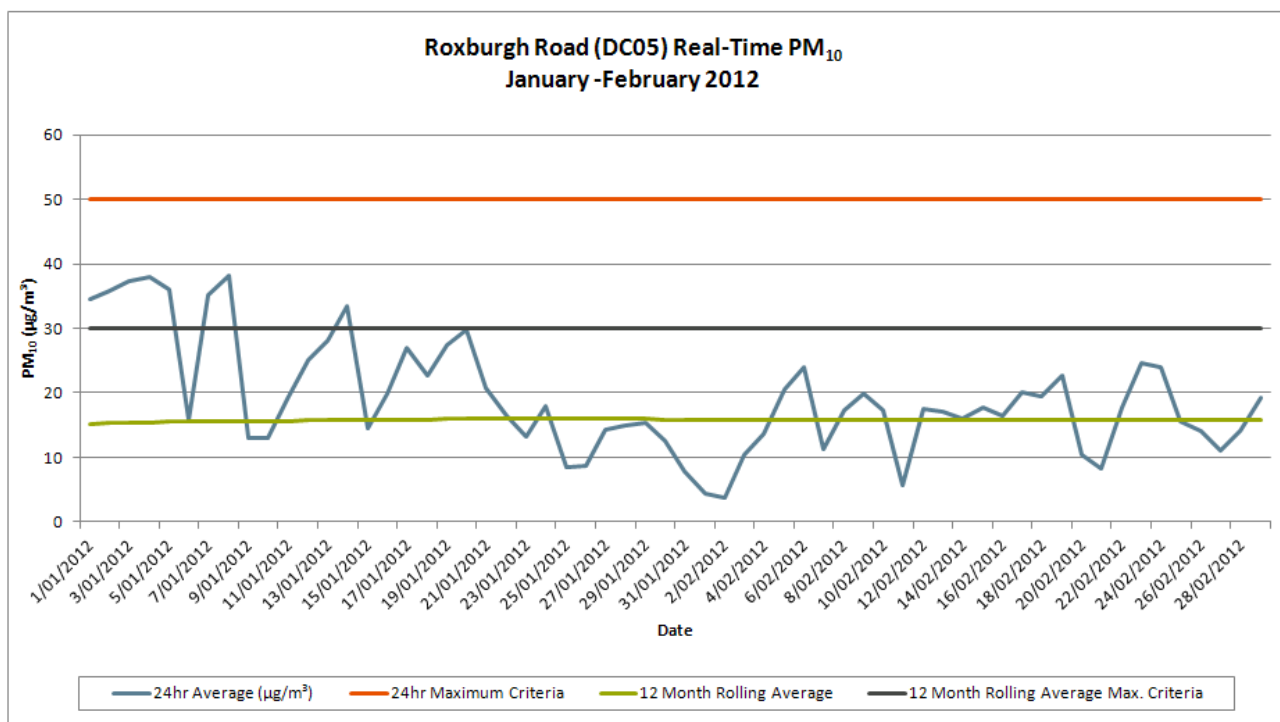
- Sheppard Avenue (DC02)** – Data was not captured 5/01/2012 – 10/01/2012 due to a power supply issue which has now been resolved.



**5-10 January** – No result was recorded on these days due to a power supply issue.

**18 February** – This monitor is located to the north of the operation. Wind direction was highly variable on this day. During approximately 18% of the day this monitor was located downwind of Mt Arthur Coal's operation. A race meet was also held at Muswellbrook racecourse, where DC02 is located, on this day. When compared to other real time monitors, this result is inconsistent and can be attributed to a localised source.





## 4. Depositional Dust (January – February 2012)

### Depositional Dust Criteria:

Table 11: Long term impact assessment criteria for deposited dust

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Averaging period</b>	<b>Maximum increase<sup>2</sup> in deposited dust level</b>	<b>Maximum total<sup>1</sup> deposited dust level</b>
Deposited dust	Annual	2 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	4 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month

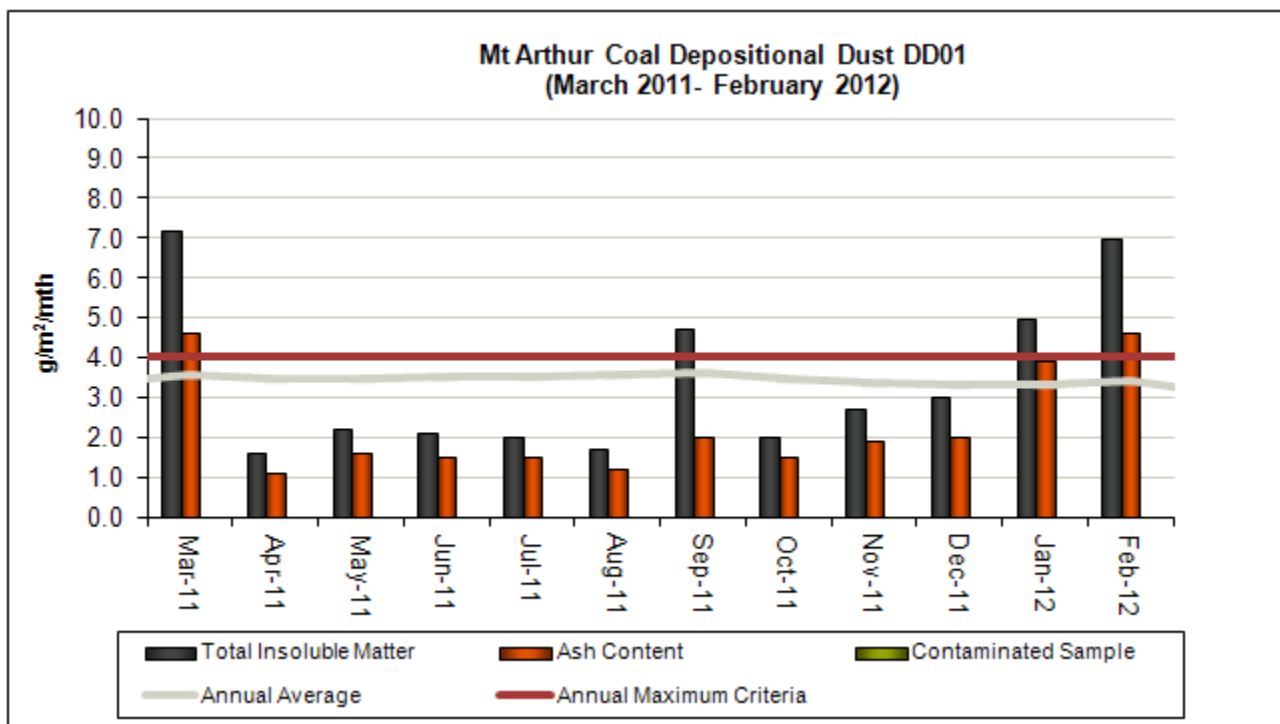
<sup>1</sup> Background concentrations due to all other sources plus the incremental increase in concentrations due to the mine complex alone.

<sup>2</sup> Incremental increase in concentrations due to the mine complex alone.

Note: Deposited dust is assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulate Matter - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method.

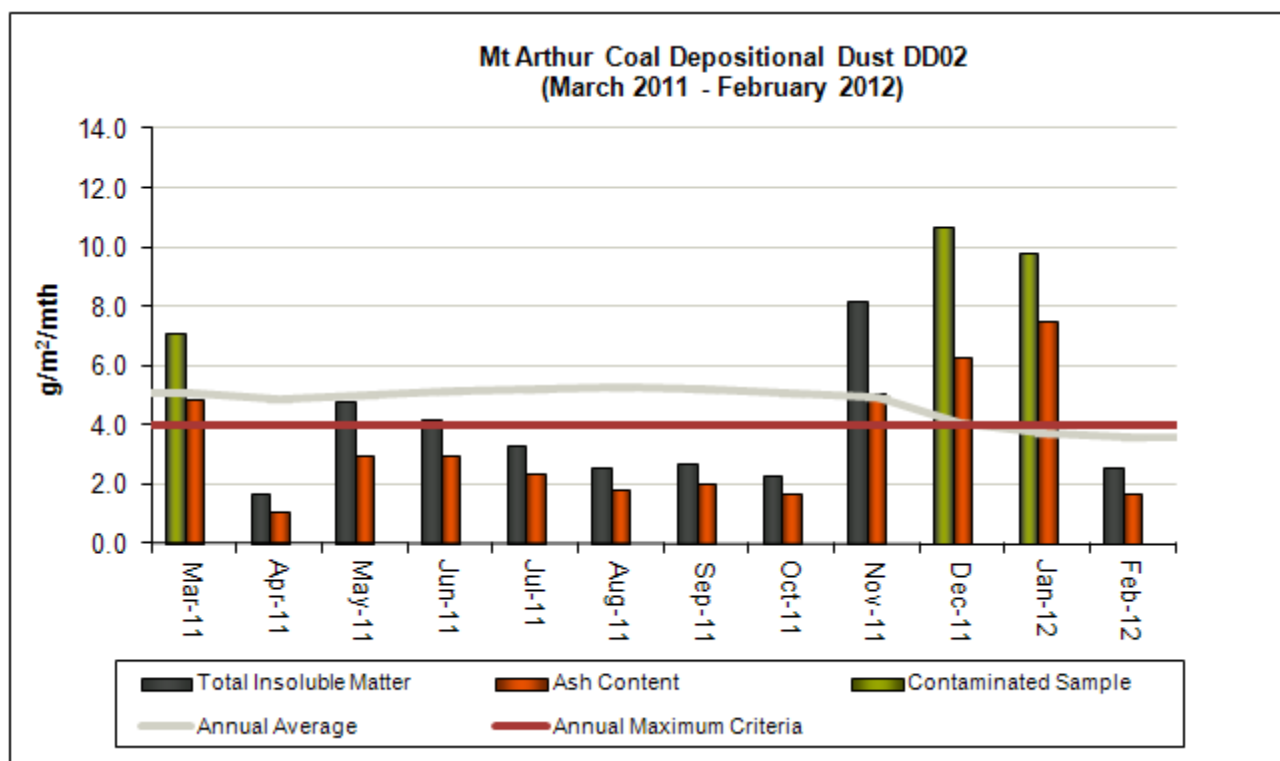
### Depositional Dust Summary:

- Depositional dust gauge results recorded elevated results in the January to February 2012 monitoring period at DD01, DD15, DD16, DD18 and DD20 in January and DD01, DD11 and DD16 in February.
- DD03, DD11 and DD16 are located on Mt Arthur Coal owned land and are used for management purposes only; they are not representative of nearby privately-owned residences.
- All rolling annual averages were below relevant regulatory criteria, with the exception of DD16. DD16 is located on Mt Arthur Coal owned land and is used for management purposes only; it is not representative of nearby privately-owned residences.
- There was a 98 per cent data capture rate for depositional dust gauges during the January to February 2012 monitoring period. No result was obtained at DD03 in February. The independent monitoring contractor reported that the sample bottle was broken in transit.
- Contaminated depositional dust results for the January to February 2012 monitoring period were at:
  - DD02 January (excessive bird droppings and insects);
  - DD06 January (excessive bird droppings);
  - DD13 January (excessive bird droppings and insects);
  - DD06 February (excessive bird insects);
  - DD13 February (excessive bird droppings);
  - DD18 February (excessive vegetation and insects).



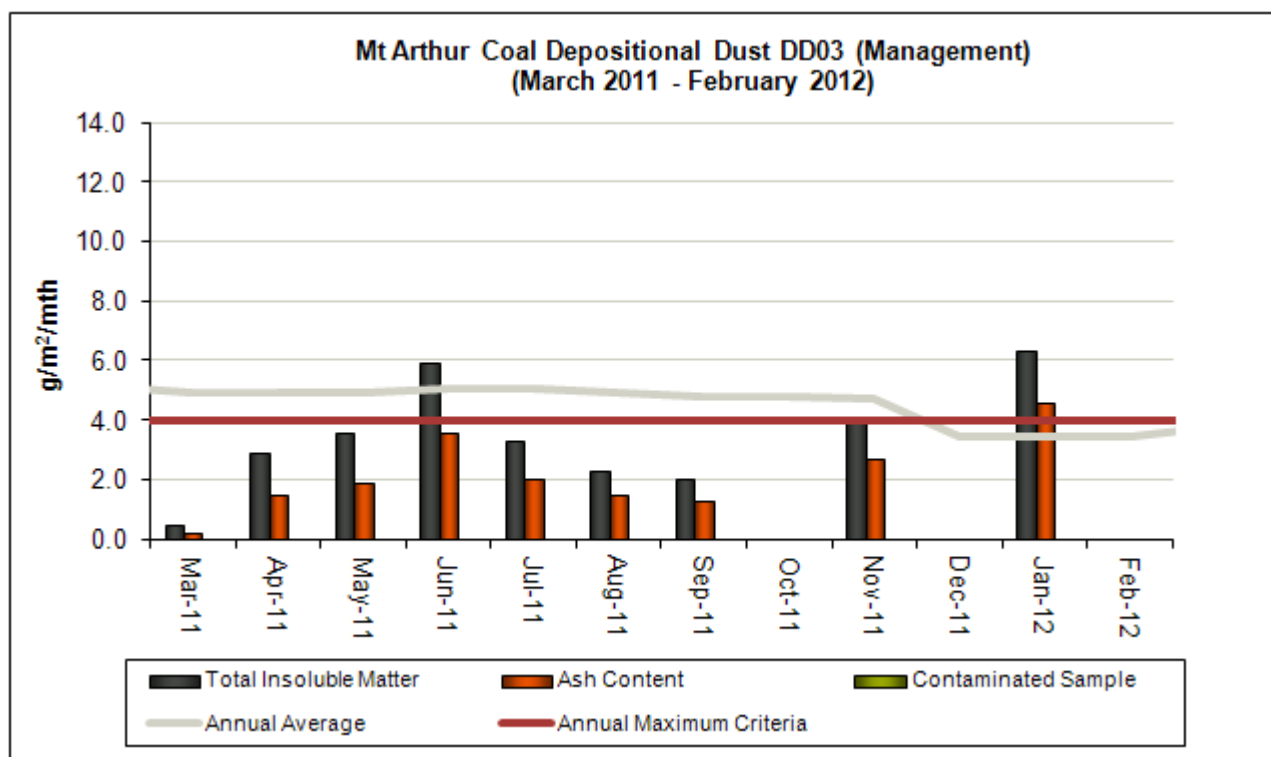
**January** - This monitor is located to the east of the mine. The predominant wind direction for January was south east. This monitor was upwind of the operation. The annual average was maintained below project approval criteria during this time.

**February** - This monitor is located to the east of the mine. The predominant wind direction for February was south east. As this monitor was upwind of the operation. The annual average was maintained below project approval criteria during this time



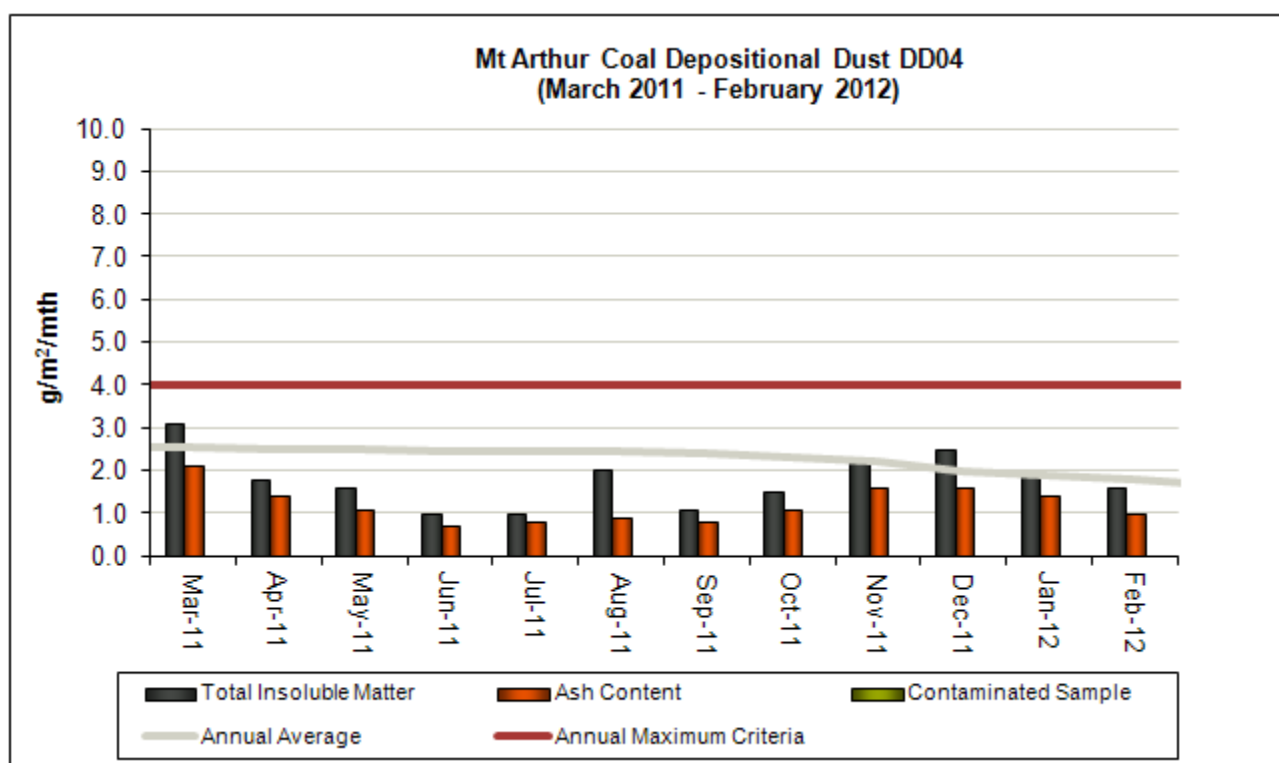


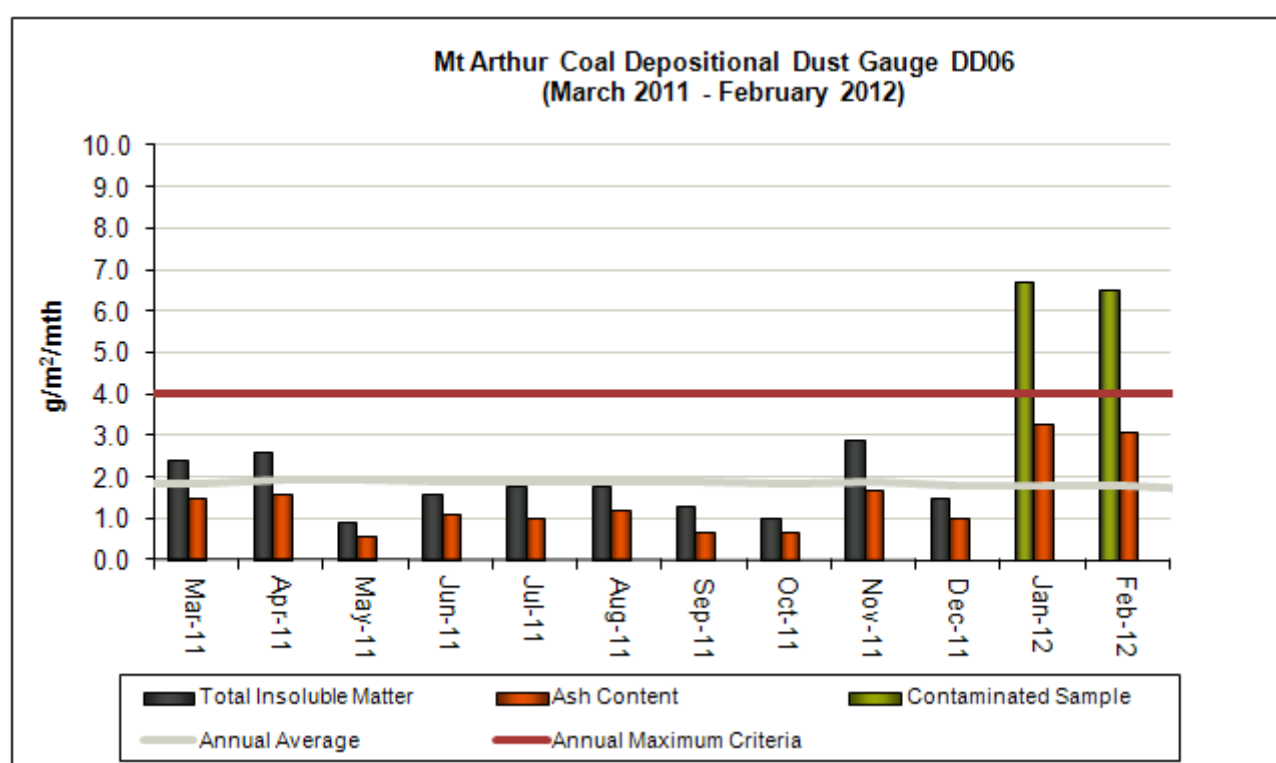
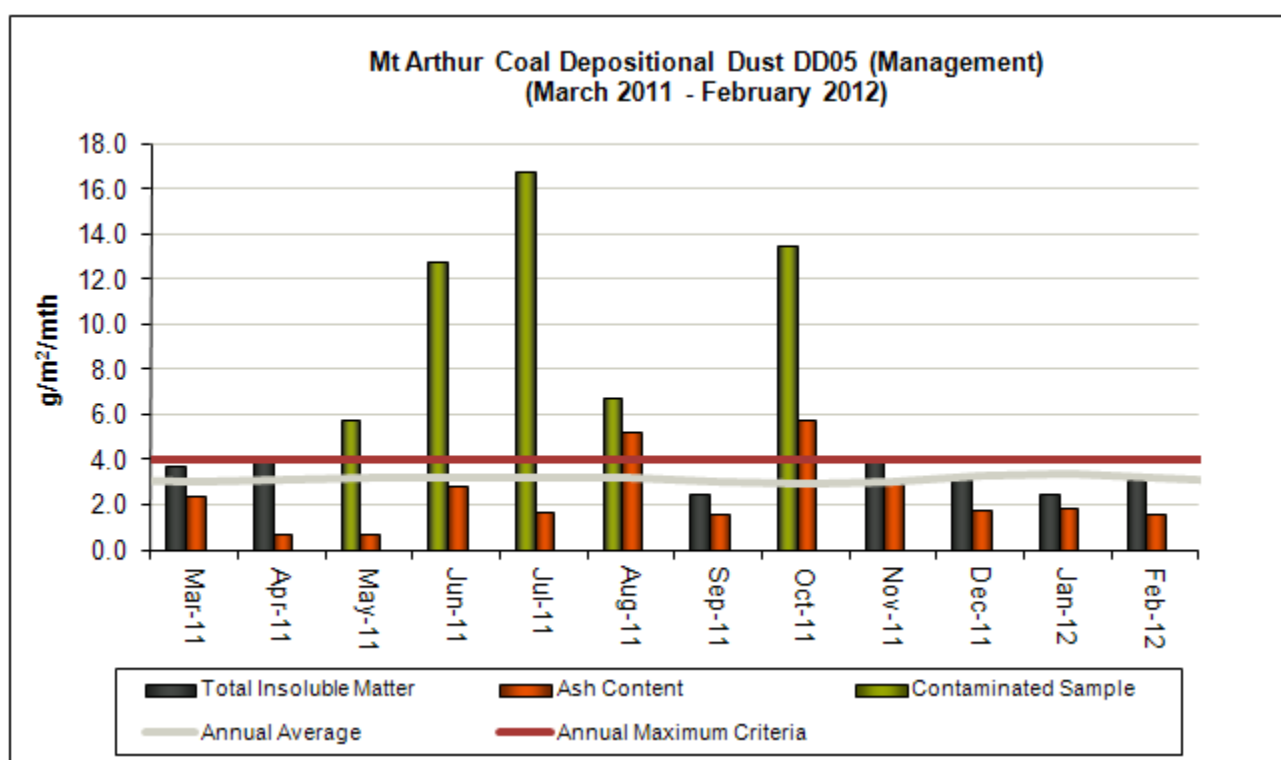
**January** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with bird droppings and insects.



**January** - This monitor is located on Mt Arthur Coal owned land and is used for management purposes only. It is not representative of nearby privately-owned residences.

**February** – No result was obtained. The independent monitoring contractor reported that the sample bottle was broken in transit.

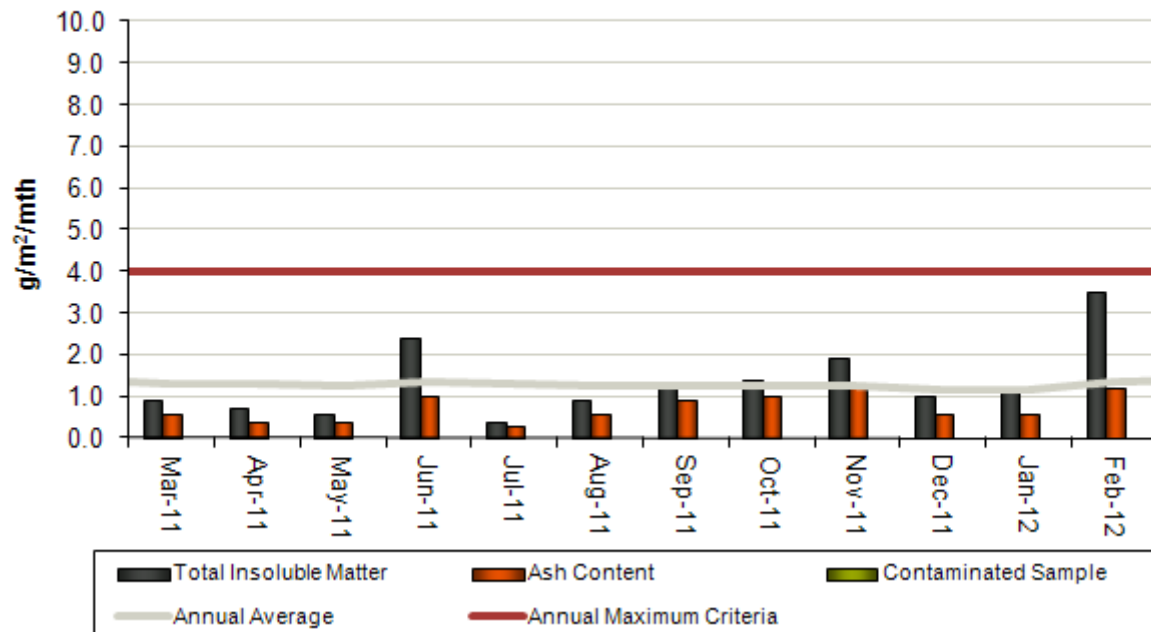




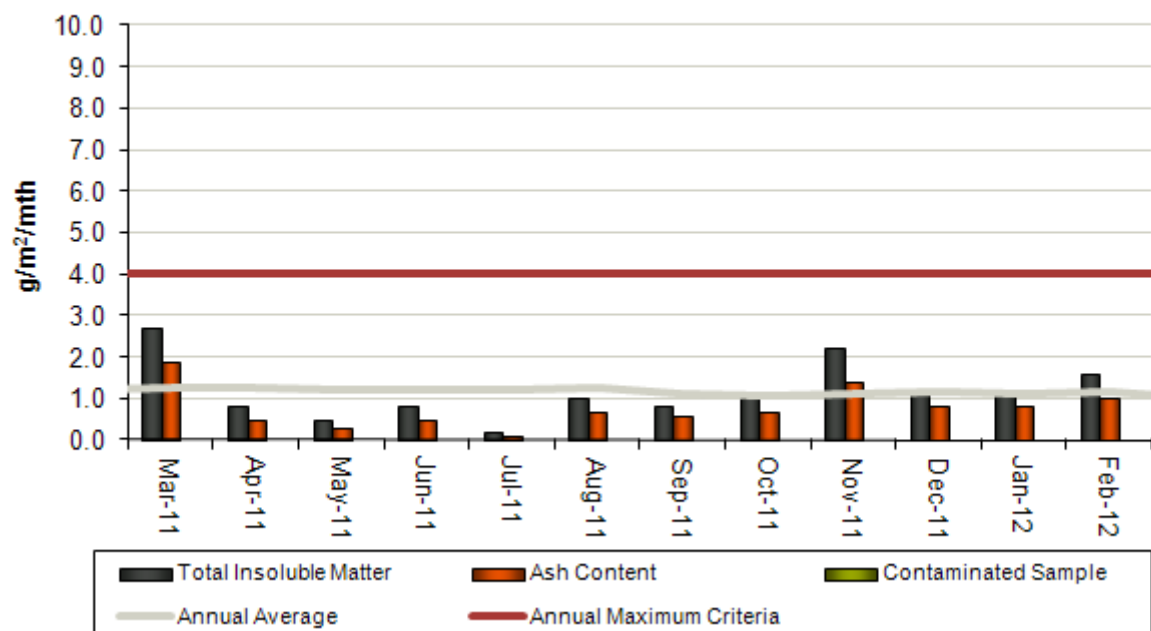
**January** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with bird droppings.

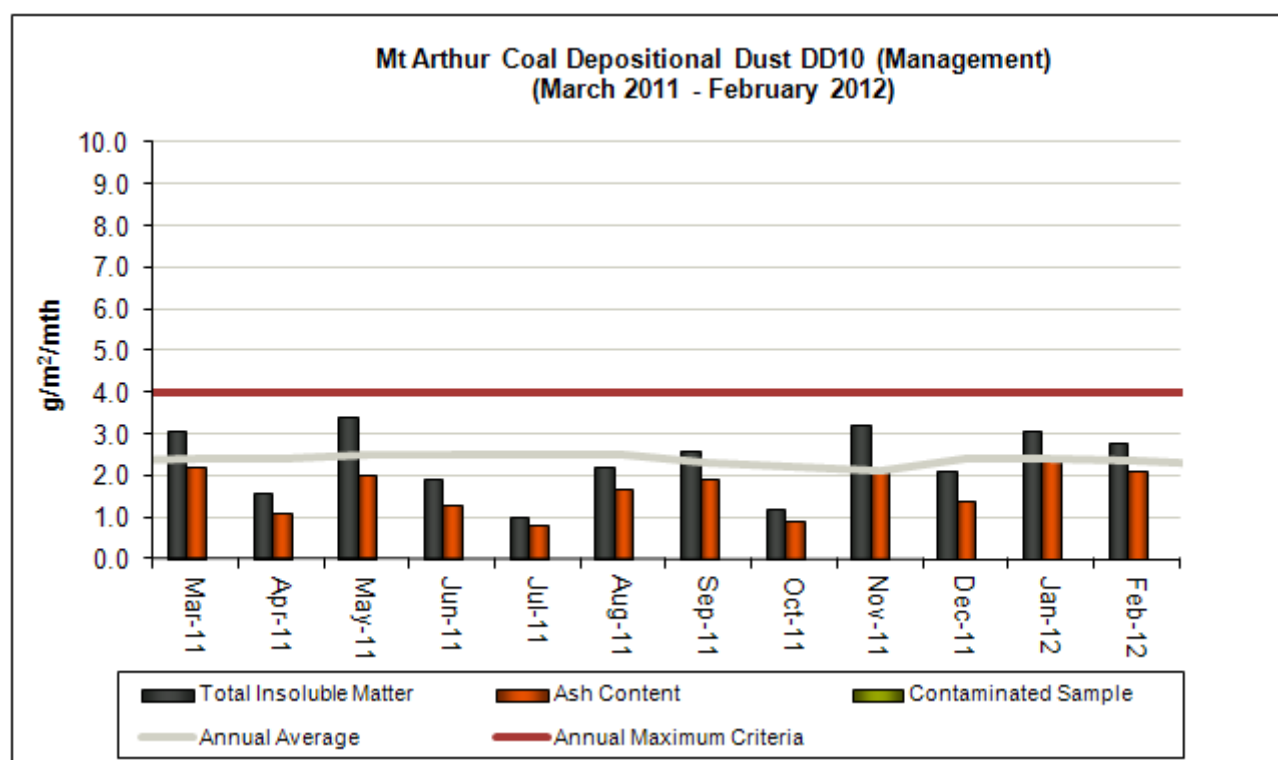
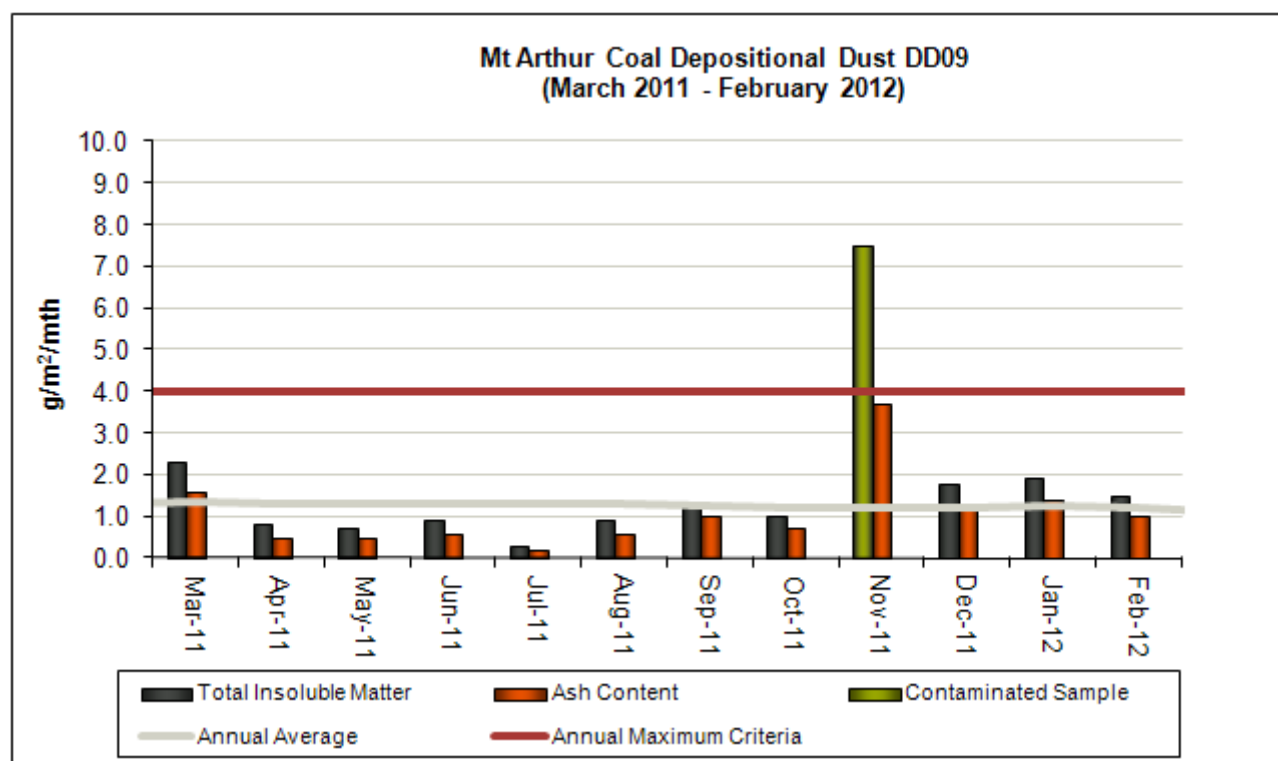
**February** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with insects.

**Mt Arthur Coal Depositional Dust DD07**  
(March 2011 - February 2012)

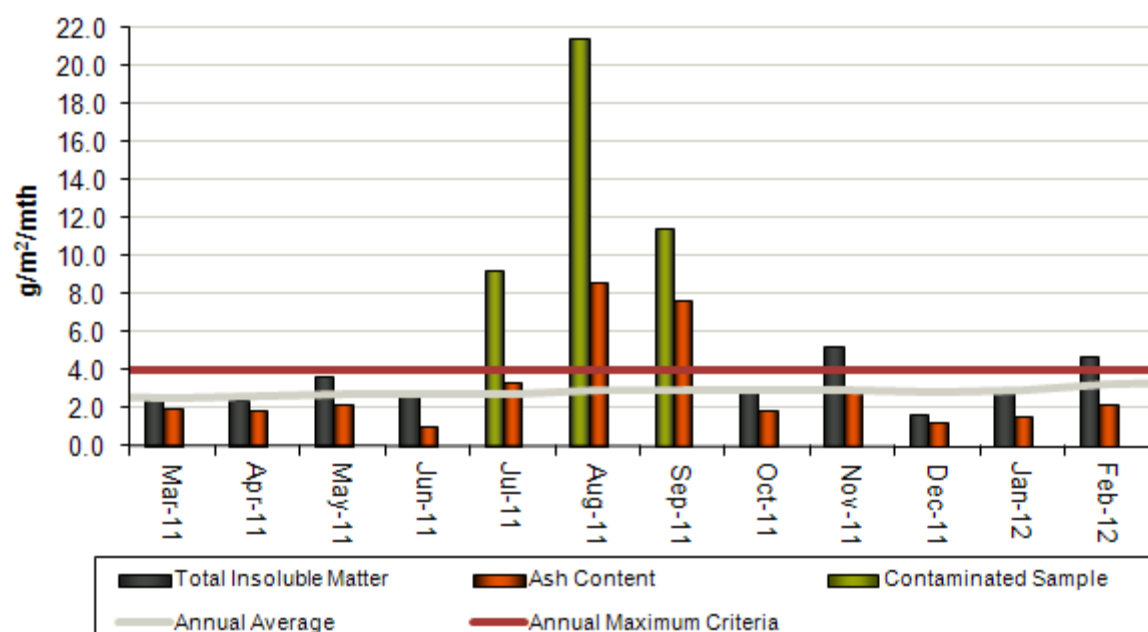


**Mt Arthur Coal Depositional Dust DD08**  
(March 2011 - February 2012)

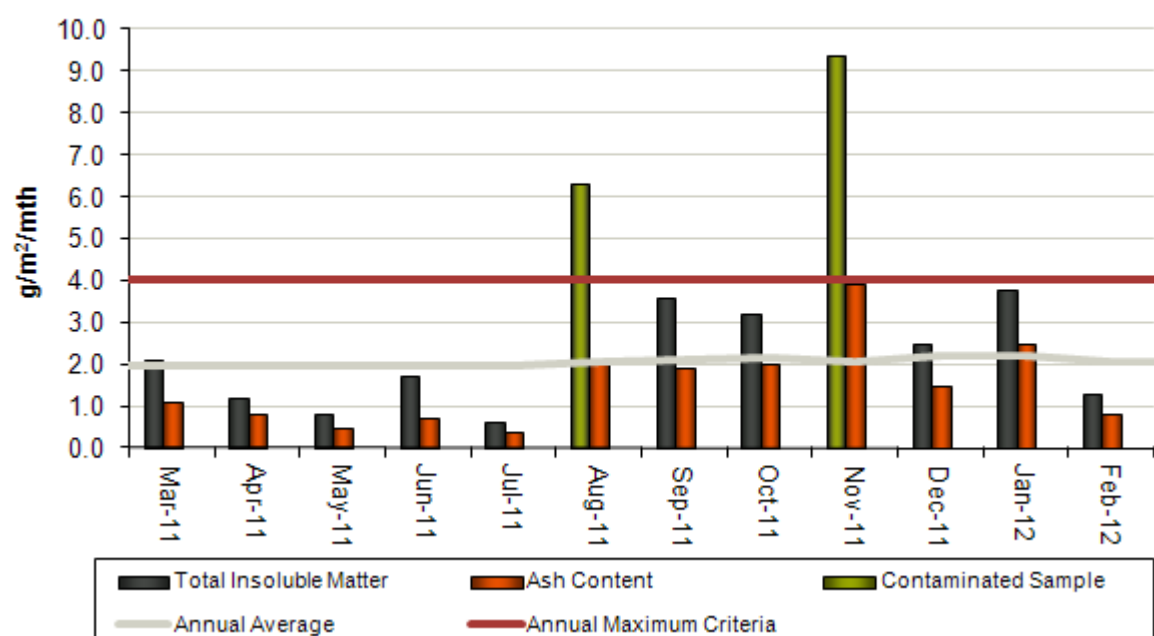


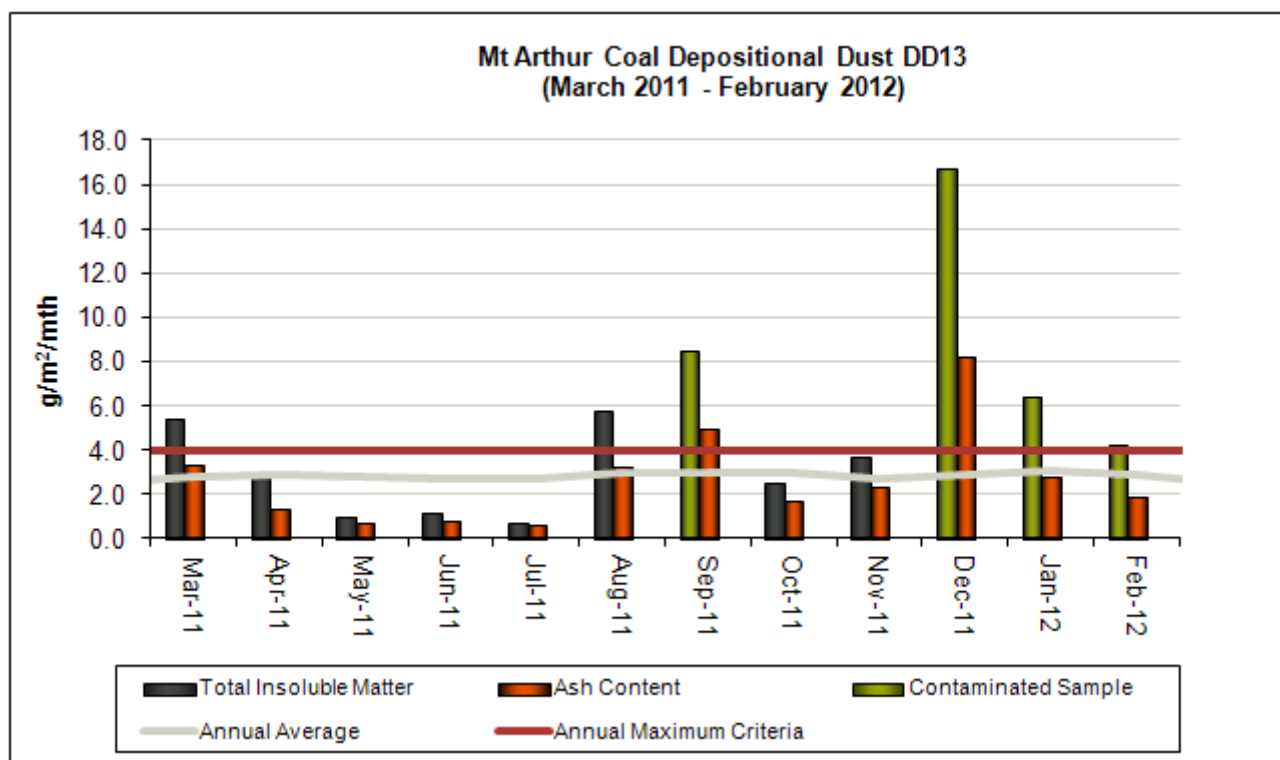


**Mt Arthur Coal Depositional Dust DD11 (Management)**  
(March 2011 - February 2012)



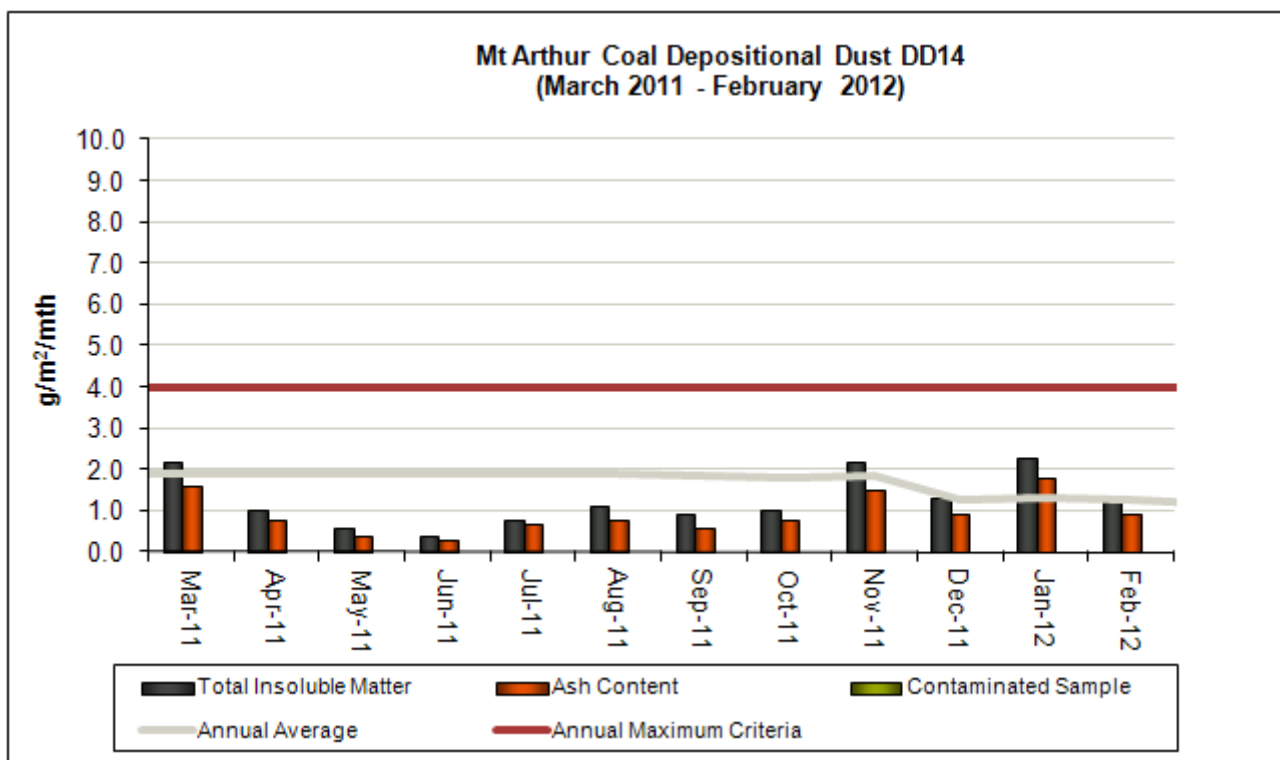
**Mt Arthur Coal Depositional Dust DD12**  
(March 2011 - February 2012)

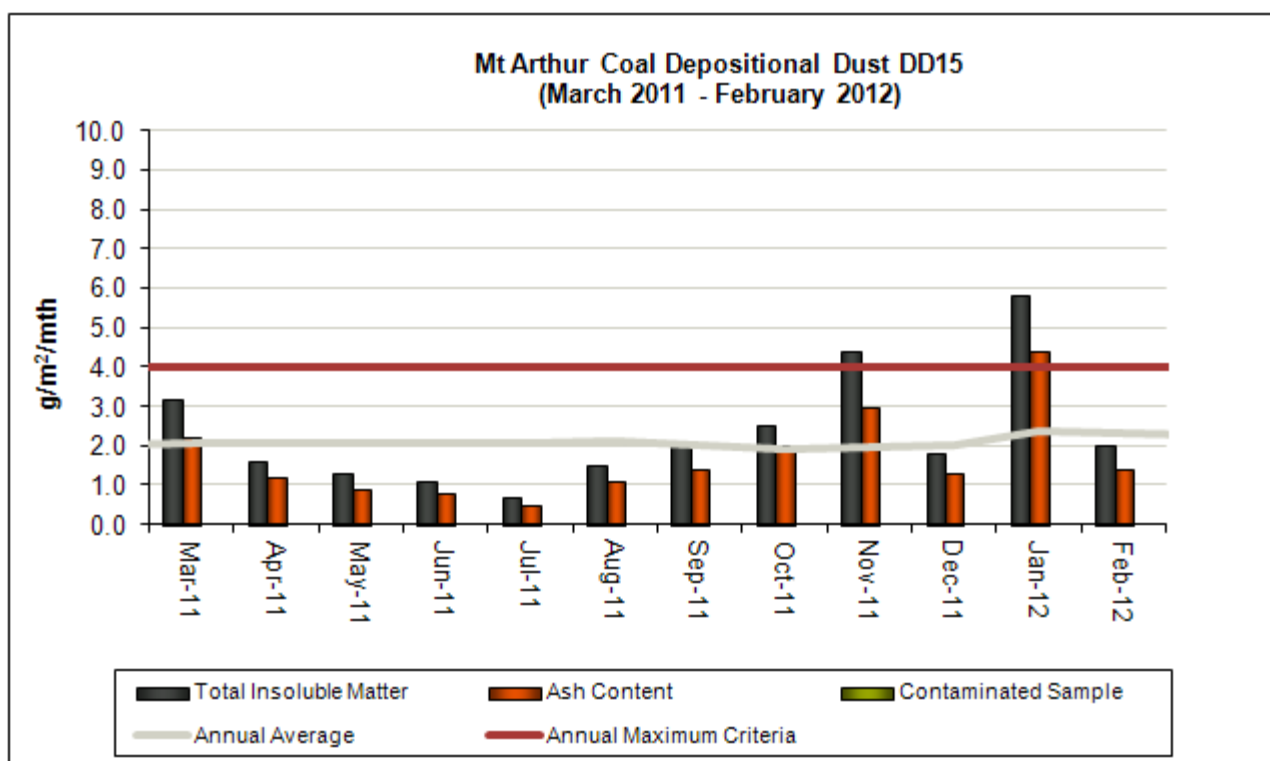




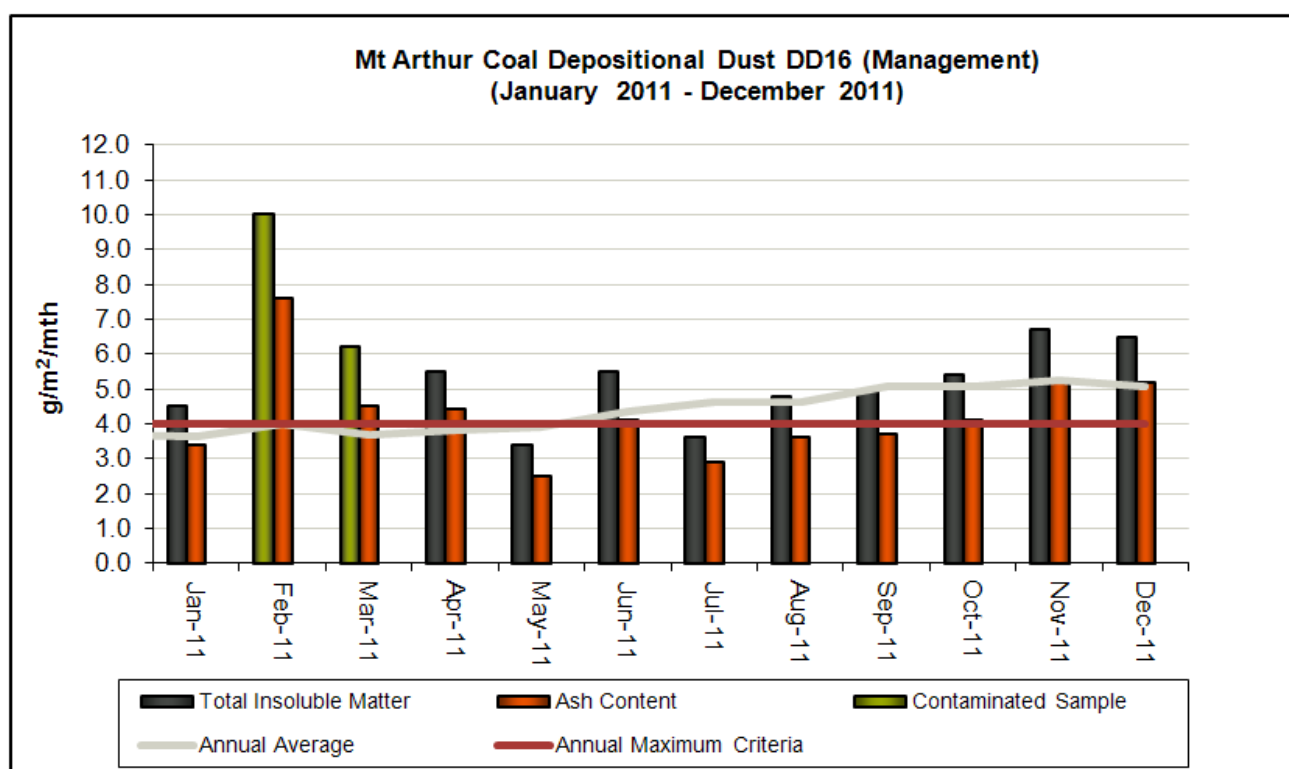
**January** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with insects and bird droppings.

**February** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with bird droppings.

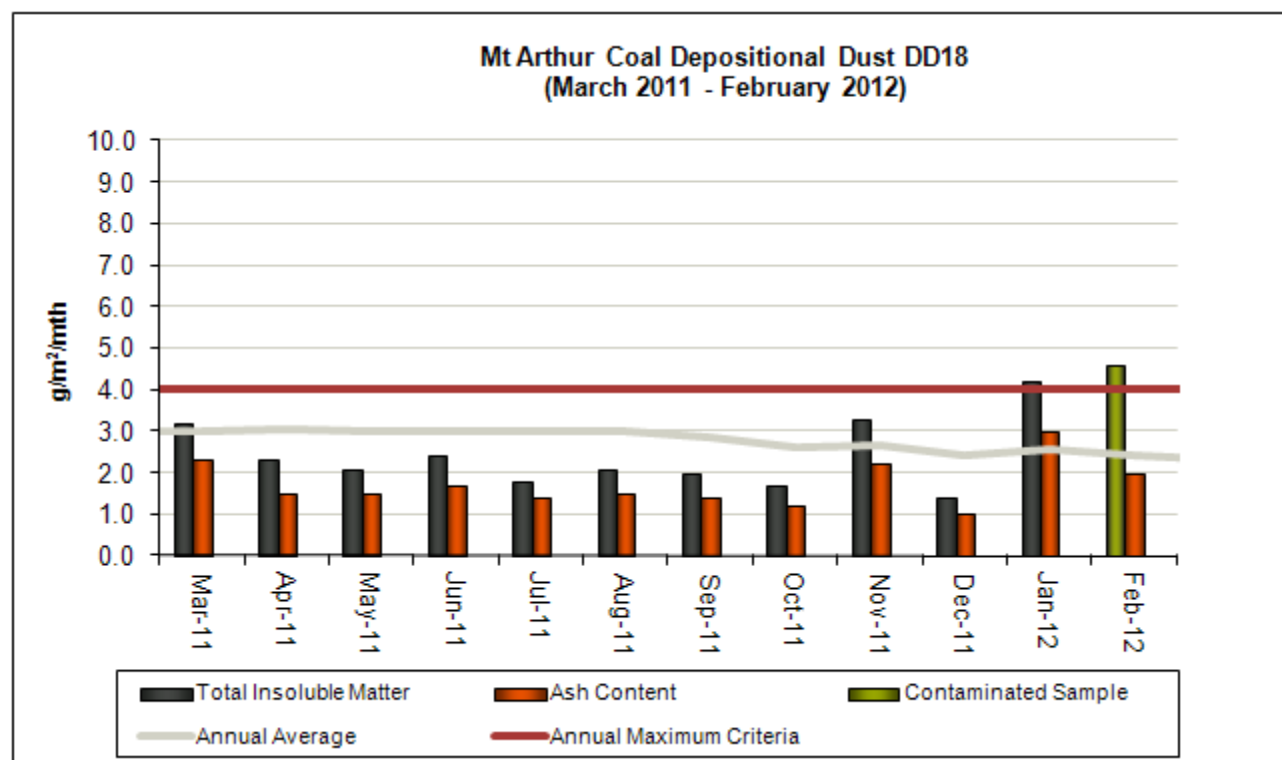
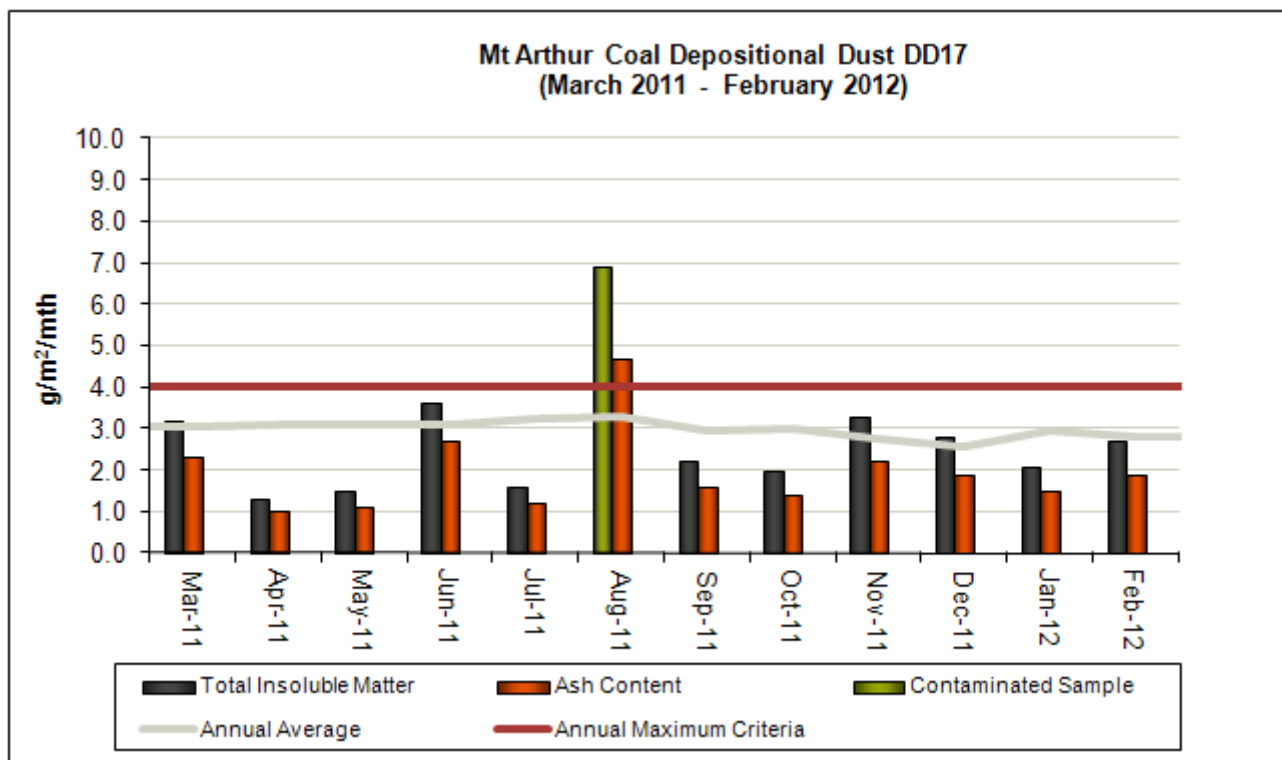




**January** - This monitor is located to the west of the mine. The predominant wind direction for January was south east. The annual average was maintained below project approval criteria during this time.



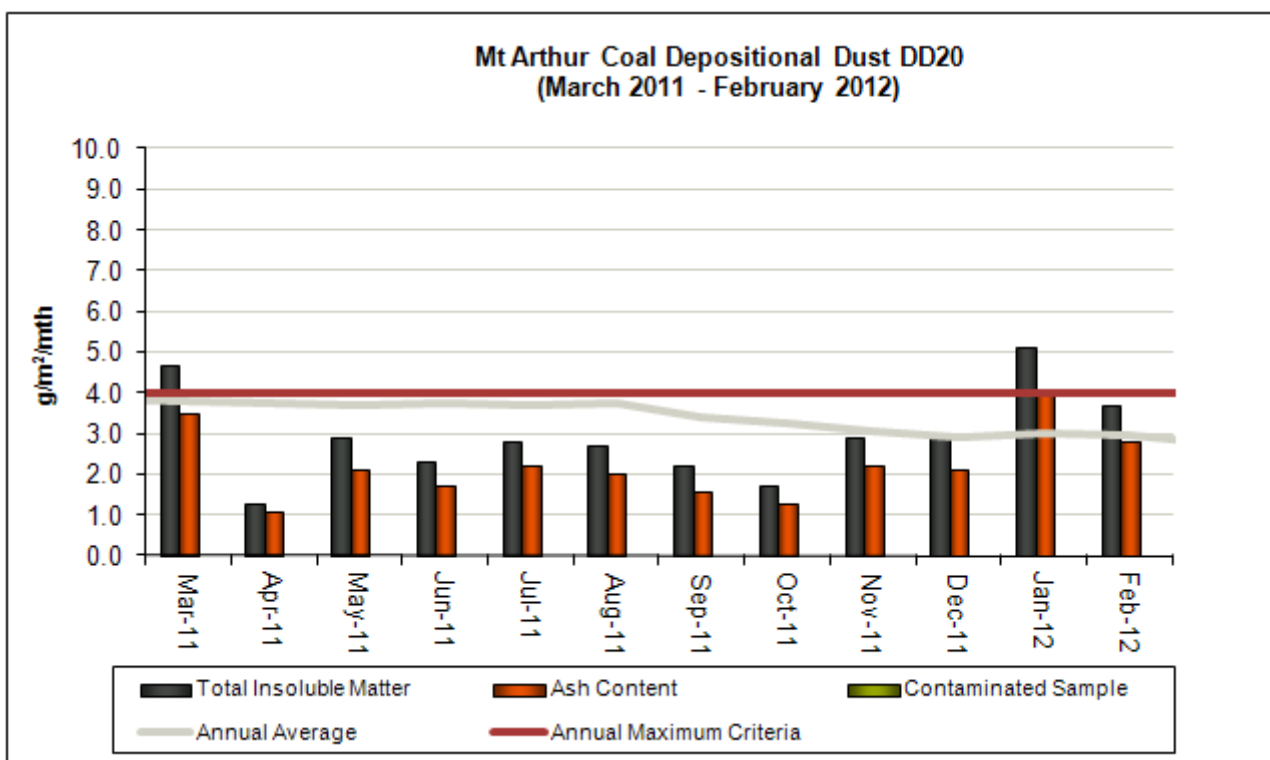
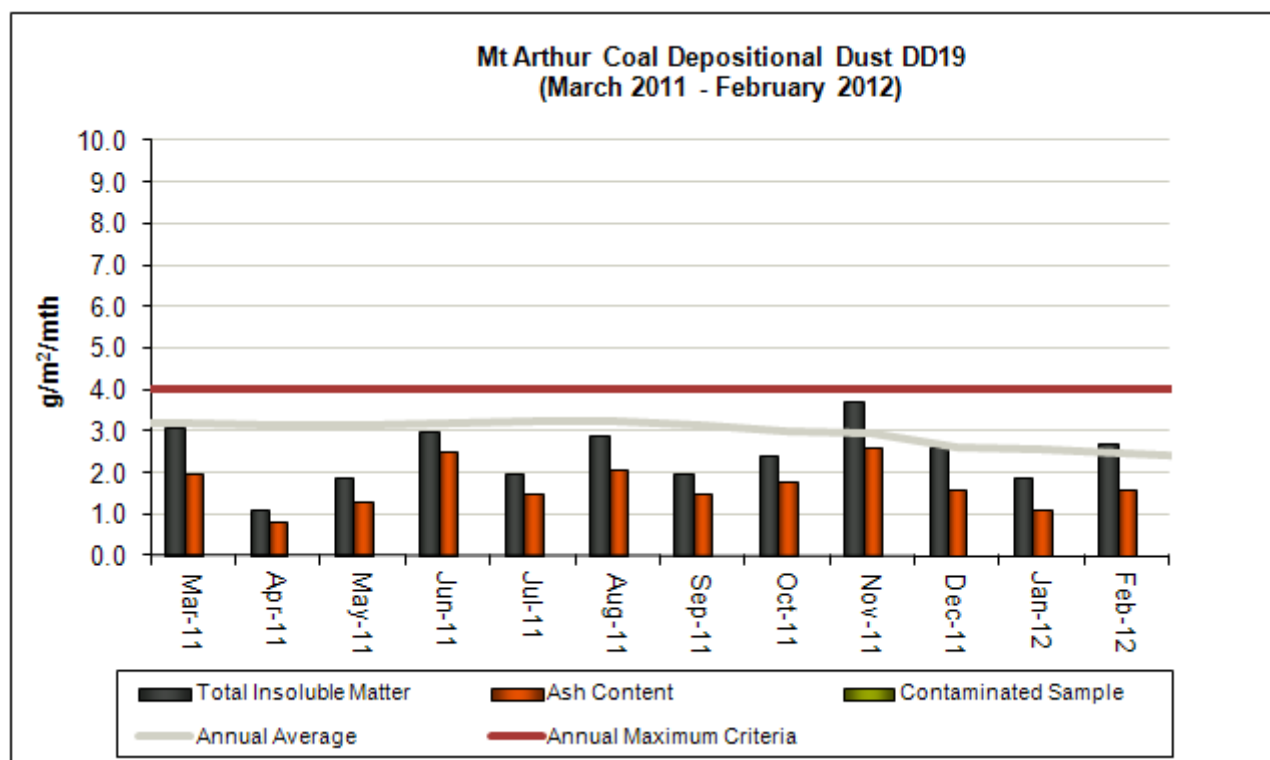
**January, February and Annual Average** - This monitor is located on Mt Arthur Coal owned land and is used for management purposes only. It is not representative of nearby privately-owned residences.



**January** - This monitor is located to the north of the mine. The predominant wind direction for January was south east. This monitor was not upwind of the operation. The annual average was maintained below project approval criteria during this time.

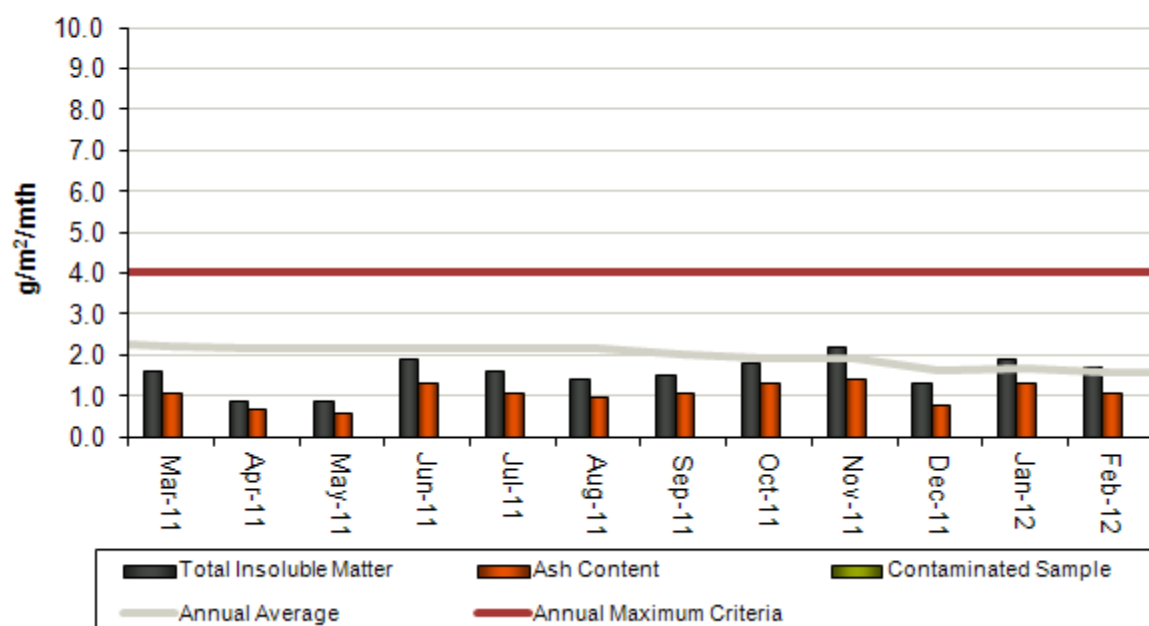
**February** - Independent contractor determined that the sample was contaminated with vegetation and insects.





**January** - This monitor is located to the north east of the mine. The predominant wind direction for January was south east. This monitor was not downwind of the operation. The annual average was maintained below project approval criteria during this time.

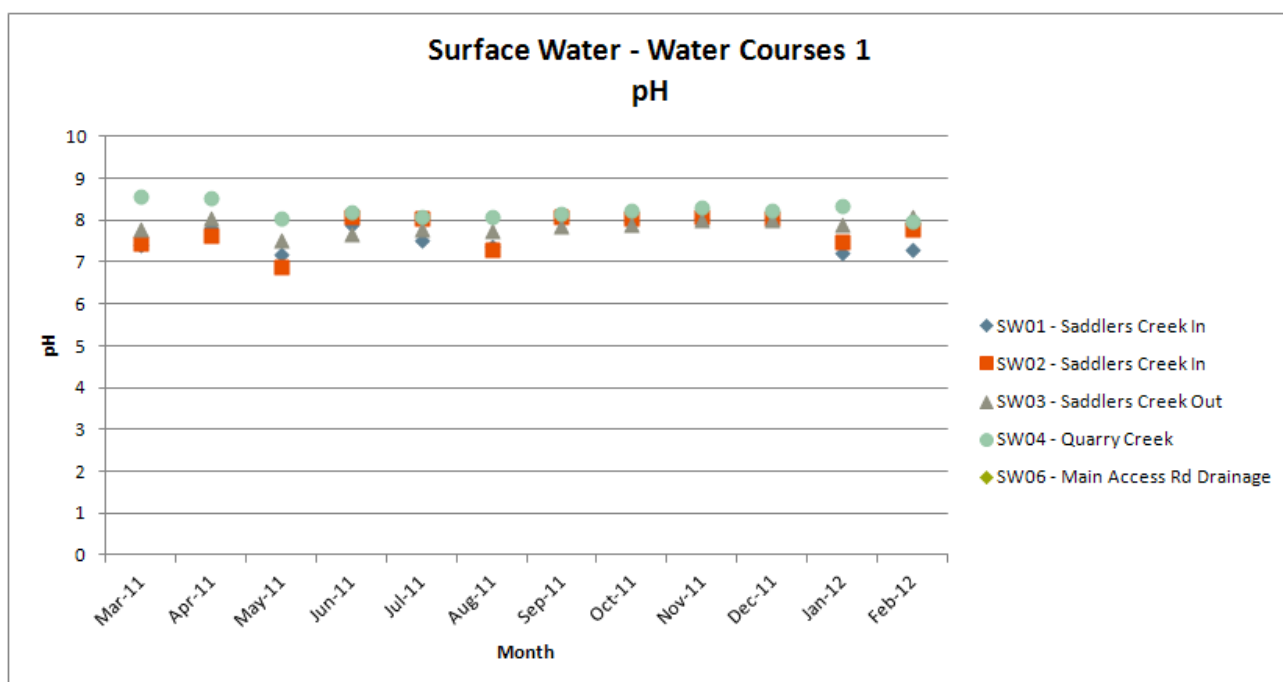
**Mt Arthur Coal Depositional Dust DD21  
(March 2011 - February 2012)**

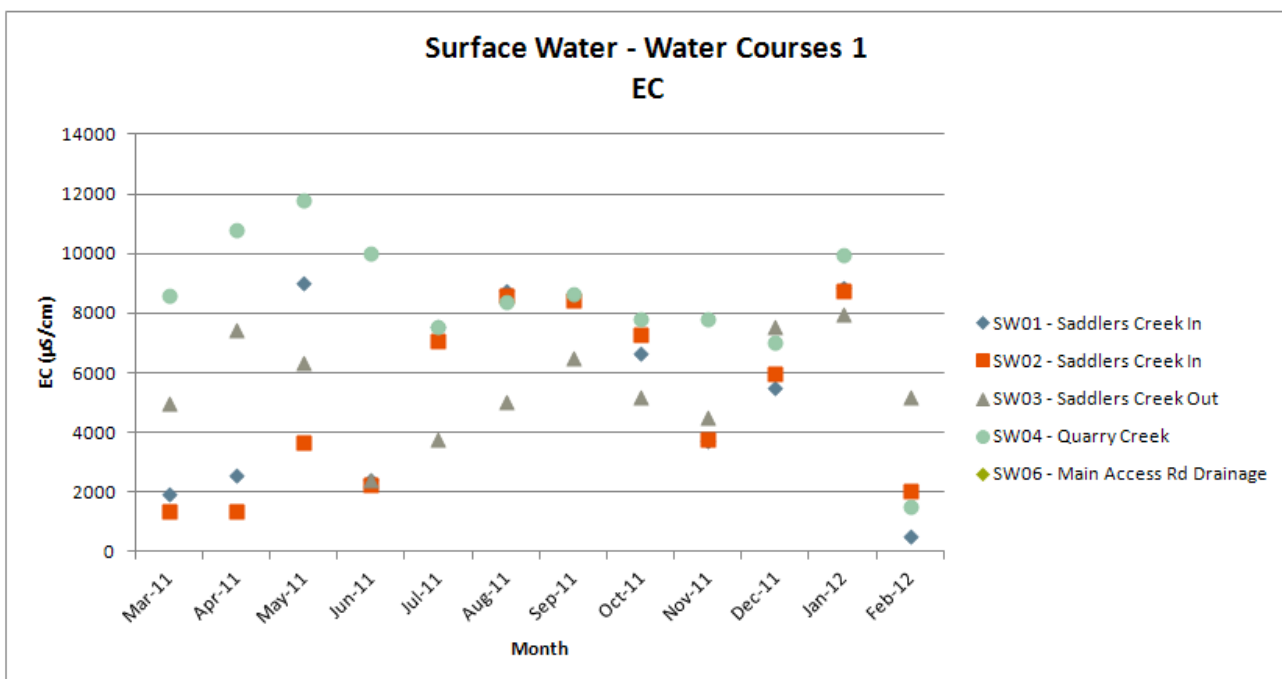
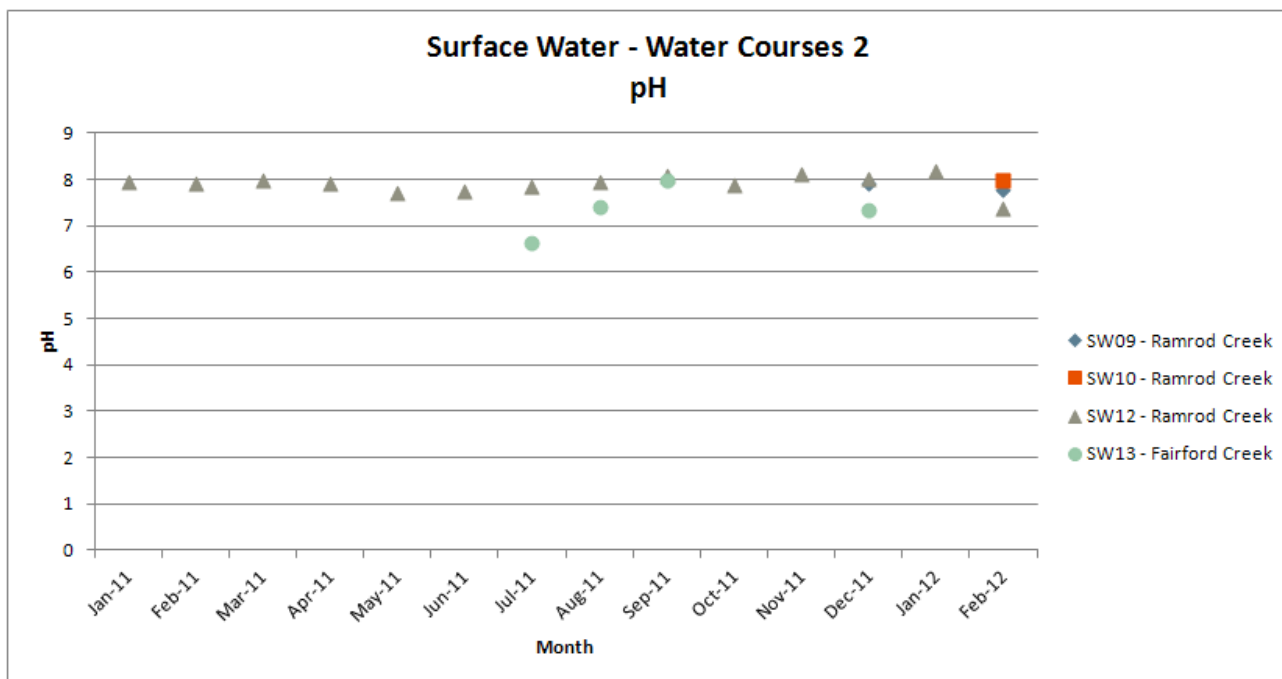


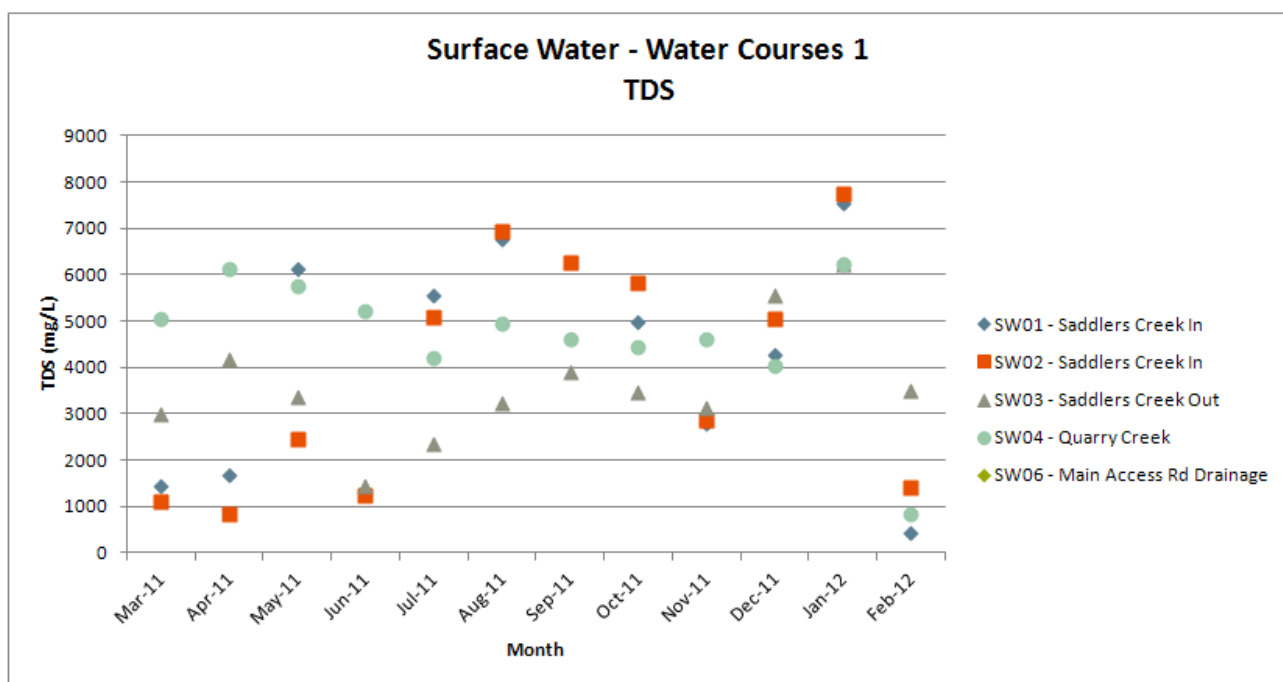
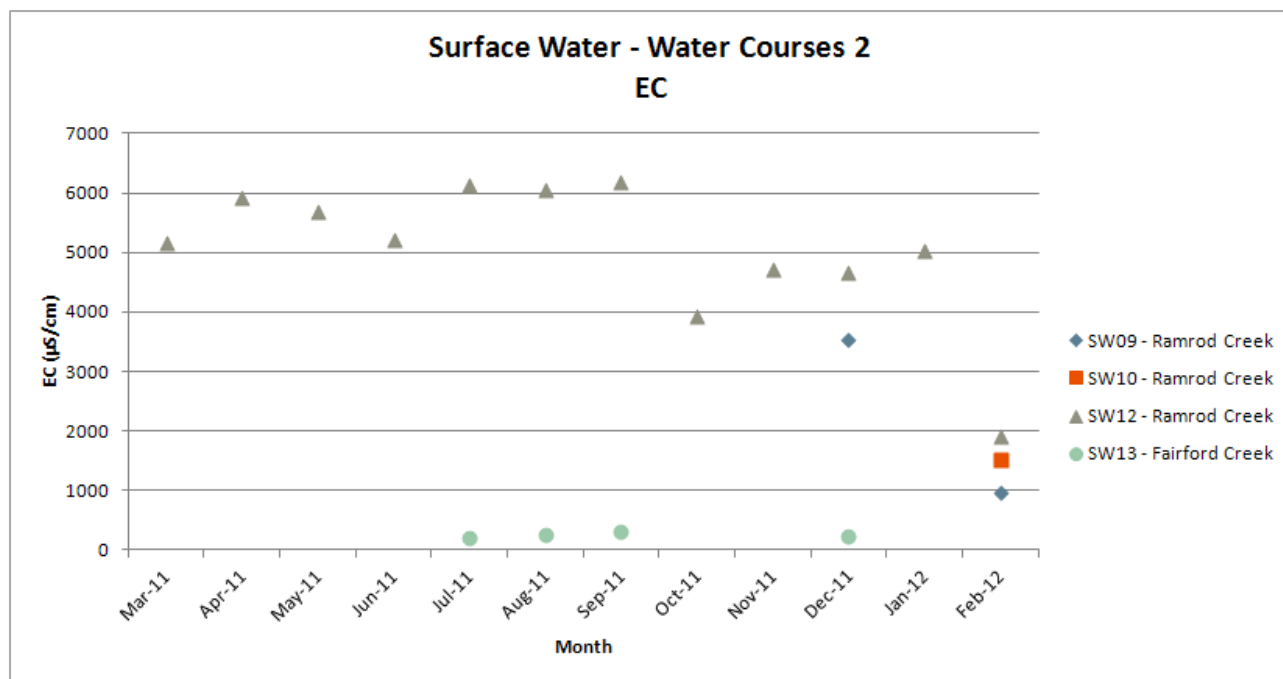
## 5. Surface Water Data (January – February 2012)

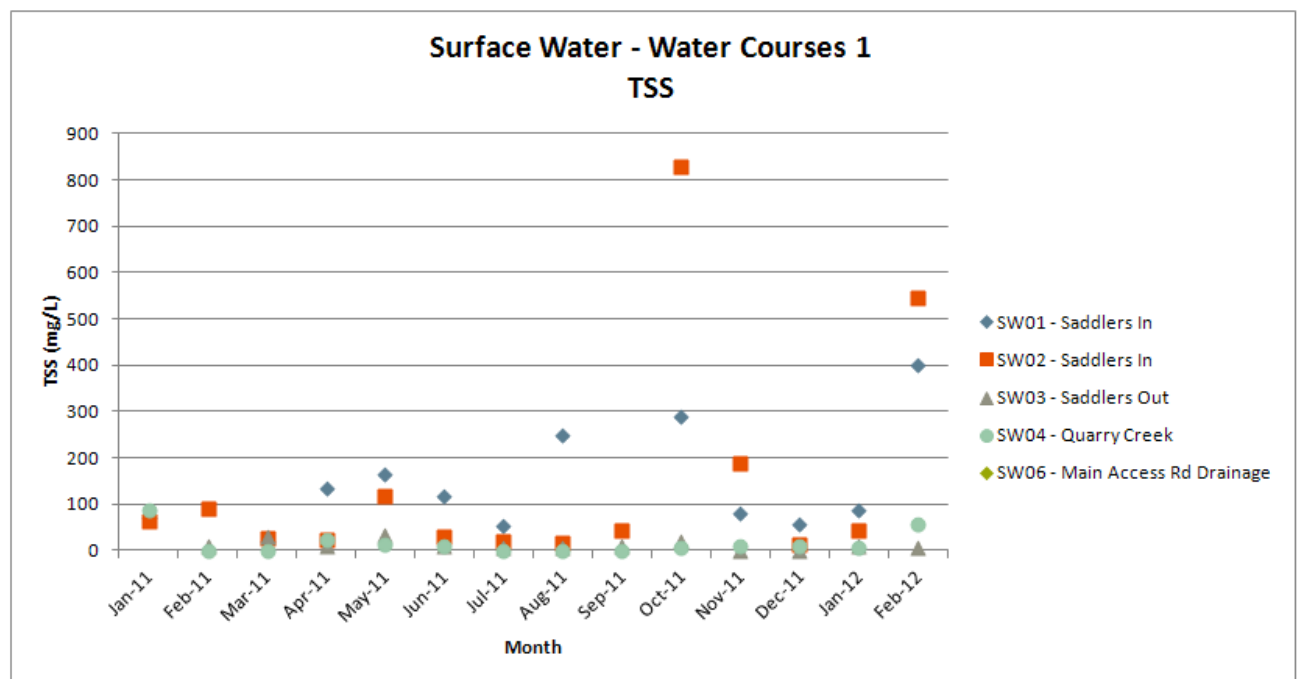
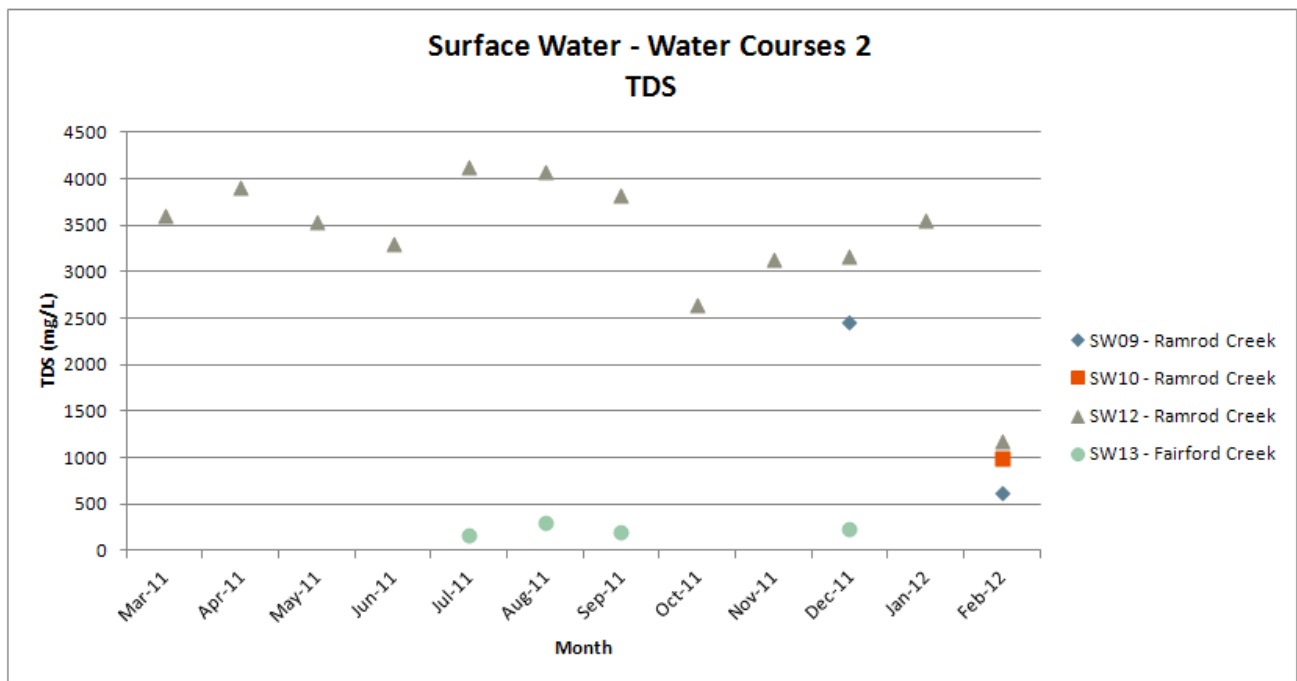
### Surface Water Summary:

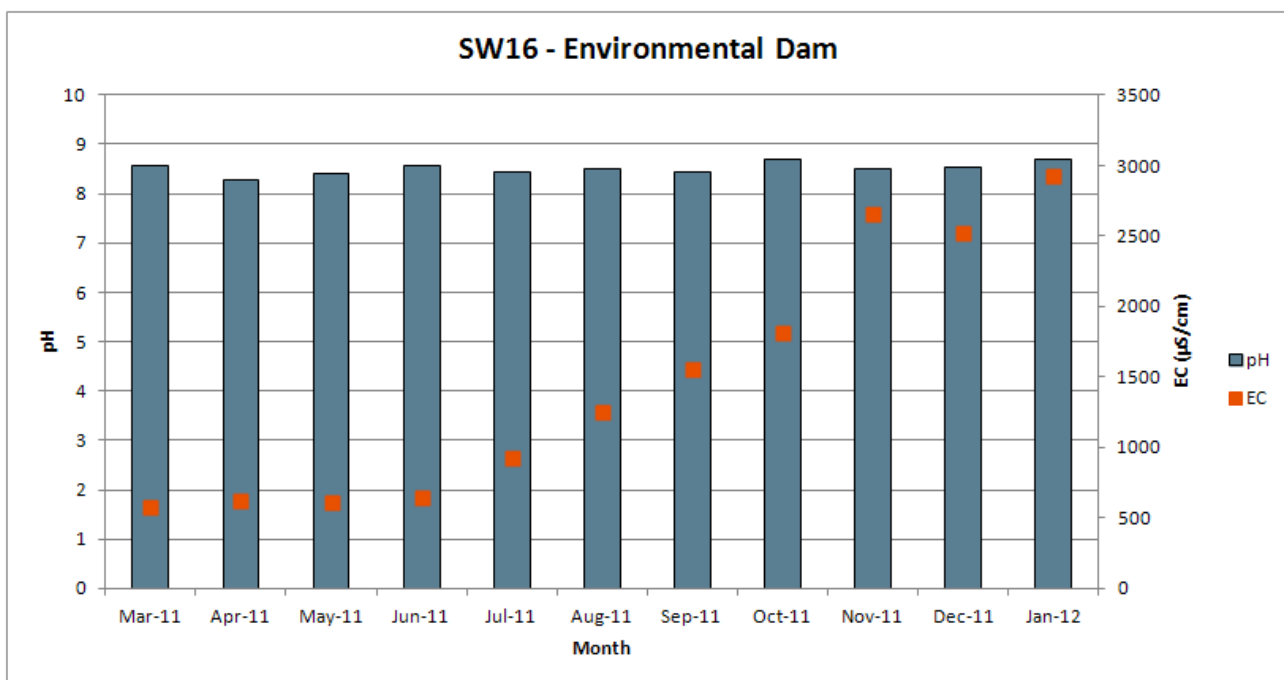
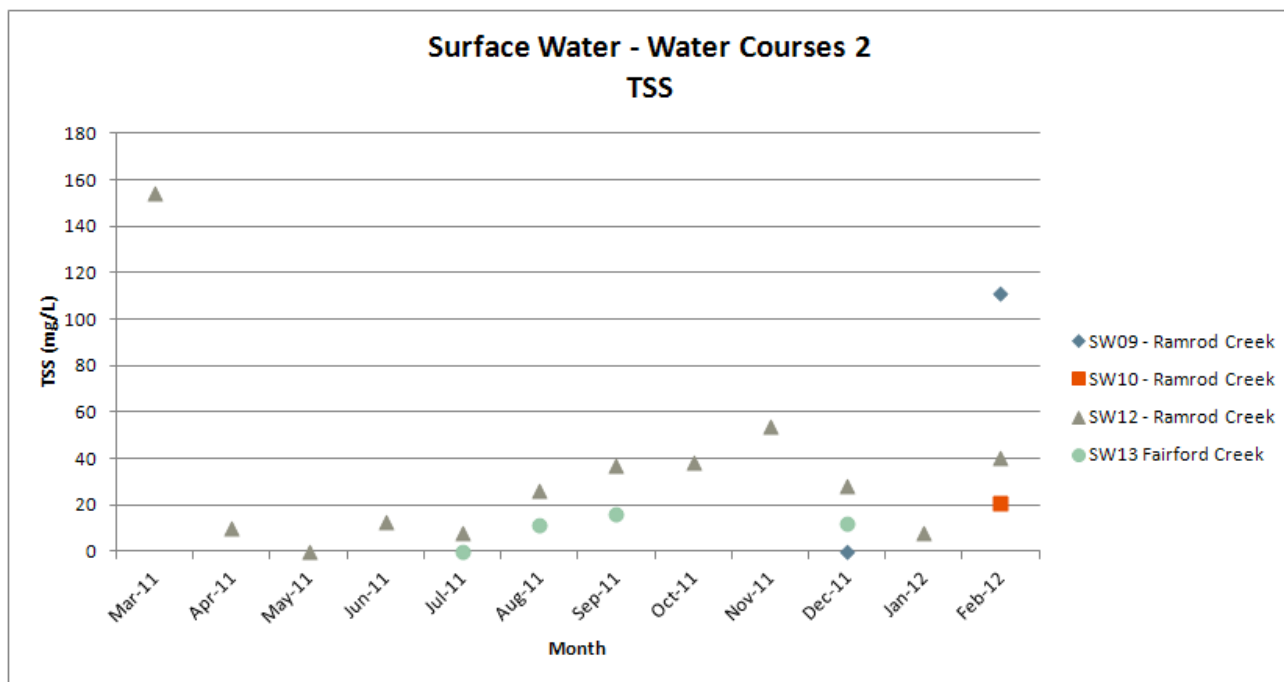
- There were no significant variations in the sampling period with the exception of a gradual increase in electrical conductivity (EC) at SW16.
- The gradual increase in EC at SW16 (the Environmental Dam) is due to increased pumping of water from the active mining area into the Environmental Dam. More water has been required to be pumped from the active mining area due to higher than typical rainfall.











## 6. Noise Data (January – February 2012)

### Noise Criteria:

Monitor Location	Day (LAeq(15min)) Limit	Evening (LAeq(15min)) Limit	Night (LAeq(15min)) Limit
Yammanie (NC03)	39	38	37
Sheppard Avenue (NC02)	41	40	39
South Muswellbrook (NC04)	39	39	39
Denman Road West (NC01)	37	36	35

NOTE: Predicted noise levels in the EA are higher than NC01 and NC03 limits. Noise levels may exceed limits, in accordance with the predicted levels, at these locations.

### Noise Summary:

An exceedance is deemed to have occurred when eight high noise periods or more are identified for an assessment time period (day/evening/night) at a single unattended monitoring location during a rolling four week period. A high noise period is when more than 10 per cent of LP directional noise  $L_{Aeq, 15 \text{ minute}}$  samples in the time period exceeds the limit by more than 2dB in suitable meteorological conditions.

High noise periods were not recorded at any monitor with the exception of Denman Rd West where two high noise days, one high noise evening and seven high noise nights were recorded. The number of high noise periods in four weeks remained under the limit of eight for all monitors during all noise periods (day, evening and night).

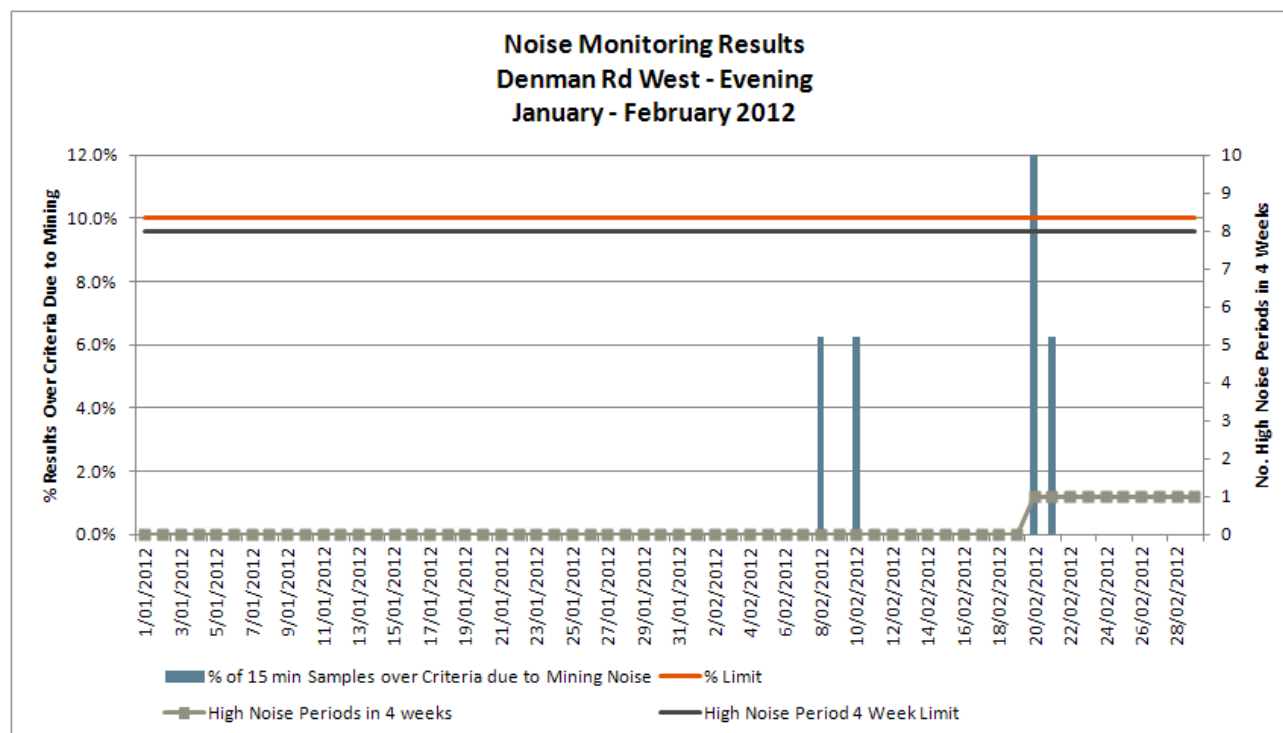
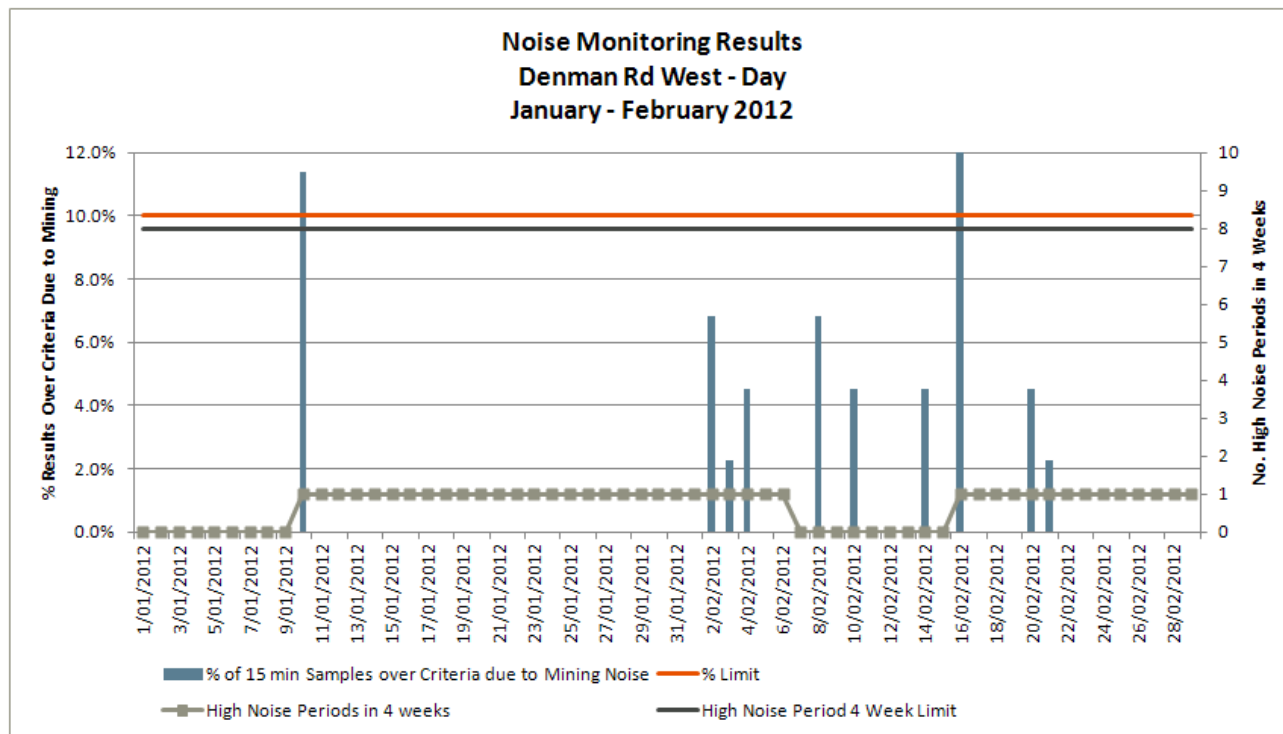
### Noise Monitor Data Capture Rates:

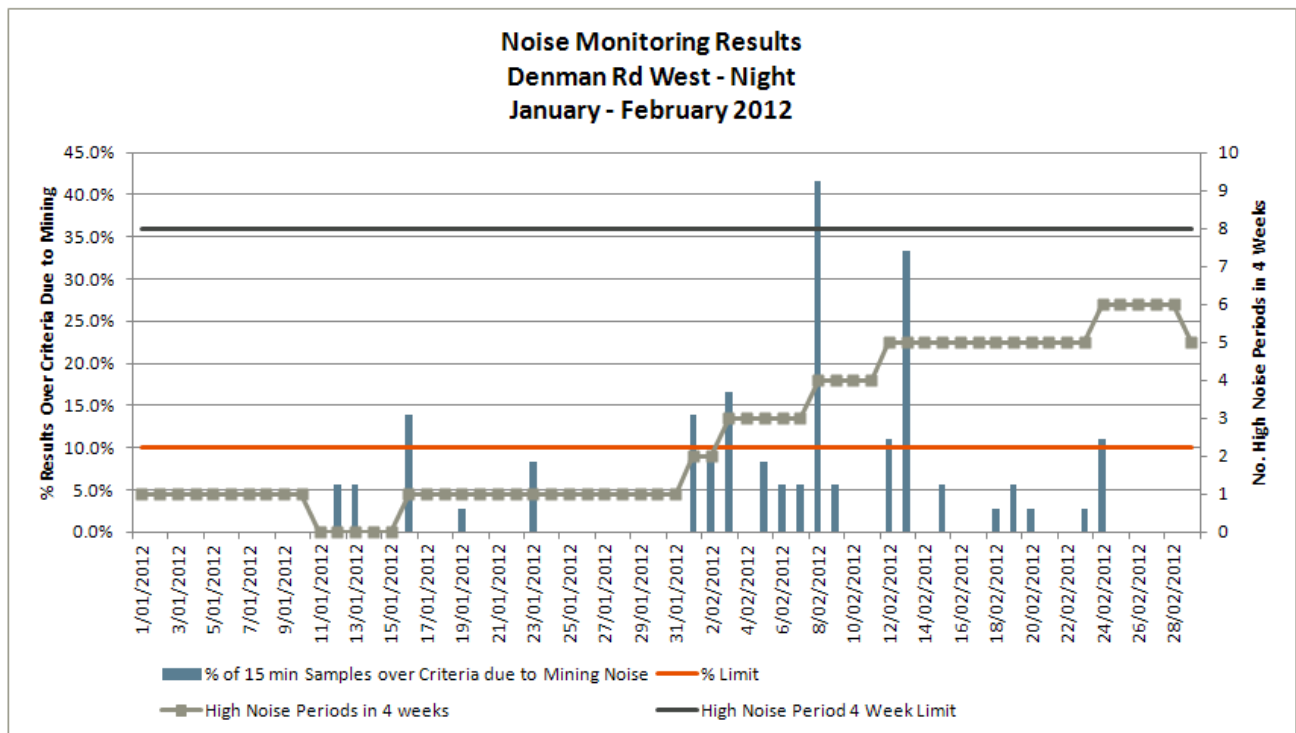
	Denman Road West	Sheppard Avenue	Yammanie	South Muswellbrook
<b>Nov-11</b>	100%	100%	100%	0%
<b>Dec-11</b>	100%	100%	100%	0%

Noise data capture rates were 100 per cent at all monitors with the exception of South Muswellbrook (NC04) which suffered a software issue followed by hardware issues throughout the whole of January and February 2012. These issues have now been resolved. Attended noise monitoring results at South Muswellbrook (NP10), which is adjacent to NC04, were confirmed to be below statutory limits during monitoring undertaken by independent consultants during the quarter.

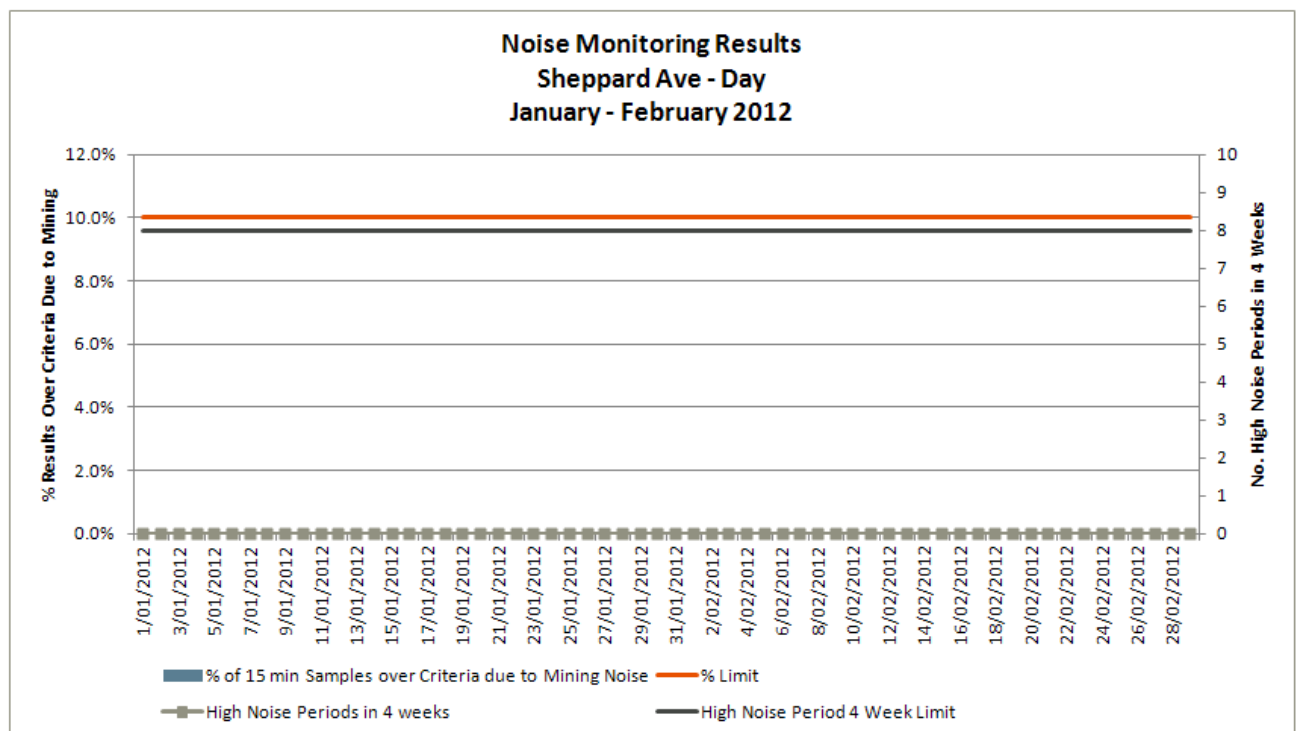


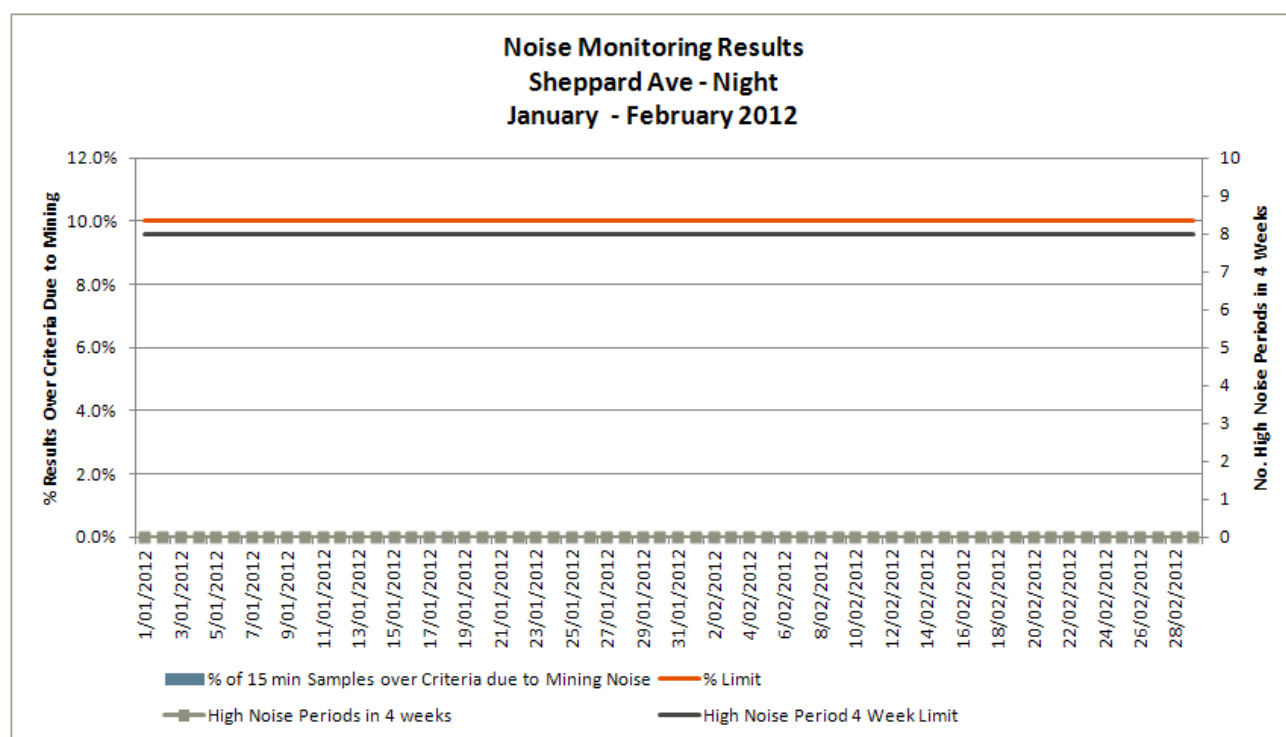
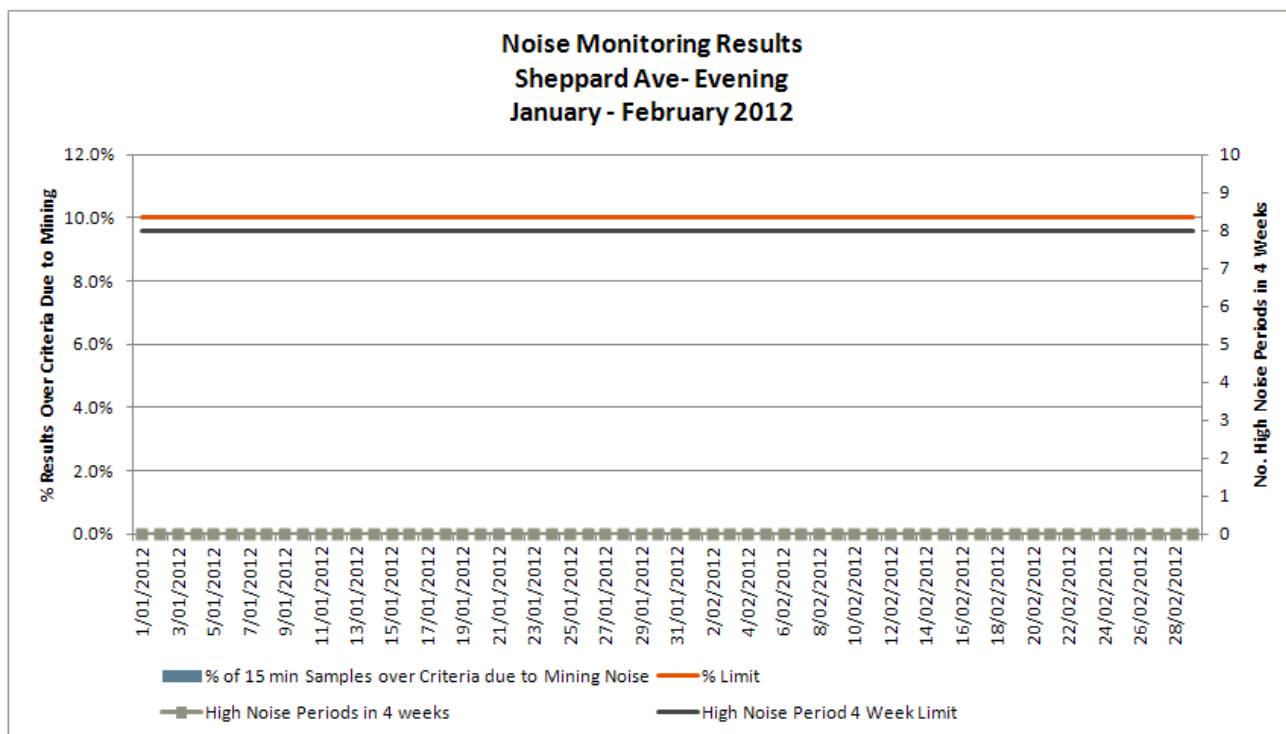
## Denman Rd West (NC01)



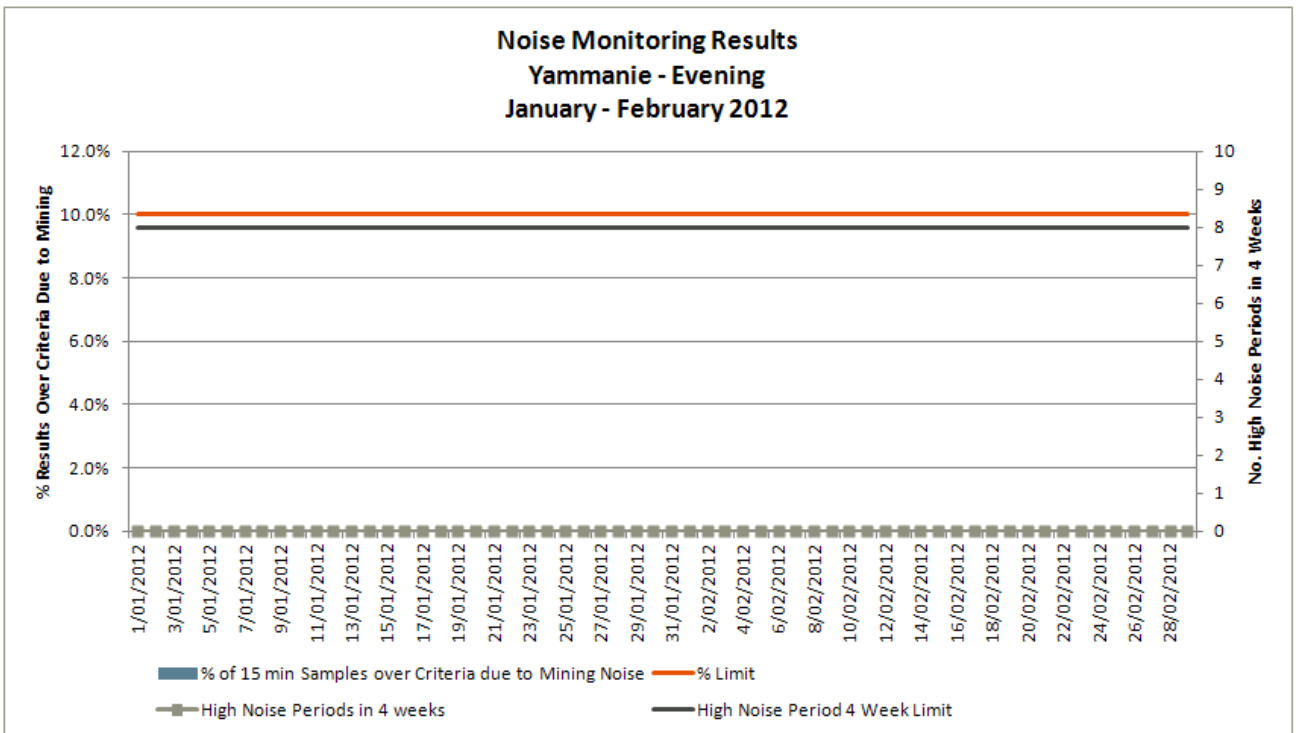
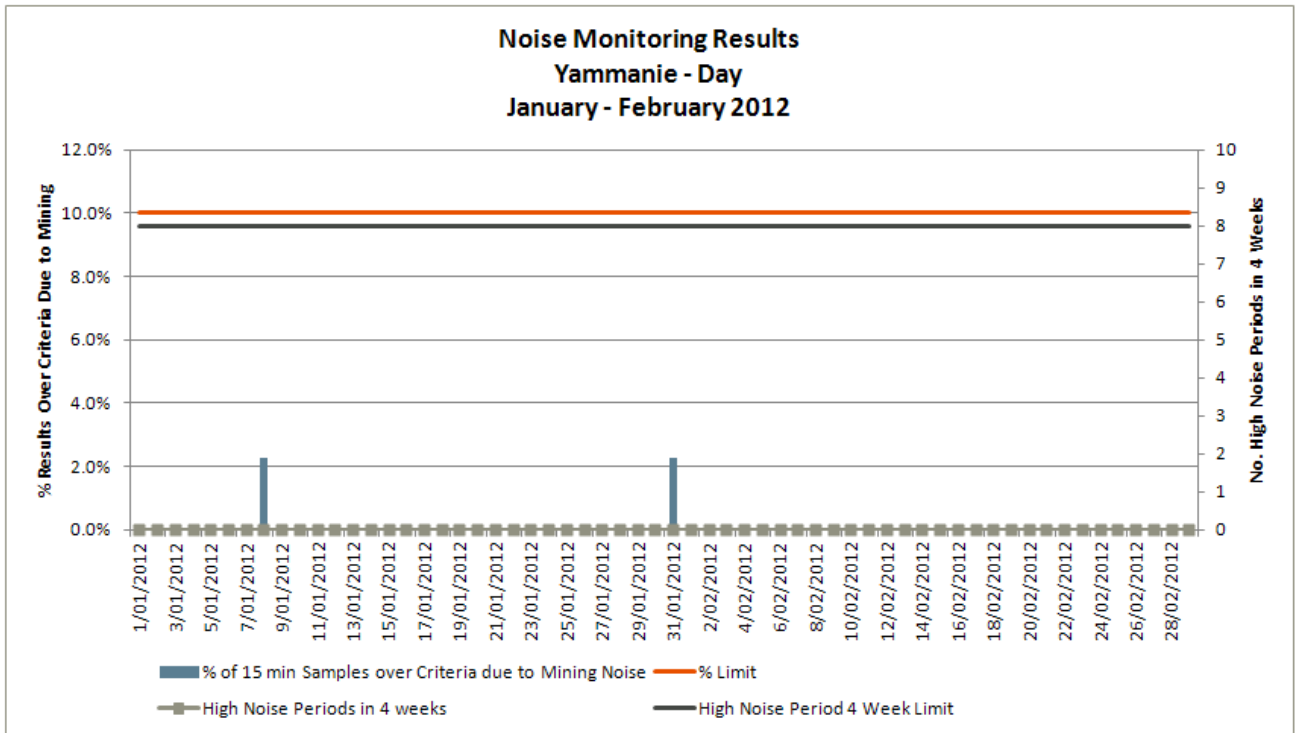


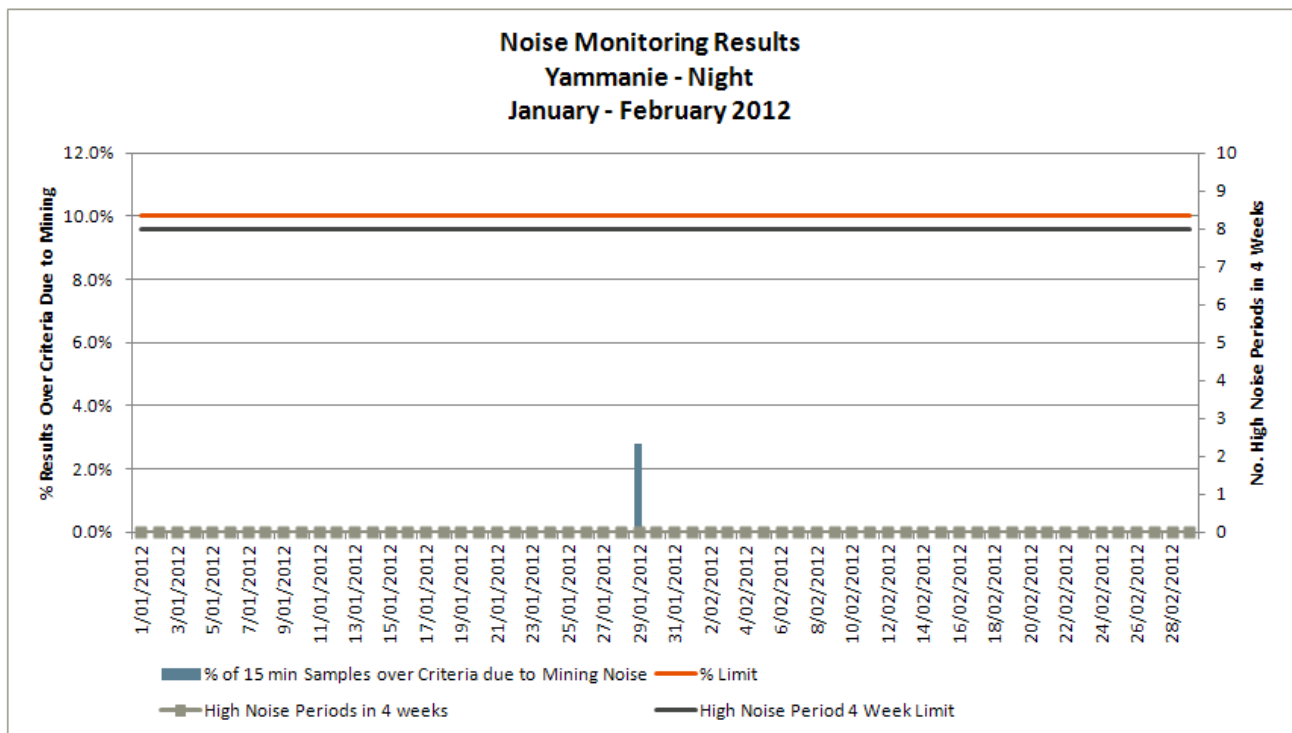
## Sheppard Avenue (NC02)





## Yammanie (NC03)





### South Muswellbrook (NC04)

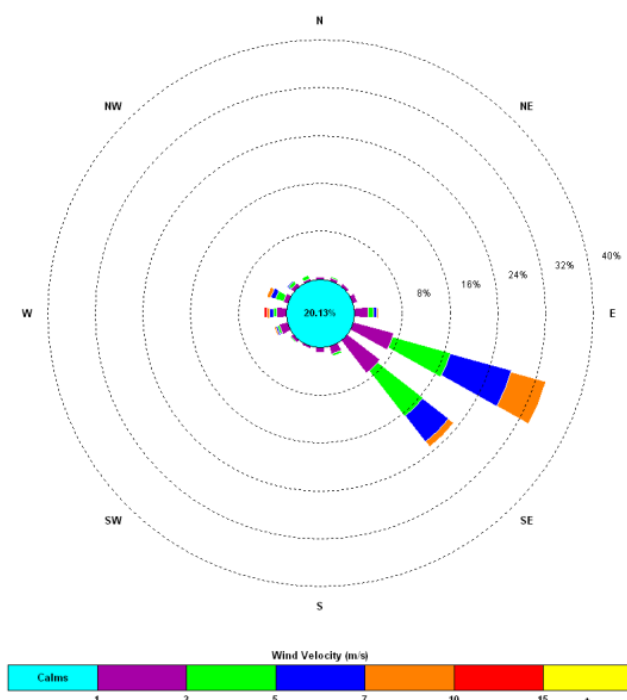
The South Muswellbrook monitor (NP04) was unavailable during January and February 2012 due to a software issue followed by an equipment failure issue. Both issues have now been rectified.

Attended noise monitoring results at South Muswellbrook (NP10), which is adjacent to NC04, were confirmed to be below statutory limits during monitoring undertaken by independent consultants during the quarter.

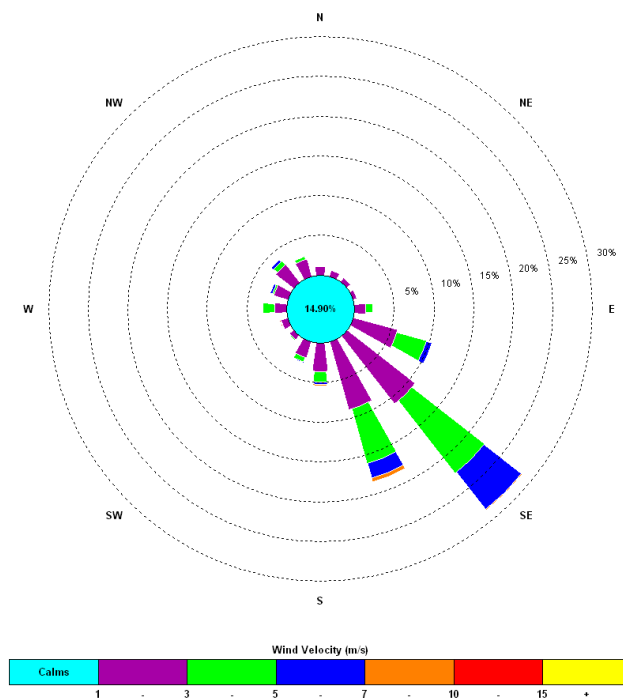
# Weather Data (January – February 2012)

## Monthly windroses for Mt Arthur Coal Industrial Area meteorological station

### January



### February



	Temperature 2m (°C)			Windspeed (m/s)			Sigma Theta			Solar Radiation (W/m <sup>2</sup> )			Rainfall (mm)	No. of days rain >1mm
	Min	Average	Max	Min	Average	Max	Min	Average	Max	Min	Average	Max		
January <sup>a</sup>	10.2	20.2	34.3	0.0	3.5	11.9	5.0	20.9	100.5	0.0	356.8	1932.9	61.0	8
February <sup>b</sup>	ND	ND	ND	0.0	2.8	17.7	0.0	19.7	98.7	0.0	310.1	1747.3	108.4	13
March														
April														
May														
June														
July														
August														
September														
October														
November														
December														

<sup>a</sup> Wind data sourced from the Denman Road West meteorological station due to problem with the wind sensor at the Industrial Area meteorological station. The Denman Rd West meteorological station is not operated in accordance with Australian Standards.

<sup>b</sup> 2m temperature data not available due to problem with the 2m temperature sensor at the Industrial Area meteorological station.

# Community Complaints Summary

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
04/01/2012 11:15:00 AM	Denman Road	Blast Vibration	A Denman Road resident called the Community Response Line to register a complaint about blast vibration that was felt at their residence at approximately 11.11 am. The Environmental Manager asked the complainant if they would like further information on the blast. This offer was declined. All blast monitoring results were within statutory limits.
04/01/2012 11:20:00 AM	Denman Road	Blast Vibration	A Denman Road resident called the Community Response Line to register a complaint about a second blast vibration that was felt at their residence at approximately 11.19 am. The Environmental Manager confirmed that Mt Arthur Coal had blasted at this time and asked the complainant if they would like further information on the blast. This offer was declined. All blast monitoring results were within statutory limits.
16/01/2012 3:30:00 AM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding a low-frequency pulsating noise that could be heard at their residence. The complainant requested not to be contacted that night and confirmed that they had phoned both Mt Arthur Coal and a neighbouring mine as they were unable to ascertain the direction or location that the noise was coming from. The Community Relations Coordinator returned the complainant's call the following day and confirmed that low level operational noise could be audible at the Denman Road West monitor throughout periods of the night, however, the noises were predominantly truck engine and reverse beeping sounds, not low frequency activities that were identified by the complainant as being the issue. The Community Relations Coordinator confirmed that a report on the results from recent monitoring activities at their residence was currently being reviewed internally and that Mt Arthur Coal would be in contact in the coming weeks to discuss these. High winds were recorded throughout the night of concern from a south east direction. At the time of the complaint weather conditions were suitable for operations at 17.3 degrees, no rain or temperature inversions, 85 per cent humidity and a wind speed of 3.1 m/s.
18/01/2012 4:30:00 PM	Denman Road	General Dust	An anonymous complaint was received by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in relation to dust from Mt Arthur Coal in the vicinity of Denman Road. A Department of Planning and Infrastructure compliance officer immediately contacted the Mt Arthur Coal Environment and Community Manager to report the complaint. The Environment and Community Manager confirmed



Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
			that dust levels at all real-time PM10 dust monitors were below statutory limits. Six water carts were also operating with three of these focused in the northern end of the pit. Earlier in the afternoon trucks had also been stopped on a ramp in the northern end of the pit due to dust levels until a water cart was able to apply dust suppressant in this area. Upon receiving the complaint the Environment and Community Manager requested an Open Cut Examiner to immediately inspect the northern end of the pit and modify operations if necessary to reduce dust levels. Wind at the time of the complaint was from the south east at 3-4 metres per second.
19/01/2012 2:53:00 AM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A complaint was received from a Roxburgh Road resident regarding a constant pulsating noise that was preventing the complainant from sleeping. The complainant noted that they could not determine the direction of the noise. The complainant requested not to be called back that night. The Environmental Coordinator called the overburden Open Cut Examiner immediately to discuss current operations, but was unable to determine the source of the noise. The Environmental Coordinator noted that no high noise level alarms had been received from the real-time noise monitoring system. The Environmental Coordinator called the complainant back later that day and advised that monitoring results were below regulatory limits. Temperature was approximately 19.8 degrees Celsius at the time of the complaint with no rain or temperature inversion, 89.5 per cent humidity and a wind speed of 0.87m/s from the north east.
22/01/2012 12:23:00 AM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A community member contacted the Community Response Line to register a complaint regarding a constant pulsating noise that was preventing the complainant from sleeping. The complainant requested not to be called back that night. The Environmental Coordinator called the overburden Open Cut Examiner at the time of the complaint to discuss current operations, however, the source of the noise could not be determined. The Environmental Coordinator noted that no high noise level alarms had been received from the real-time monitoring system. The Environmental Coordinator attempted to contact the complainant on the following Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with no success. The Environmental Coordinator contacted the complainant on the Friday and advised that monitoring results were below regulatory limits at the nearest noise monitor. Temperature was approximately 19.6 degrees Celsius, with no rain, 83 per cent humidity and a wind speed of 4.25 m/s from the south east.
	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A complainant called the Community Response

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
27/01/2012 11:00:00 PM			Line to report hearing a continuous pulsating noise coming from a mine site. The complainant advised they were not sure if it was coming from Mt Arthur Coal or a neighbouring mine, but that they had also rung the neighbouring mine to advise of the same issue. The Community Coordinator called the Open Cut Examiner at the time of the complaint but the source of the noise could not be determined. Noise levels on the night of the complaint were below statutory limits at the closest monitor.
30/01/2012 11:39:00 AM	Denman Road	Blast Vibration	A Denman Road resident called the Community Response Line to register a complaint about blast vibration. The complainant noted that the vibration from the blast could not be felt as much as some previous blasts, but that it could be felt at their residence. The Environmental Superintendent confirmed that Mt Arthur Coal had recently blasted. A copy of the monitoring results from the blast monitor at the complainant's residence was emailed to the complainant. The Environmental Advisor also called the complainant the following day to discuss their concerns further. The Environmental Advisor confirmed that results from the two blasts that were fired in succession at the time concerned recorded results below statutory limits at the temporary blast monitor installed at the resident's property. The likelihood that blast vibration would continue to be felt at the resident's property while mining was in close proximity was also discussed, as was Mt Arthur Coal's commitment to maintain overpressure and vibration results below statutory limits.
16/02/2012 12:30:00 PM	Denman Road	Blast Vibration	A complainant phoned the Community Response Line to report blast vibration that they felt at their residence from a blast undertaken at Mt Arthur Coal. The resident reported that the blast shook their entire house. The Community Relations Coordinator confirmed that a blast had been undertaken by Mt Arthur Coal and asked if the complainant would like to be phoned back with blast monitoring results or to receive a copy of the blast monitoring results. The complainant declined the offer and confirmed that they just wanted the complaint registered. Weather conditions were suitable for blasting with an easterly wind direction of 1.7 m/s and no rainfall. Blast results were below statutory limits, including at the Yammanie monitor located closest to the complainant's residence, which recorded 0.14 mm/s ground vibration and 106.67 dbL overpressure.
16/02/2012 12:45:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Blast Fume	A complainant phoned the Community Response Line to report blast fume that they witnessed from their residence following a blast undertaken at Mt Arthur Coal. The resident reported that there was a large amount of fume witnessed and were concerned that it would travel off-site. The

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
			<p>Community Relations Coordinator confirmed that a blast had been undertaken by Mt Arthur Coal and asked if the complainant would like a member of the Environment and Community team to phone them back once blast details were confirmed and blast monitoring results were available. The complainant declined the offer and confirmed that they just wanted the complaint registered. Following the blast, the Environmental Superintendent and Environmental Coordinator travelled along Thomas Mitchell Drive and Denman Road to inspect blast fume. The Environmental Superintendent and Environmental Coordinator confirmed blast fume was evident but did not leave the site. Blast results were below statutory limits, including at the Denman Road West monitor, located closest to the complainant's residence, which recorded 1.17 mm/s ground vibration and 68.48 dB L overpressure. Weather conditions were suitable for blasting with an easterly wind direction of 1.7 m/s and no rainfall.</p>
16/02/2012 9:10:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	<p>A community complaint was received from near-neighbour regarding clear flood lights that were shining directly from the pit onto their residence. The Community Relations Coordinator immediately contacted the Open Cut Examiner who committed to identifying and rectifying the lights. The Community Relations Coordinator returned the complainant's call to advise them of the actions that were being taken to rectify the issue. The Community Relations Coordinator again phoned the Open Cut Examiner 45 minutes later, who confirmed that one light had been relocated and another two had been repositioned. Weather conditions were suitable for operations with a temperature of 21.6 degrees, south-east wind direction of 4.6 m/s and no rainfall.</p>
17/02/2012 5:25:00 AM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	<p>A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding a continuous low-frequency pulsating noise that could be heard at their residence and was disturbing their sleep. The complainant noted that they did not know which mining operation it was coming from, however, they wanted to register the complaint. The Community Relations Coordinator offered to return the complainant's call the following day, once operational activities and monitoring results could be confirmed, however the complainant declined this offer. The Community Relations Coordinator immediately phoned the Open Cut Examiner who confirmed that some trucks had been operating up high through the night at CD2, located in the centre of the pit. Noise monitoring results were within statutory limits on the night of the complaint. Weather conditions were suitable for operations with a temperature of 14.8 degrees, northerly wind direction of 1.49 m/s and no rainfall.</p>

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
17/02/2012 8:20:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding clear flood lights that were shining directly into their residence. The complainant also noted that they believed Mt Arthur Coal was using clear lighting when it was required to use orange coloured lights. It was later confirmed that Mt Arthur Coal is not required to use only orange coloured lights. The Community Relations Coordinator contacted the Open Cut Examiners immediately who confirmed that all lights that could have been shining towards the property were repositioned or relocated. The Open Cut Examiner also drove around the north western pit perimeter and could not identify any lights shining towards the mine boundary. The Community Relations Coordinator attempted to phone the complainant to ascertain if the lighting issue had been rectified, however, they were unable to reach the complainant that night.
17/02/2012 11:00:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding a continuous low-frequency pulsating noise that could be heard at their residence and was disturbing their sleep. The complainant noted that they attempted to identify which mining operation it was coming from and believed it to be Mt Arthur Coal. The Community Relations Coordinator immediately phoned the Open Cut Examiner who committed to moving any trucks that were operating high within the pit, to a lower location. Noise monitoring results were within statutory limits on the night of the complaint. Weather conditions were suitable for operations with a temperature of 20.9 degrees, south westerly wind direction of 1.13 m/s and no rainfall.
18/02/2012 8:50:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding a clear flood light shining directly into their residence. The complainant noted that two problematic lights on the previous nights had been rectified, however, one was still an issue. The Community Relations Coordinator contacted the Open Cut Examiner who relocated or repositioned all lights that could potentially shine towards Roxburgh Road. The Open Cut Examiner also drove around the north western perimeter of the site and could not identify any lights shining towards the Denman Road or Roxburgh Road areas. The complainant had declined to be called back that night to confirm that the issue had been addressed. The complainant phoned again at 5 am on 19 February stating that the light had not been rectified. The Community Relations Coordinator phoned the complainant at 7.45 pm on 19 February and offered for an Open Cut Examiner to attend their residence to identify the problematic light. This offer was declined. That evening two Open Cut Examiners travelled to multiple locations on Roxburgh Road, however, they could not identify any lights shining from the mine site.

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
21/02/2012 9:40:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	A resident from Roxburgh Road called the Community Response Line to register a complaint regarding a clear flood light shining towards their property. Following the call the Open Cut Examiner drove along Roxburgh Road to identify the lighting plant. As a result, two lights were redirected. The Environmental Coordinator called the complainant the following day and the complainant noted that the offending light was still on that morning. The Environmental Coordinator and the Open Cut Examiner redirected one and turned off two lighting plants that night and contacted the complainant. The complainant confirmed that these were not the offending lighting plants and that the offending lighting plant had already been redirected towards the ground and was not shining towards their residence.
26/02/2012 1:32:00 AM	Roxburgh Road	Operational Noise	A complaint was received from a near-neighbour regarding a continuous low-frequency pulsating noise that could be heard at their residence. The complainant noted that they could not accurately identify what direction the noise was coming from. The Environmental Coordinator advised that the type of noise described by the complainant was likely to be coming from a processing plant. The Environmental Coordinator confirmed that a report detailing noise monitoring previously conducted at the complainant's residence was currently being reviewed and upon completion would be provided to the complainant. Immediately following the call, the Environmental Coordinator called the Open Cut Examiner. The Open Cut Examiner drove around the north western boundary of the mine but could not identify a low-frequency pulsating noise. The Environmental Coordinator also called the coal handling preparation plant control room who confirmed that most equipment was shut down due to maintenance issues. Monitoring results were below statutory limits at the nearest noise monitor. The Environmental Coordinator called the complainant back at a later date and offered to arrange a suitable time for the Environment and Community Manager to visit the complainant at their residence. The complainant declined the offer.
27/02/2012 1:40:00 PM	Antiene	Operational Noise	A complainant sent a fax to report that the nights of 25 and 26 February 2012 were noisy due to heavy machinery. The complainant also reported blasting noise and vibration that they felt at their residence at 12.15pm on 24 February 2012. The Superintendent Environment contacted the complainant on 28 February 2012 and requested further information on the specific time the machinery noise was experienced in order to assist with the investigation. The resident indicated that the noise was experienced throughout each night. The Superintendent

Date & Time	From	Issue	Investigation and Response to Complainant
			Environment also confirmed that no blast occurred at Mt Arthur Coal at the time the complainant had experienced blast vibration. Following an investigation into potential noise generating activities the Superintendent Environment contacted the near-neighbour at 11am on 1 March 2012 and outlined that no assembly and commissioning work was being undertaken in the vicinity of the complainant's residence on the nights of 25 and 26 February 2012. The complainant requested to be telephoned prior to each blast in addition to receiving the weekly blast notifications. The Superintendent Environment updated the blast notification list to ensure that the requested blast notifications are made.
28/02/2012 10:58:00 AM	Denman Road	Vibration	The complainant phoned the Community Response Line to report blast vibration that they felt at their residence from a blast undertaken at Mt Arthur Coal. The Superintendent Environment confirmed that a blast had been undertaken by Mt Arthur Coal and asked if the complainant would like to be phoned back with blast monitoring results or to receive a copy of the blast monitoring results. The near-neighbour declined the offer to provide monitoring results. Weather conditions were suitable for blasting with a north-westerly wind direction of 5.89 m/s. Blast results were below statutory limits, including at the Yammanie monitor located closest to the complainant's residence which recorded 0.29 mm/s ground vibration and 105.9 dB blast overpressure.
29/02/2012 9:11:00 PM	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	A resident from Roxburgh Road called the Community Response Line to register a complaint regarding a clear flood light shining towards their property. The complainant noted that they had called a few days earlier for the same issue and that the issue had been resolved, however the same light was again shining towards their property. The Superintendent Environment called the Open Cut Examiner who drove out to Roxburgh Road immediately to inspect the lights. Lights at CD1 and CD3 were subsequently redirected. The complainant again contacted the Superintendent Environment during the evening on 1 March 2012. The complainant indicated that at approximately 5 am the same lighting plant was observed and the issue had not yet been resolved.

## Overview of Community Support (January – February 2012)

### Community Support Summary:

- TAFE Mining Skills site tour occurred on 30 January.
- Activities funded through the Community Development Fund Round four, 2011 include:
  - Muswellbrook Service Clubs, Joint Services facility (\$30,000)
  - St Joseph's High School, Trade Training Centre (\$20,000)
  - Denman Skate and BMX Park Committee (\$15,000)
  - Upper Hunter Education Fund program (\$10,000)
- Community Development Fund Round 1 (2012) closed 2 March. Applications are currently being assessed.

## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### Minutes of Meeting (23)

**Location:** Mt Arthur Coal Boardroom

**Date:** Wednesday 4 April 2012

**Present:** Martin Rush (MR) Chairperson, Craig Flemming (CF) Muswellbrook Shire Council, John Bancroft (JB) Resident, Graham Guest (GG) Resident, Ray Thomas (RT) Mt Arthur Coal, Julie McNaughton (JM) Mt Arthur Coal, Scott Mitchell (SM) Mt Arthur Coal, Rebecca Smith (RS) Mt Arthur Coal, Shelley Masterson (ShM) Mt Arthur Coal, and Joanne Wilson (JW) Mt Arthur Coal.

**Apologies:** Jennifer Lecky (JL) Councillor, Eddie Constable (EC) Resident, Raymond Webb (RW) Resident, and Bruce MacPherson (BM) Resident.

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#### Meeting Commenced: 4.10 pm

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

MR welcomed everyone to the Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting for April 4 2012, and apologies were received.

**2. HOUSEKEEPING AND SAFETY**

JM provided information on general housekeeping and safety at the Mt Arthur Coal Administration Building.

**3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None declared.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

MR – moved minutes. Second by GG

**5. OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS TO DATE**

RT – Proceeded to go through the slide as per agenda item 5 in regards to RX1 equipment continuing to be delivered, production being affected due to the wet weather, unlocking of modular mining system continued on overburden fleet and total employment headcount for NSW Energy Coal at end of February 2012.

MR - What will be the anticipated employment figure at December 2012?

RT – Approximately 300 more employees.

CF – Wet weather verses production? How much is affected?

RT – Five percent behind production levels for the year to date. Still expected to hit budgeted targets for the year.



## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

RT – Modular mining system is a tool used to increase production and decrease wastage which in turn should increase production with the current fleet. This system focuses on efficiency; looks at utilisation of the machine over a 24 hour period and help manage the budget forecasts of the business.

GG – What control do you have over targets and expansion?

RT – Targets and expansion are proposed by the site through annual business planning processes, presented to the Energy Coal CSG, and targets are developed from the business case put forward.

GG – Do you employ many contractors?

RT – Contractors are employed, however most people working at Mt Arthur Coal on a full time basis are employees.

*RT departed the meeting at 4.25pm.*

### 6. OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY

JM – Refers to slide and gives an overview of ISO 14001 recertification, independent compliance audit, Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Management Plan (RBMP), DoPI feedback, AEMR, CDF Round 4, European Heritage Conservation Management Plan Development, EPBC Act progress, internal 5 year planning process and DP&I Compliance Officer Feedback.

MR – Did not know about the EPBC Act. Information around this topic should have been included in the Agenda so that the CCC could review prior to the meeting. Would like to know more.

JM – Explains this information is on the internet and is happy to take it off line and discuss.

RS – Suggested as an Action that the Overview of Environment and Community slide is distributed prior to the meeting within the Agenda format. This Agenda would also include any relevant in regards to actions from the previous meeting and any attachments for the upcoming meeting. (ACTION ITEM 1)

### 7. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

ShM – Overview of Community Support slide as per agenda item 6 which explains projects funded through the Community Development Fund Round 4 2011.

MR – What is the Upper Hunter Education Fund?

NG – The Upper Hunter Education Fund supports local children who are from financially disadvantaged backgrounds and who have the academic ability to continue study towards the HSC or tertiary education. This fund supports the student financially so that they can progress their education. The student is monitored both academically and socially while they are on the program.

## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

ShM – Discusses the Community Investment Pipeline, noting that it is not a public document and had confidential information.

MR – The purpose of this information is to assist the committee that funding will be honoured, but there are no figures. The CCC need a record of spending and will treat the information in confidence.

ShM – Provides a look at funding through phases, 5 year Investment Plan in relation to research already completed and relating it back to the Sustainable Community Project (SCP). This funding has a project management process running potential projects through identification, selection, definition and execution phases.

Further discussion around the projects in the pipeline, and the commitments made by Mt Arthur Coal in relation to community development and community investment was undertaken.

JM explained that for the Financial Year 2011 (FY11), Mt Arthur Coal stated that they planned to spend four million dollars in the community. While working towards that commitment, it was realised that to spend this money sustainably project planning and scoping was going to be required, and the funds were not all spent in FY11. Mt Arthur Coal will publicly report on investment in the previous year as part of the AEMR. The projects pipeline will be managed on a monthly basis, and Mt Arthur Coal's community investment will be determined by those projects that progress through the pipeline, and will be dependent on the capacity of partnering community organisations to deliver projects sustainably.

MR – Wants to clearly see dollars allocated against the pipeline. Stated that in financial year 2011 Mt Arthur Coal did not spend the \$4M and he would like this money carried over into community spend as promised and stated. Stated he was aware of the reasons why it was not spent and this was not achieved but needs to have faith that over the course of time it averages out to the agreed spend of \$4M per year.

MR requested that all reports to be discussed at the meeting be included in the agenda mailed out, with no exceptions. He added that he did not appreciate seeing reports at the meeting and then be expected to make comment on them or pass motions on the subject. (Action Item 1)

JM – Noted that this will happen where possible, however items discussed within the CCC meeting can be confidential and some information may not be provided prior to the meeting in those circumstances.

### 8. ACTION ITEMS SINCE LAST MEETING

MR – Action item 3 from previous CCC meeting - Mt Arthur Coal will table its approach to communicating the FY11 community spend at the next meeting. This was covered in the overview of community support documented above.

## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Action Item 2 from previous CCC meeting – Investigate whether Mt Arthur Coal is able to share the community development project pipeline next CCC meeting- This was shared, however MR stated that he wants to see dollars allocated on community investment pipeline presentation.

JB – Where did the \$4M figure come from? Thought this figure was determined by Mt Arthur Coal? Was this a once off commitment by Mt Arthur Coal?

Discussion was held around whether the \$4M commitment was tied to the Mt Arthur Coal Consolidation Project Approval. JM stated that the \$4M was separate to the consent process, but included the VPA commitments made under the consent. MR stated that he believed the council thought the commitment to spend \$4M was an annual commitment.

ShM – Shelley discusses the Draft Community Development Management Plan (CDMP) with the CCC and asks for feedback and questions.

JB asked if this is what the Community Development Fund (CDF) is for?

ShM replied that the CDF is required under the VPA, and will be administered by Mt Arthur Coal and Muswellbrook Shire Council in partnership, with funds coming from Mt Arthur Coal under the VPA.

MR – Will the CDMP be able to show that on average \$4M per year will be spent?

*ShM leaves the meeting at 5.00pm*

JM – The CDMP is based on projects to be undertaken, not dollars to be spent

Discussions around the \$4M spend continued.

JM tables the draft community investment section of the 2011 Annual Environment Management Report (AEMR) The AEMR will be lodged and available on the website in late April.

Further conversation around community investment continues. JM committed to speaking with the Chairperson of the CCC to clarify, and email a response to the CCC prior to the next meeting. JM offered to speak to any other CCC members regarding community investment if this will assist them (ACTION ITEM 2).

Action Item 4 from previous CCC Meeting - Provide results from temporary blast monitor on Denman Road at next CCC. Ground vibration results graph shown and explained by RS.

Action Item 5 from previous CCC meeting - Muswellbrook Shire Council to follow up with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and get a response in writing as to whether the upwind/downwind methodology was an acceptable practice for assessing dust levels from mines. Email reply from Ben Harrison, Compliance Officer from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, was distributed. The email states that for depositional dust gauges a “numeric

## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

subtraction of a down-wind gauge from an up-wind gauge does not necessarily represent the dust generated between the gauges, however the reference to other gauges will indicate whether the result is consistent with regional variations on monthly depositional dust readings.”

Action Item 6 from previous meeting - Check the Katestone report to see if best practice is to use an aggregate on permanent haul roads but not necessarily on temporary roads.

RS – No distinction is made between permanent and temporary roads in the Katestone Report. The use of large trucks and speed restrictions are best control practices used on all roads at Mt Arthur Coal. The use of dust suppressant is also a best practice control that is focused on high traffic areas and this is consistent with the Katestone Report and subsequent Pollution Reduction Program to focus on the implementation of controls that will have the most impact

JM – Generally all high traffic roads both permanent and temporary will receive dust suppressant. Roads are treated in different ways depending on their usage.

Action 7 from previous meeting - Investigate why trains sit idle while waiting to be loaded. If they can be stopped while waiting, how long would it take to warm up and start again?

RS – The train engine must run in order to keep the air operated brakes on every wagon on. If the engine is turned off the train operator must apply a manual break to each wagon. To start the train again the operator must release the manual break on each wagon and complete a pre-start inspection which includes walking the length of the train on each side. Due to the length of time required to complete these activities it is not feasible to turn the engine off for short periods.

Action 8 from previous meeting - Provide less than 4 paragraphs on why HVAS and TEOM monitors at the same location might measure different PM10 results during the same 24 hour period and how the measurement could be done better to present at the next CCC meeting - This action is carried over to the next CCC Meeting.

### 9. REHABILITATION AND BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

SM – Provides a table showing Mt Arthur Coal's response to Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Management Plan (R&BMP) feedback from the CCC from previous meetings.

Discussion around the R&BMP followed, covering percentage cover of woodlands, and pre mining and post mining grazing stock levels.

MR raised a motion to endorse and support the Mt Arthur Coal Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Management Plan with the exception of the voids as the CCC preference is for none or shallower voids. MR to draft up a letter of endorsement to send to Department of Planning and Infrastructure. Motion put forward by MR.

JB – Seconded motion.

Motion Carried.

## MT ARTHUR COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### 10. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

MR – Any questions for the environment team in regards to the monitoring data provided?

MR – Any questions for the community team in regards to the community complaints data provided?

JM – Currently looking at our internal complaints handling process and a consultant has been contacted to review and suggest improvements to the current process. The CCC will be involved in our review.

MR – General business?

MR – Suggested that the CCC is briefed on the Modification Project.

JM – Will review next meeting if possible, otherwise at later meetings when impact assessment reports are available.

### 11. NEXT MEETING

The next Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee meeting is proposed to be held on 6 June 2012.

The next Joint Mt Arthur Coal - Drayton Mine Joint Community Consultative Committee meeting is proposed to be held on 10 May 2012 at 4pm in the Mt Arthur Coal Boardroom.

**Meeting Closed: 5.45 pm**

ACTION ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTIONED BY
1.	Ensure that all items to be discussed will be included in the Agenda so that it allows for all members of the CCC to review documentation prior to arriving at the meeting. This is to include Actions from the previous meeting.	RS
2.	MR and JM to discuss Community investment commitments offline in order to establish what information will satisfy the CCC in this area.	JM/MR
3.	CF wants confirmation on a figure as a percentage of woodland cover under R&BMP. Would like to see calculation process.	SM