

Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee

Planned meeting date:

18 May 2022

Information provided:

1 January to 31 March

Environmental Management

FY22 Rehabilitation Update

Bulk shaping has been completed and topsoil spreading is continuing in the Drayton Void area as part of the 43 ha FY22 target. Shaping has commenced in VD5 in the north of the operation with shaping in VD3 to commence when shaping in VD5 is complete.

Ongoing weed treatment has focussed on high threat species such as galenia and box thorn on VD4 and 5 using spot treatment.

VD1 improvement works has been delayed to FY23 due to additional work required to manage runoff. This work includes:

- Suppression of perennial exotic grasses;
- Removal of contour banks and the construction of dendritic drainage; and
- Diversification of flora through direct seeding and planting of tubestock.

Land Management

Mt Arthur is planning our autumn dog control program including baiting and trapping. This will be the first time soft jaw trapping has been used on site. Mt Arthur will also be conducting pig trapping

Environmental Performance

Air Quality Monitoring (Period 1 January to 31 March)

- This paper (for the reporting period of 1 January to 31 March) covers the performance of all six statutory PM10 monitoring sites using TEOMs, and the two dust deposition gauges.
- Zero days within the reporting period experienced elevated absolute PM10 TEOM monitoring results.
- Table 1 below provides an equipment performance summary. Wet weather during the reporting period contributed to downtime access to monitors was restricted at times due to unsafe conditions.
- A guide has been provided at the end of this section to assist in the interpretation of the results and figures. The figures within this section have been developed in line with consultation with members of the CCC.

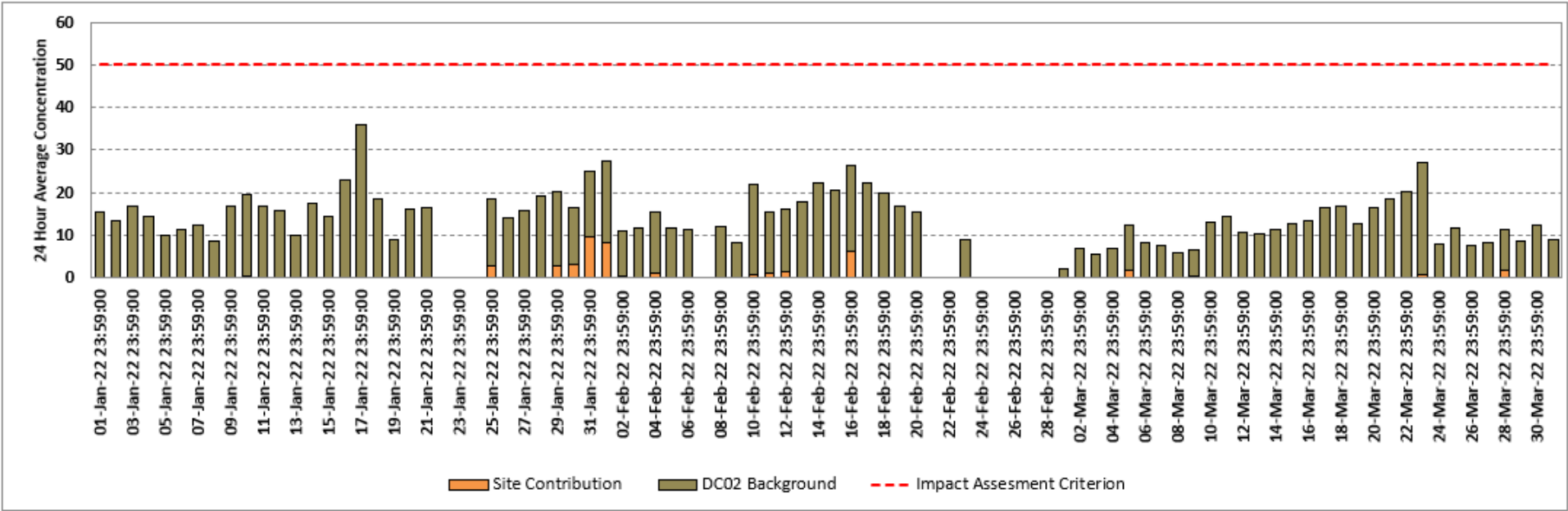
Table 1. Equipment Performance Summary

Site	Date/s	Reason
DC02	22/01/2022 to 24/01/2022; 7/02/2022; 21/02/2022 to 22/02/2022; 24/02/2022 to 28/02/2022.	During the period listed <75% data captured due to power or equipment connectivity issues.
DC04	3/02/2022 & 4/02/2022; 11/02/2022 & 12/02/2022; 19/02/2022 to 21/02/2022; 28/02/2022; 08/03/2022 to 10/03/2022;	During the period listed <75% data captured due to power or equipment connectivity issues.

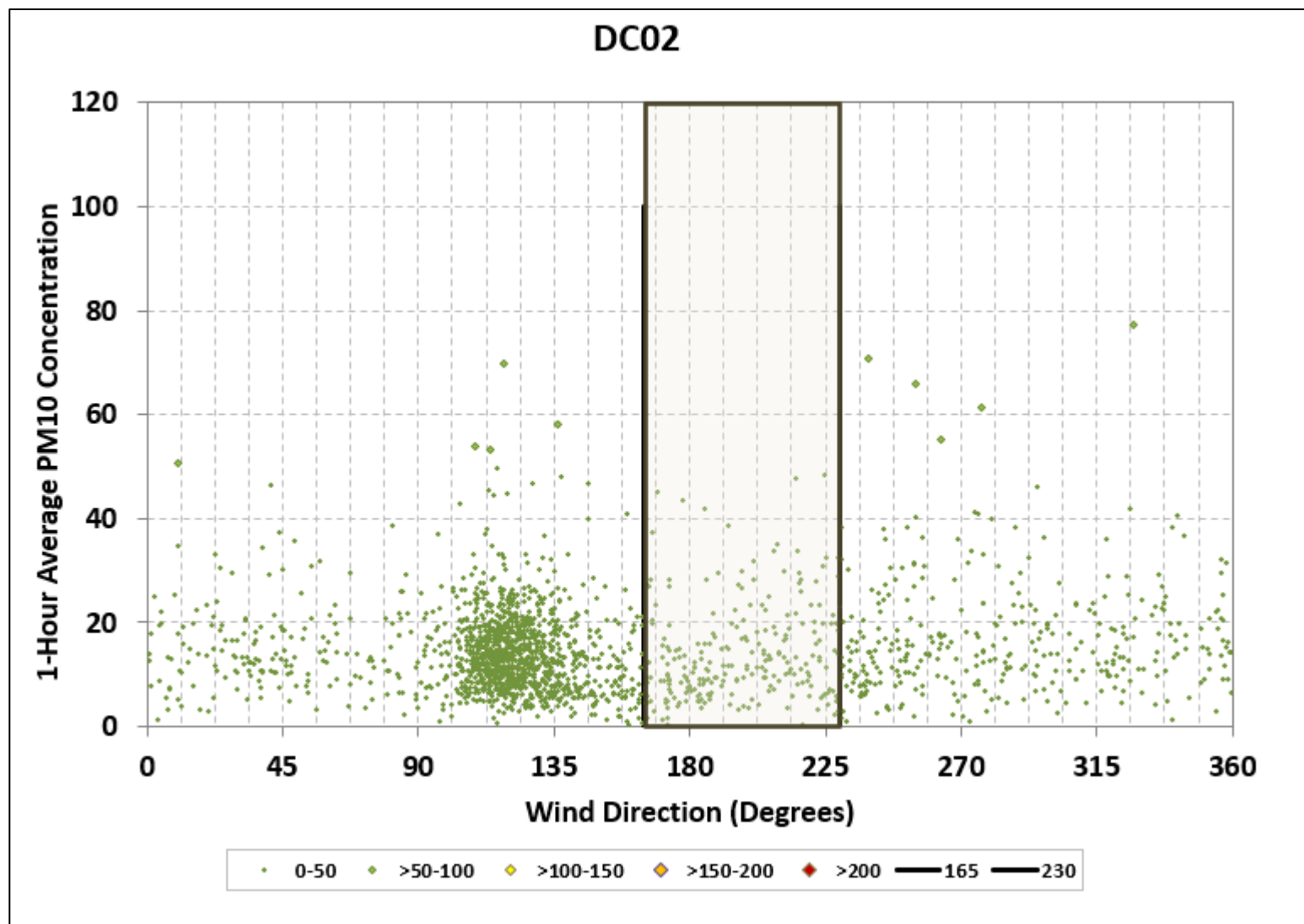
	27/03/2022 to 29/03/2022.	
DC05	7/02/2022; 25/02/2022; 08/03/2022 to 10/03/2022; 17/03/2022 to 19/03/2022.	During the period listed <75% data captured due to power or equipment connectivity issues.
DC06	6/03/2022.	During the period listed <75% data captured due to power or equipment connectivity issues.
DC07	24/01/2022 to 27/01/2022.	During the period listed <75% data captured due to power or equipment connectivity issues.

Sheppard Avenue – DC02

Data capture – 88%

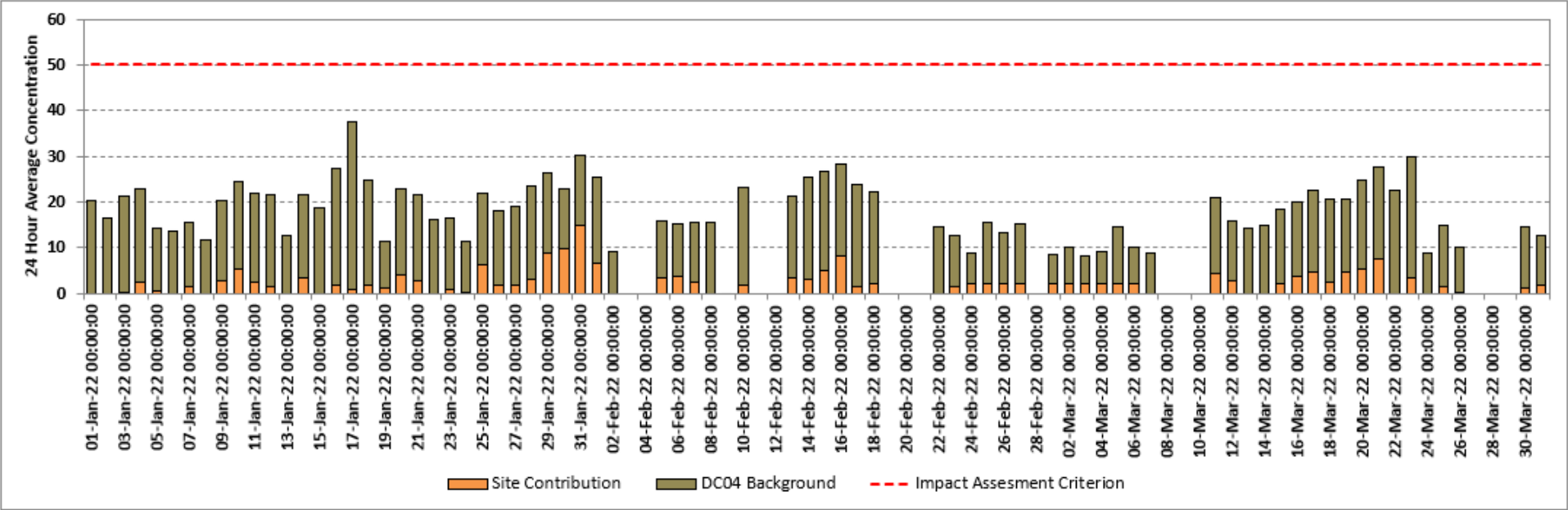


Sheppard Avenue – DC02

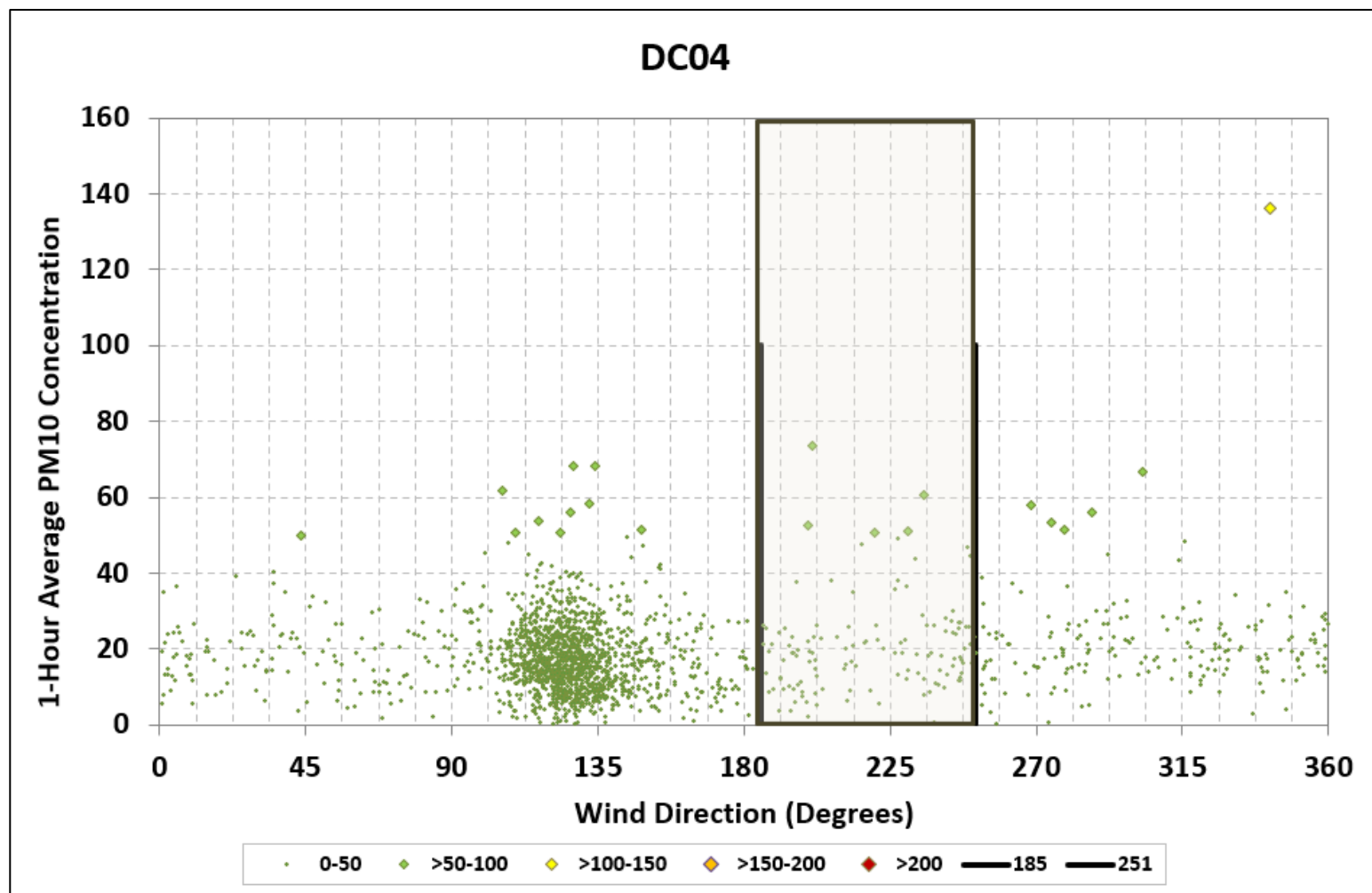


South Muswellbrook – DC04

Data capture – 84.44%

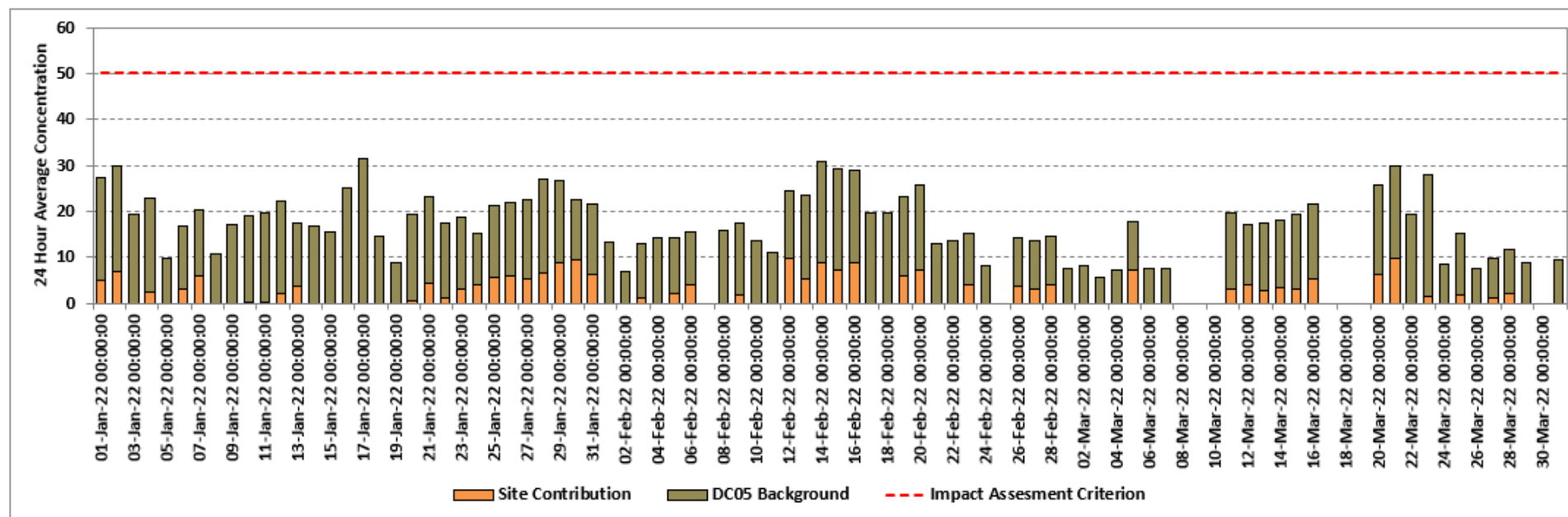


South Muswellbrook – DC04

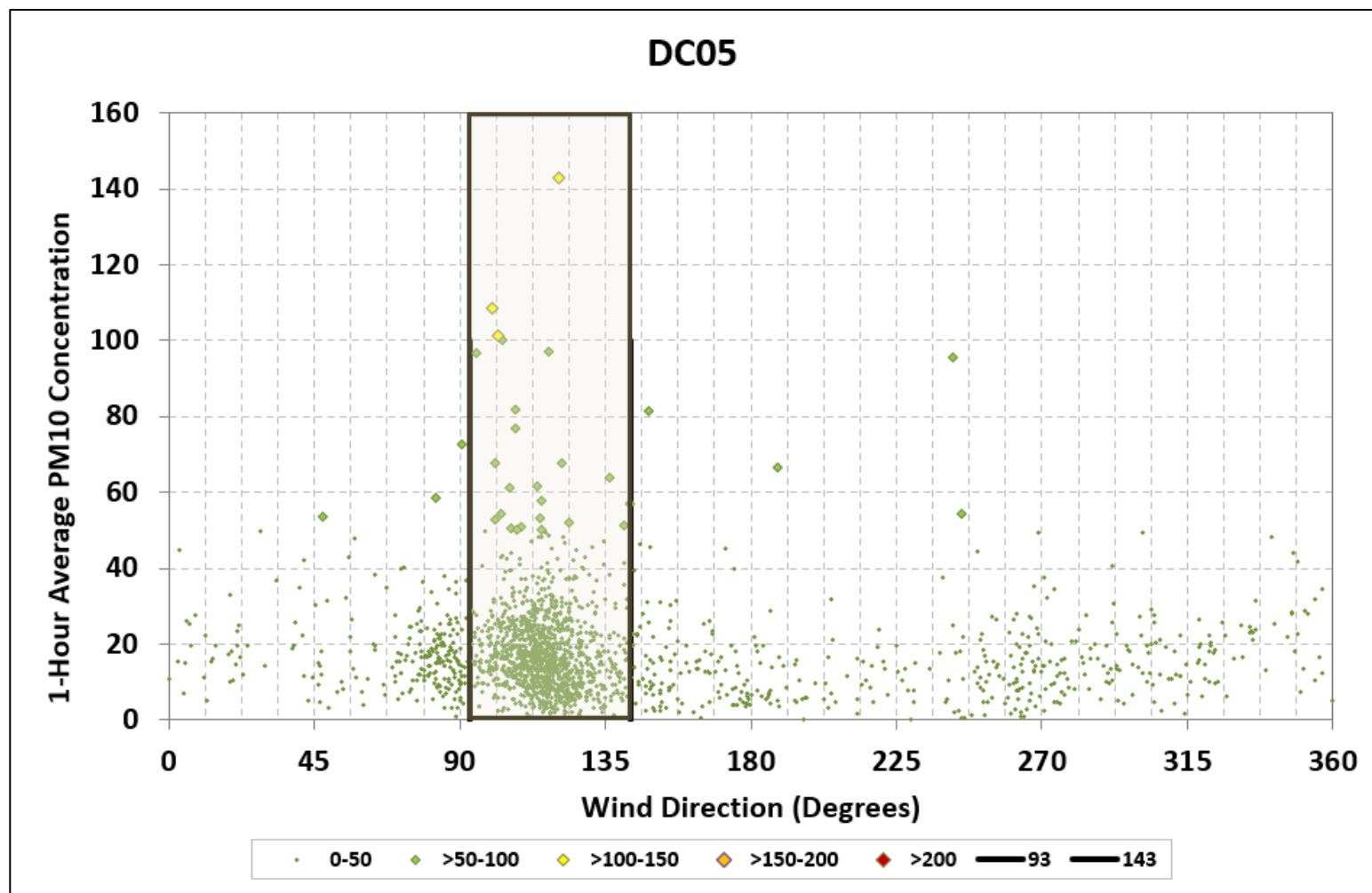


Roxburgh Road – DC05

Data capture – 91.11%

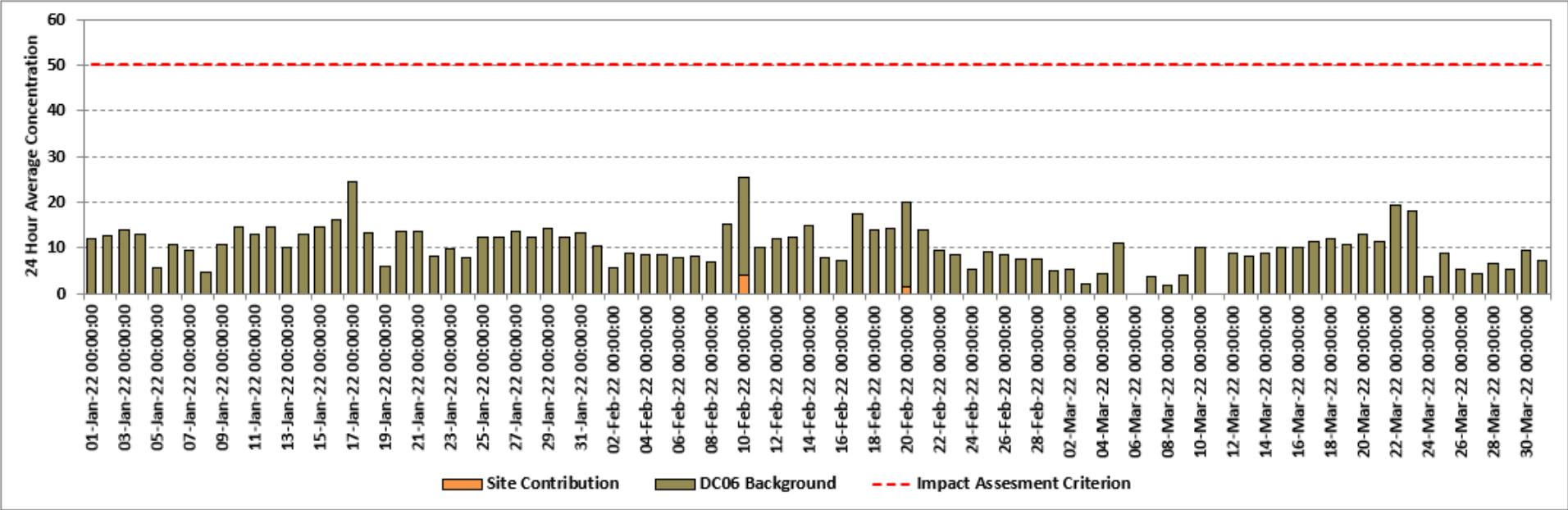


Roxburgh Road – DC05

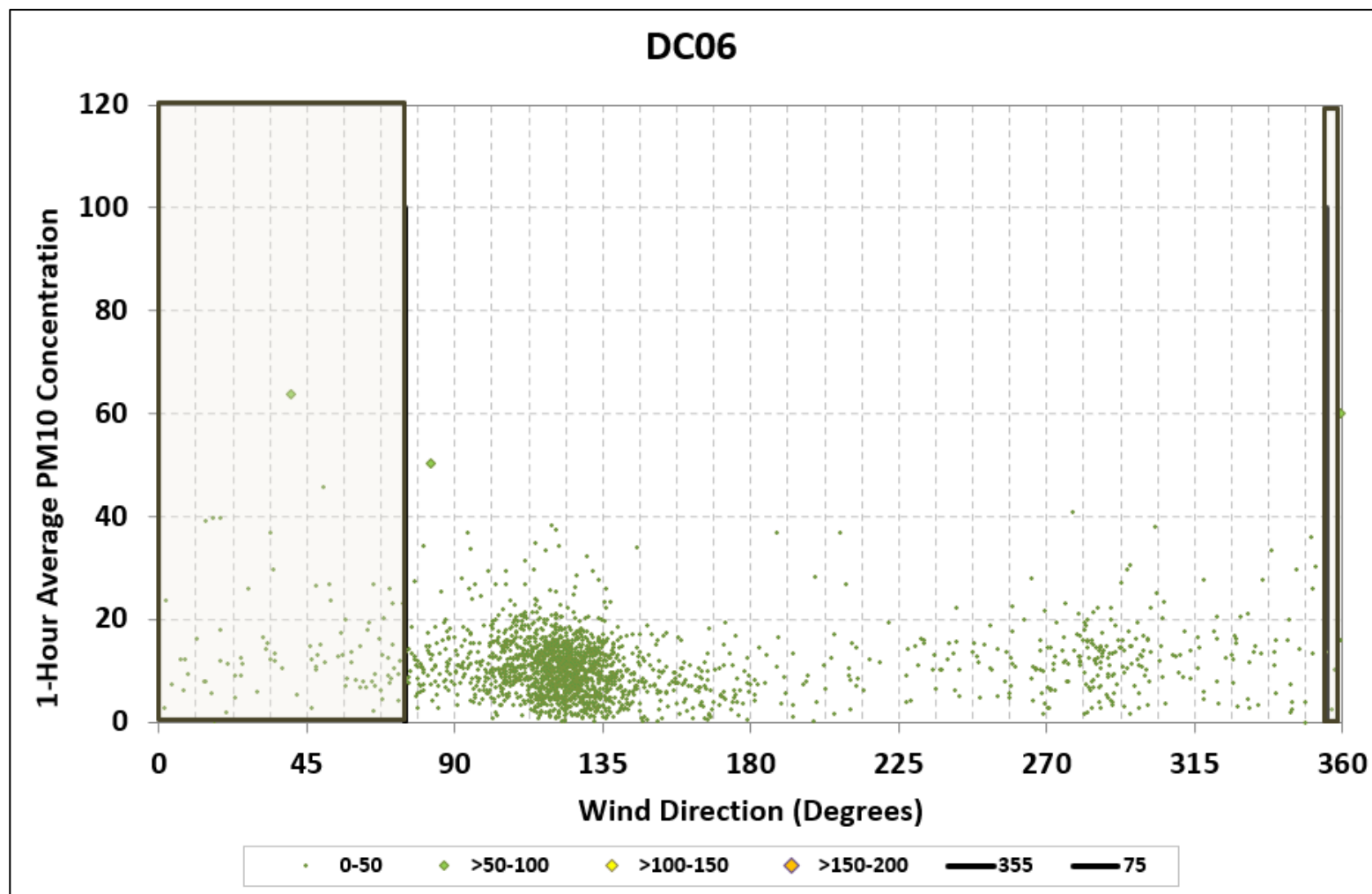


Edderton Homestead - DC06

Data capture – 98.89%

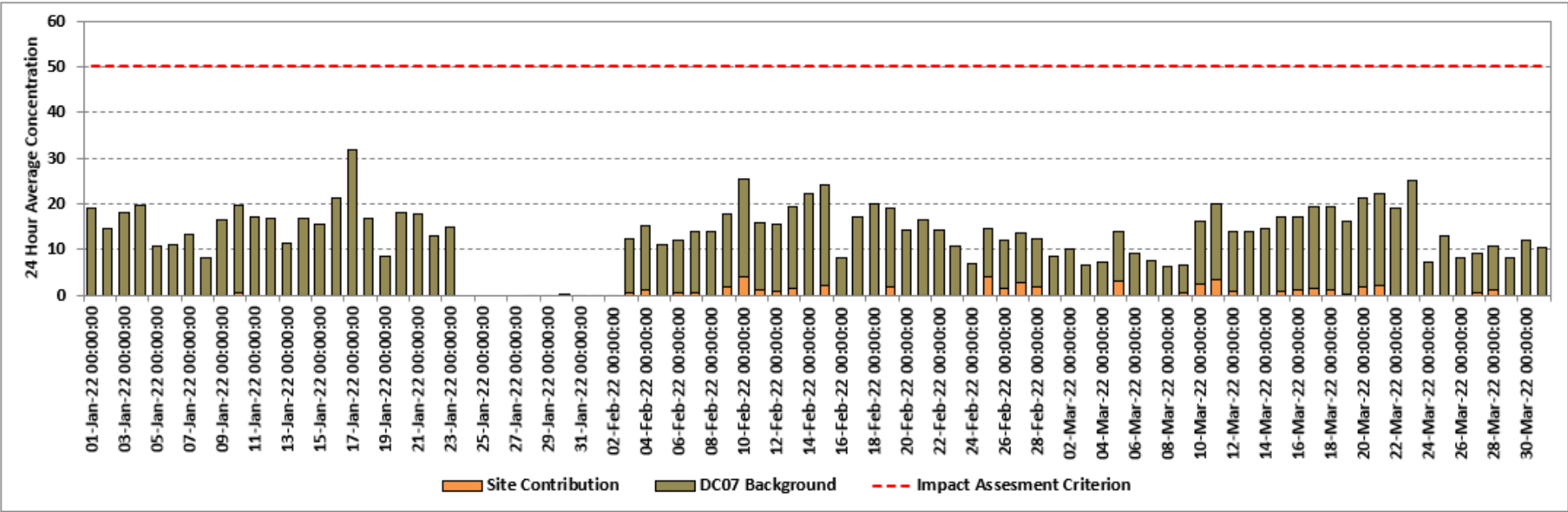


Edderton Homestead - DC06

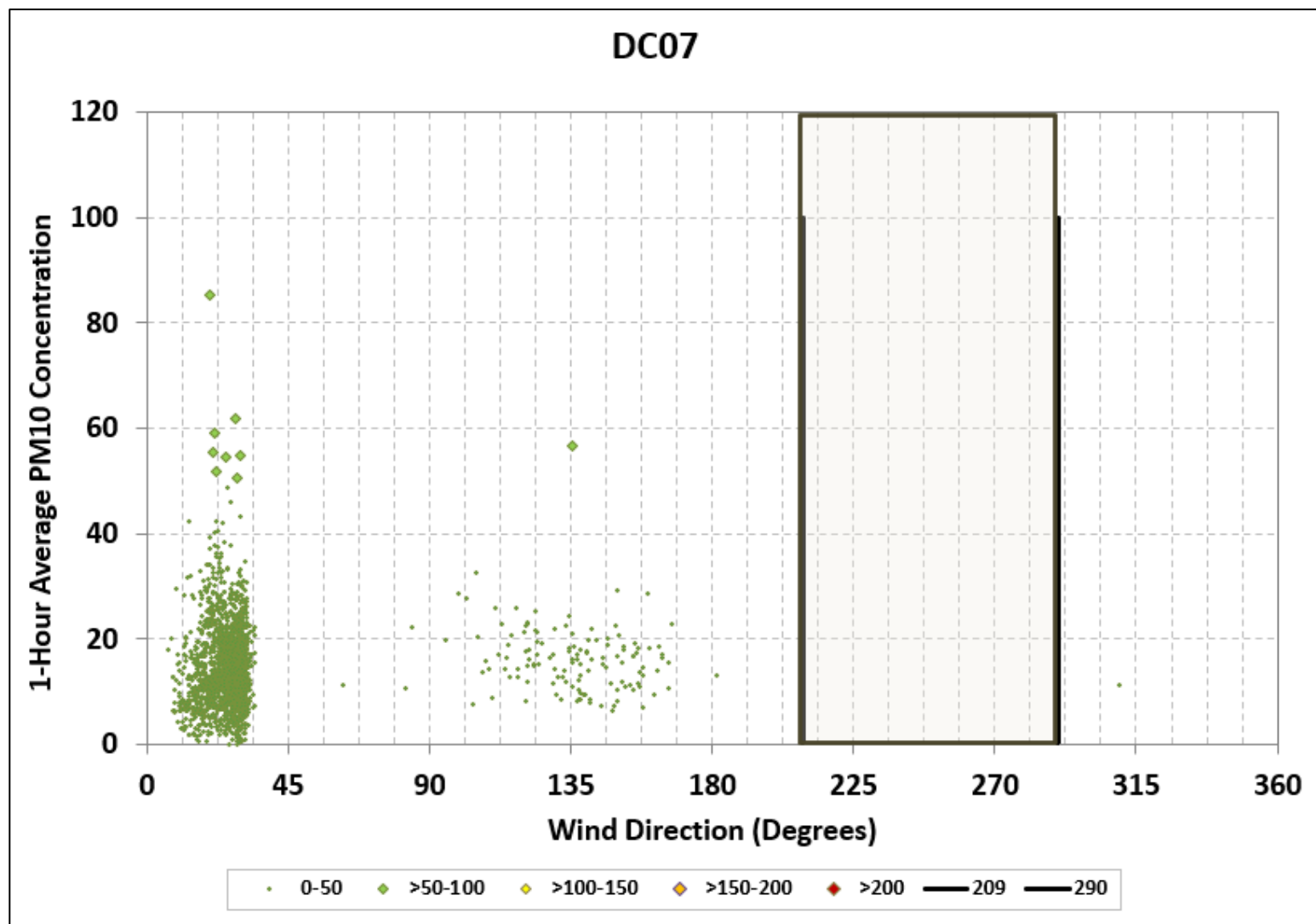


Antiene - DC07

Data capture – 95.56%

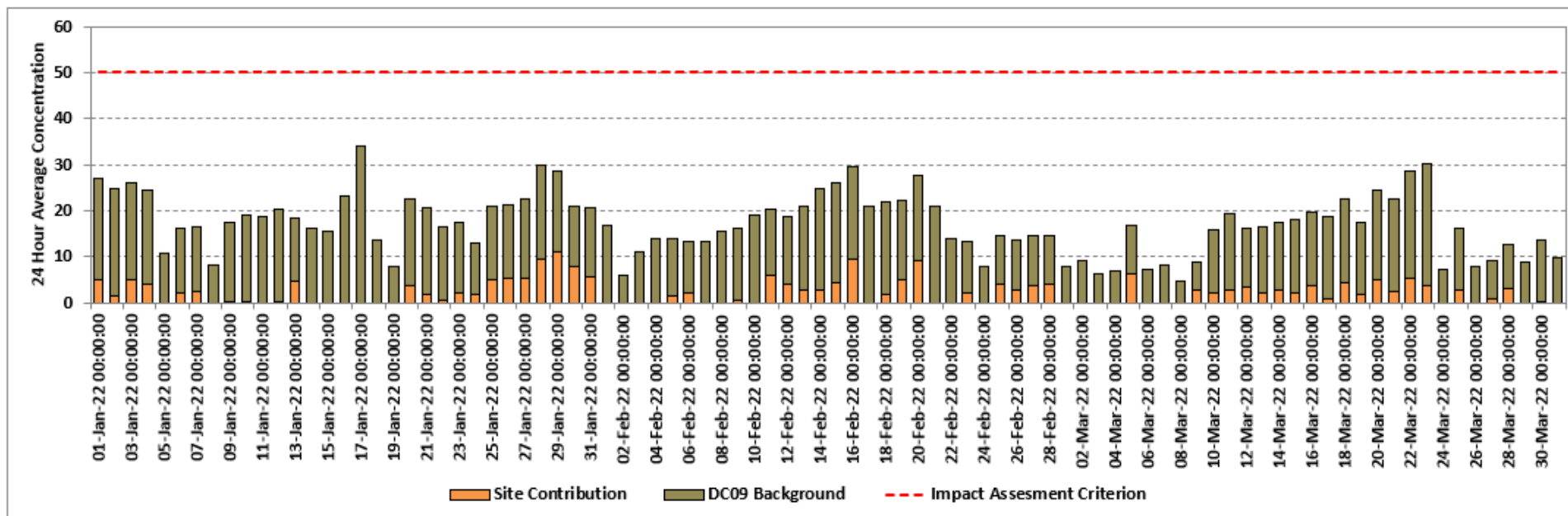


Antiene - DC07

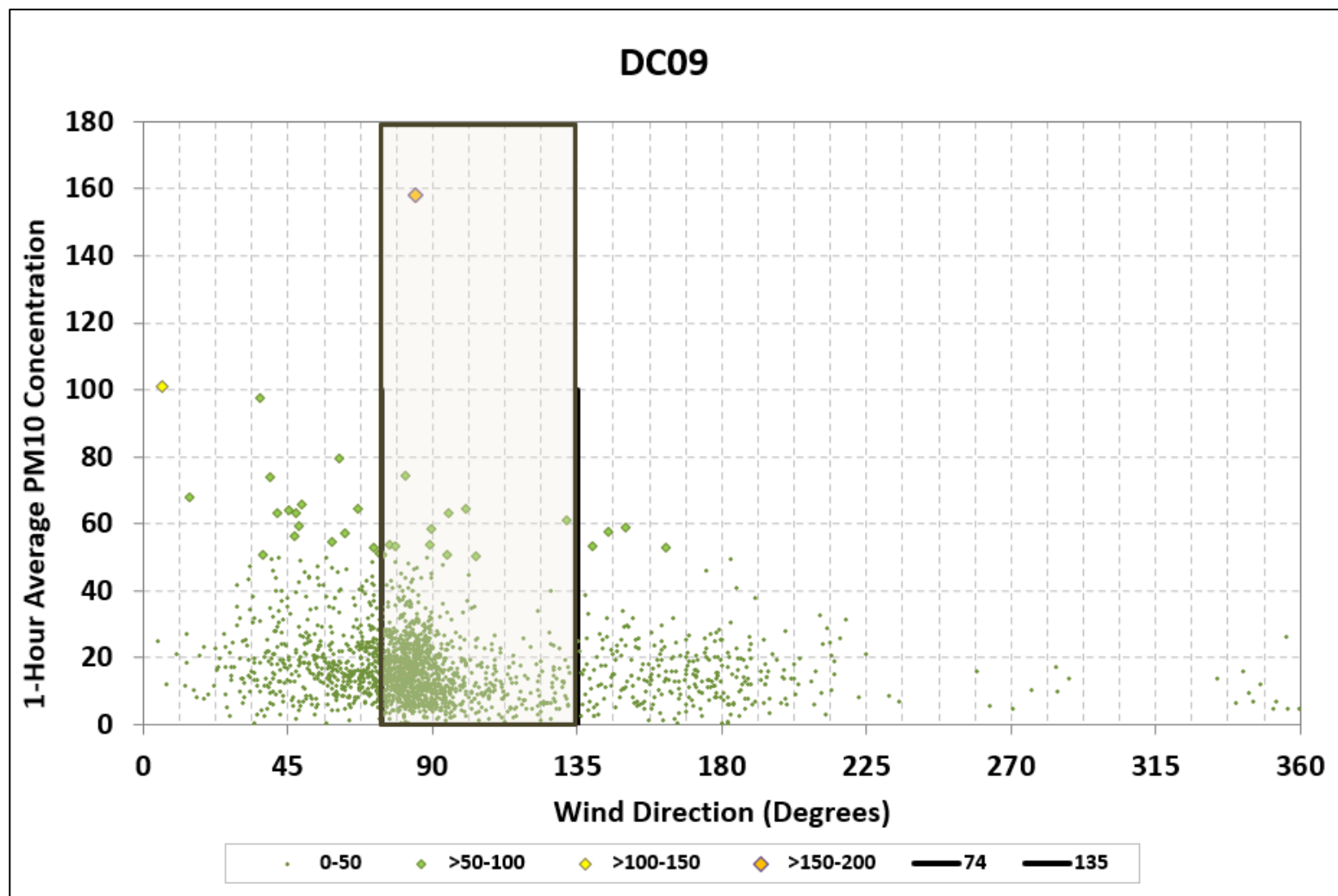


Wellbrook – DC09

Data capture – 100%

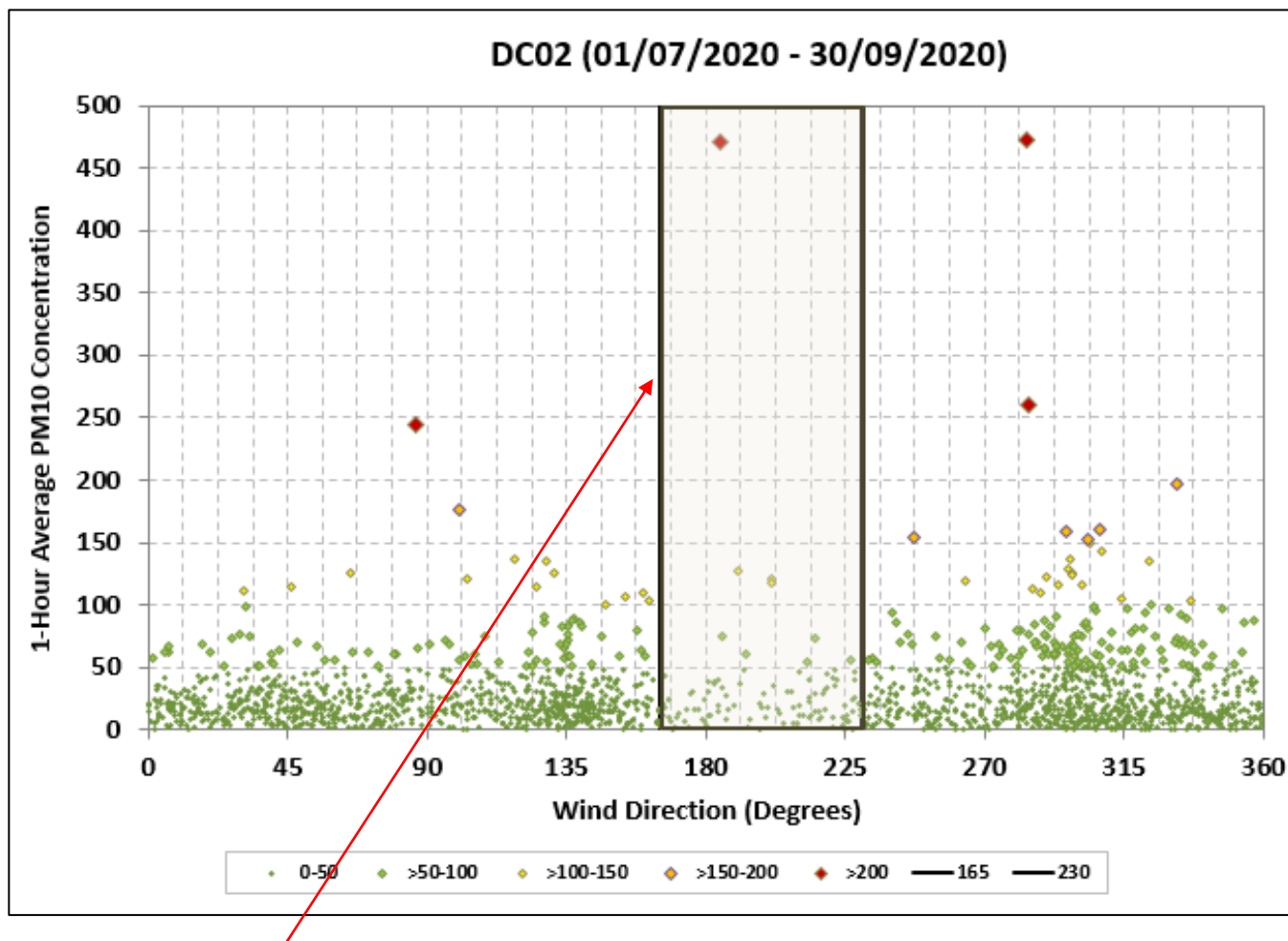


Wellbrook – DC09

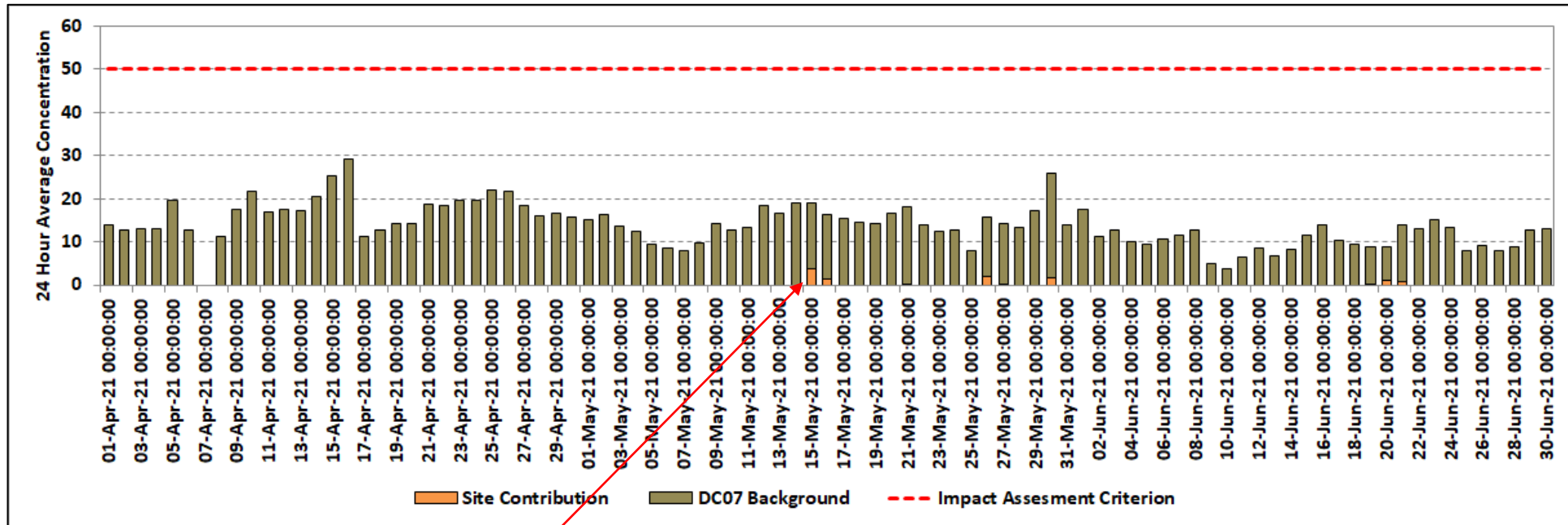


Air Quality Monitoring Interpretation Guidance

This information has been provided to assist with the interpretation of the air quality monitoring results and figures within this report.



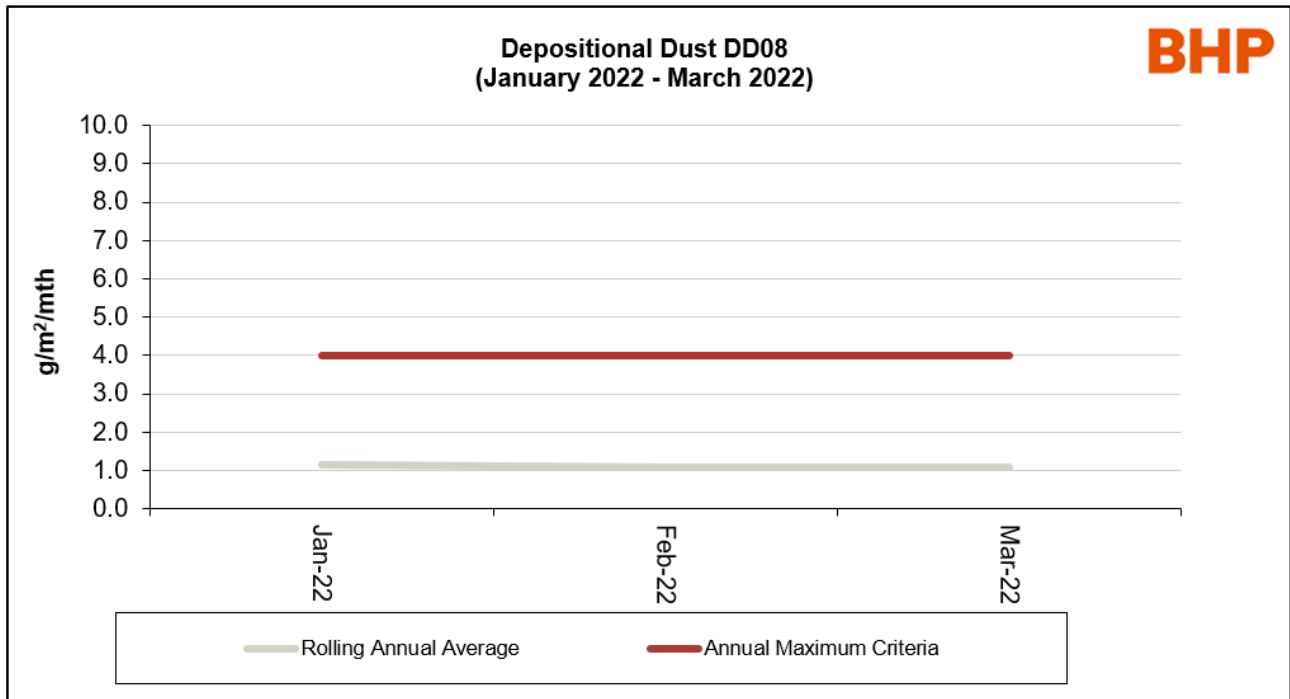
This graphic shows the window where the Mt Arthur Coal contribution is at risk of influencing the DC02 dust monitor based on the wind direction. This window can be referred to as the Arc of Influence. All 1- Hour Average Concentrations have been plotted for the reporting period to give an indication of Mt Arthur's influence on DC02.

Air Quality Monitoring Interpretation Guidance continued

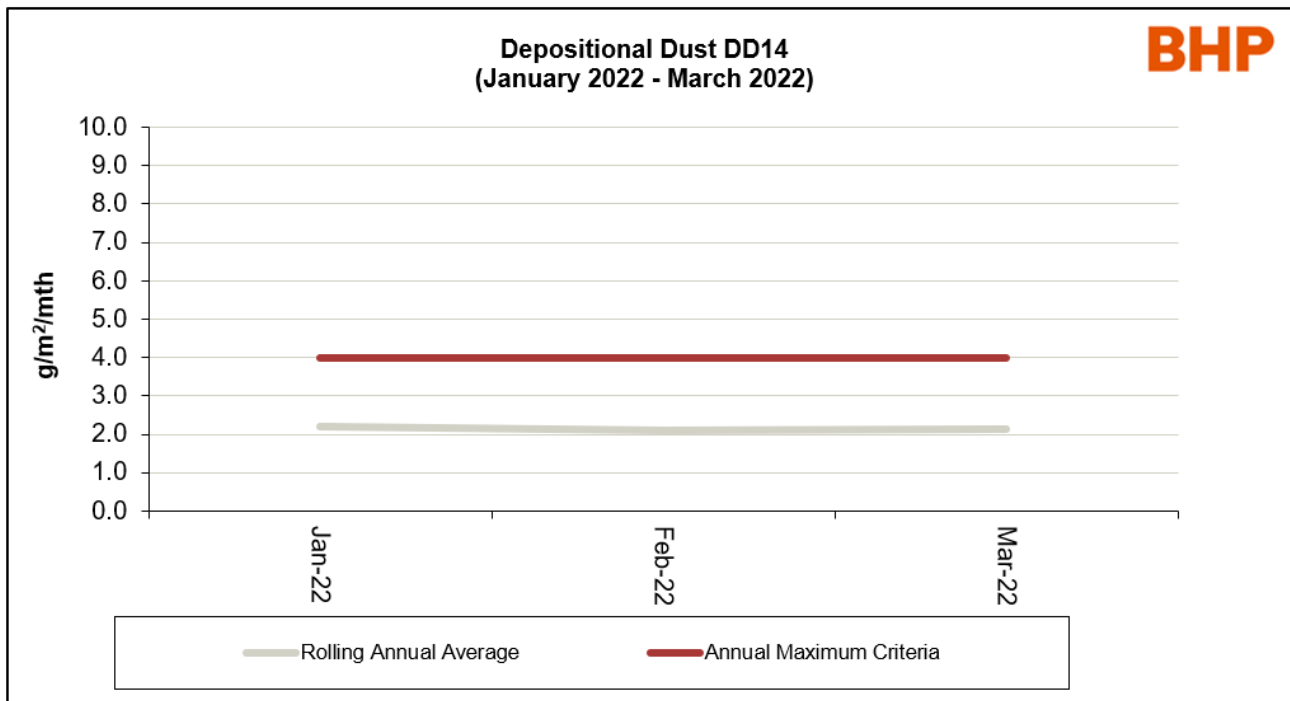
This graphic shows the cumulative Daily 24hr PM10 concentrations along with the incremental Mt Arthur Coal concentrations. This example shows that the cumulative 24hr concentration ('Background') of approximately $20\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; the Mt Arthur incremental concentration ('Site Contribution') is represented by the orange coloured portion.

Deposited Dust**DD08**

Data capture – 100%

**DD14**

Data capture – 100%



Water Monitoring (Period 1 January to 31 March)*Groundwater*

Quarterly groundwater monitoring was conducted in March. An exceedance was reported at BCGW22 and was subsequently investigated and reported to DPE. The matter is currently ongoing with DPE.

Delays were experienced for the December 2021 monitoring due to wet weather and COVID and monitoring. During the December round of monitoring there was an exceedance at BCGW22 which was also investigated and reported to DPE, this is also ongoing.

Surface water

Surface water monitoring was conducted monthly during the three-month period. No exceedances of the criteria were detected.

Blast Monitoring (Period 1 January to 31 March)

There were no exceedances of the upper vibration and overpressure limits during the reporting period.

There were two blasts in excess of the 115dB over pressure limit and one blast in excess of the 5mm/sec vibration limit. There is an allowed exceedance of 5% of blasts for these limits over a 12-month period. The 5% criteria has not been exceeded.

Operational Noise Monitoring (Period 1 January to 31 March)

Monthly night time compliance monitoring (attended) was completed to schedule by MAC's external expert consultant. MAC is not informed of when this monitoring is scheduled for completion to ensure there is a true representation of operational activities on any given night.

There were no exceedances of the threshold levels reported for any noise monitoring locations during the reporting period.

Environmental Incidents (Period 1 January to 31 March)Export Dam Overflow

At approximately 5:30am on 8 March it was identified that the Export Sediment Dam (SW23) was overflowing into a culvert and draining offsite. The dam was collecting water from the surrounding catchment which includes the coal export area, nearby roads and a significant clean catchment zone. In the week leading up to the event Mt Arthur Coal received 141mm of rain, causing the water levels of the dam to rise significantly with 110mm of this falling between Midnight on 6 March to the 8 March when the dam started to overtop. The rainfall was part of a regional extreme weather event that caused flooding some parts of NSW. The matter was been reported to the EPA and the DPE with no further action required by MAC at this time. The DPE reviewed the report provided by Mt Arthur and confirmed no further action required.

Complaint Hotline Outage

Mt Arthur's community response line service is provided by Vodafone. Between approximately 24 December 2021 (date of last registered complaint) and 26 January 2022 (date issue was identified) a system upgrade by Vodafone resulted in complaint records not being communicated to Mt Arthur personnel. This system upgrade was not communicated to Mt Arthur personnel. Mt Arthur received three complaints during the period impacted by the service outage with all three followed up as soon as possible. To prevent this occurring in the future, Mt Arthur has implemented a routine service verification task with Vodafone which will assist in identifying and preventing future service

interruptions in a timely manner. We have also asked that Vodafone contact us in advance to notify us of any system upgrades so we can closely monitor the service. This matter has been closed out with the DPE.

Groundwater Monitoring Trigger Exceedance - BCGW22

During the December 2021 round of monitoring there was an exceedance at BCGW22 which was investigated and reported to DPE at the time. Quarterly groundwater monitoring was again conducted in March 2022. An exceedance was reported again at BCGW22 and was subsequently investigated and reported to DPE. Both exceedances at BCGW22 are currently ongoing with DPE.

Environmental Reporting (Period 1 January to 31 March)

Monthly Reporting

Historical information and reporting is available to view on the BHP website using the following link:

<https://www.bhp.com/environment/regulatory-information#>

Independent Air Quality Review (IAQR)

In February 2019 a resident on Racecourse Rd requested an Independent Review for visual, dust, noise and blasting impacts due to MAC, MPO and Bengalla, a subsequent request was made by another resident on Sheppard Ave in May 2019. In June 2019 DPE determined an Independent Review be undertaken focusing on air quality in accordance with Schedule 4 Condition 5 for both properties assessing cumulative impact. A 5 year period was to be assessed by the independent expert and a final report was issued to all parties in 2021.

As an outcome of the IAQR MAC was required to implement a single recommendation (a new dust notification for operational personnel) and complete subsequent monitoring between 3 January 2022 to 3 April 2022, with the results of this monitoring indicating there were no exceedances of the air quality impact assessment criteria (Schedule 3 Condition 20 of the approval).

The DPE Compliance Team has reviewed the outcome and closed out the IAQR for both properties in question.

Environment Protection Licence (EPL) Variation

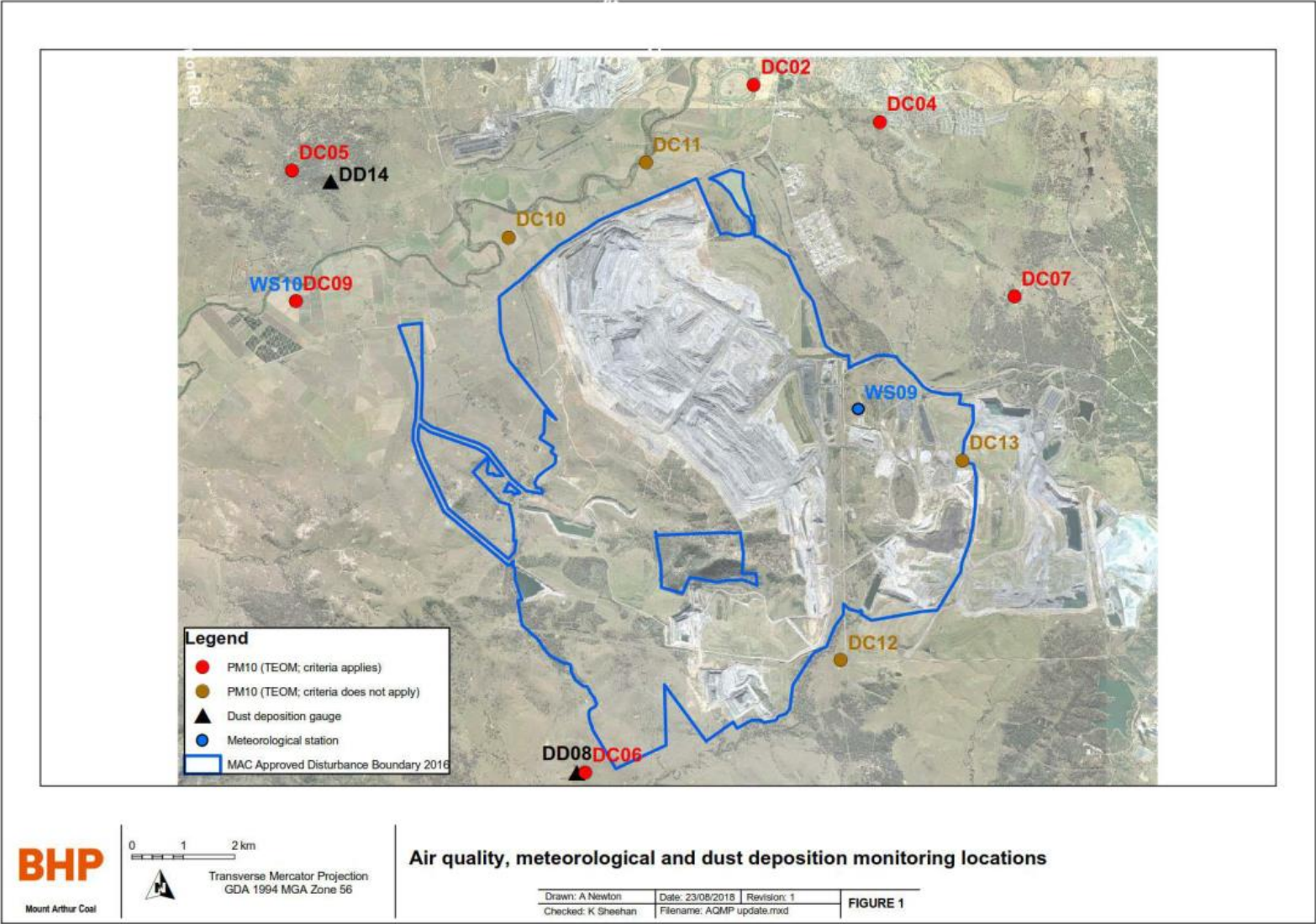
On 13 April 2022 the HVEC Environment Protection Licence (EPL) #11457 was varied to create a new blast monitoring point (Monitoring Point 25) and retire a blast monitoring point in the Licence known as BP09. Changing of references to BP09 to Monitoring Point 25 occurred in the following conditions:

- Condition L6.2
- Condition L6.3
- Condition L6.4
- Condition L6.5
- Condition M8.1

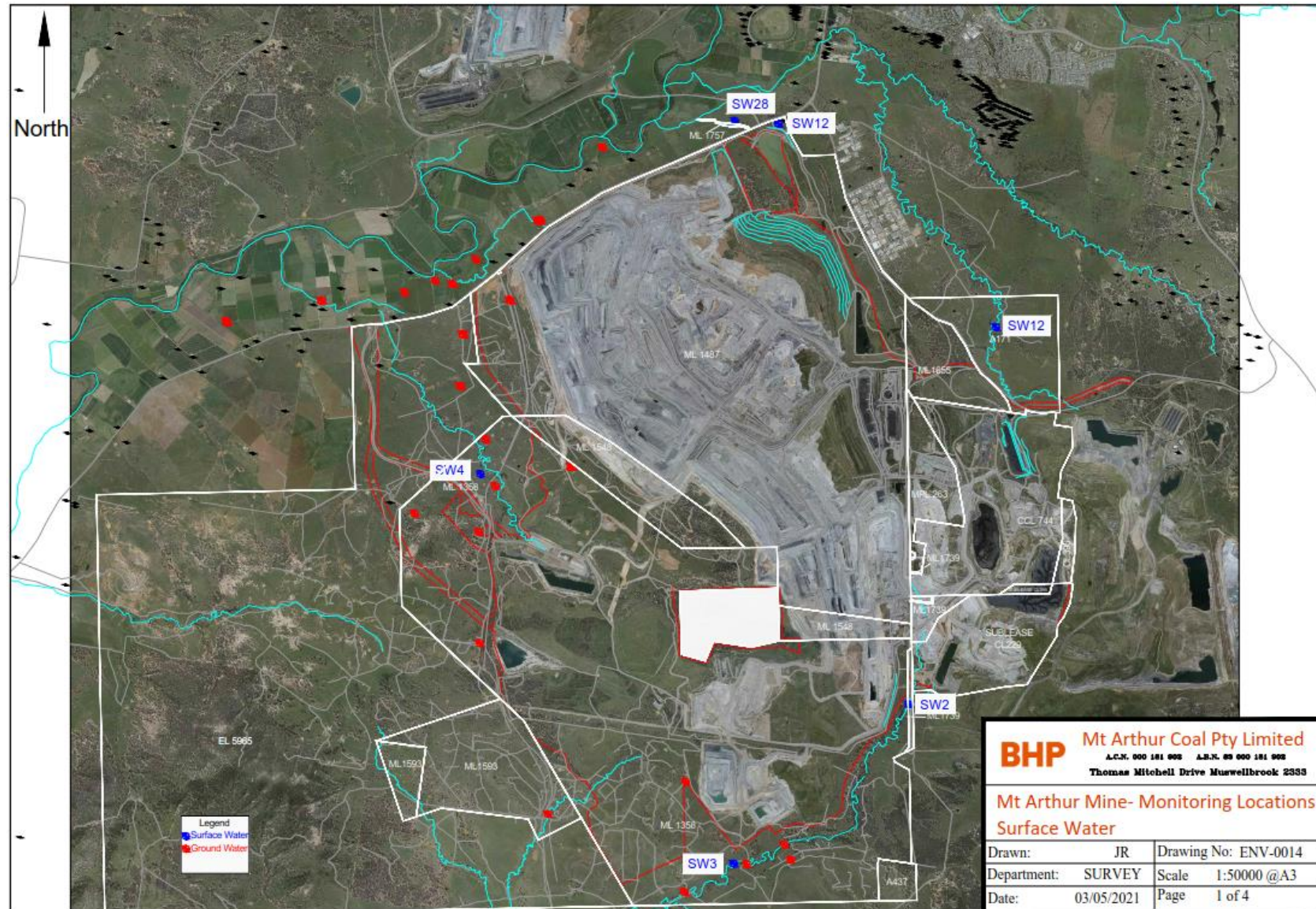
The MAC Blast Management Plan has also been modified to reflect this change with the latest version now available on the BHP regulatory information website. The blast monitoring locations map provided within this pre-read has also been updated.

Environmental Monitoring Plans (for reference)

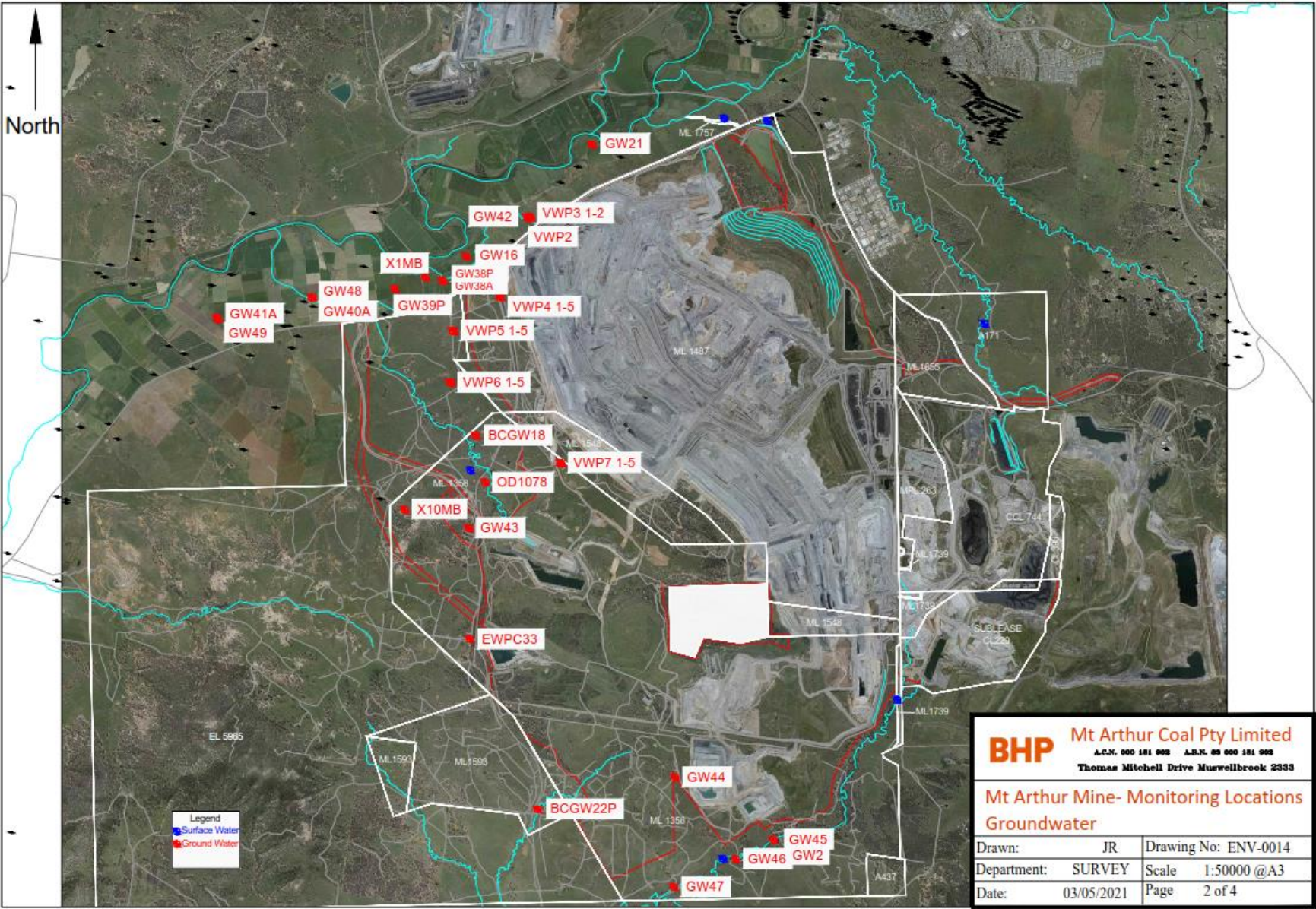
Air Quality and Meteorological Monitoring Locations (Source: Air Quality Management Plan)



Surface Water Monitoring Locations:



Ground Water Monitoring Locations:



Blast Monitoring Locations (Source: Blast Management Plan)

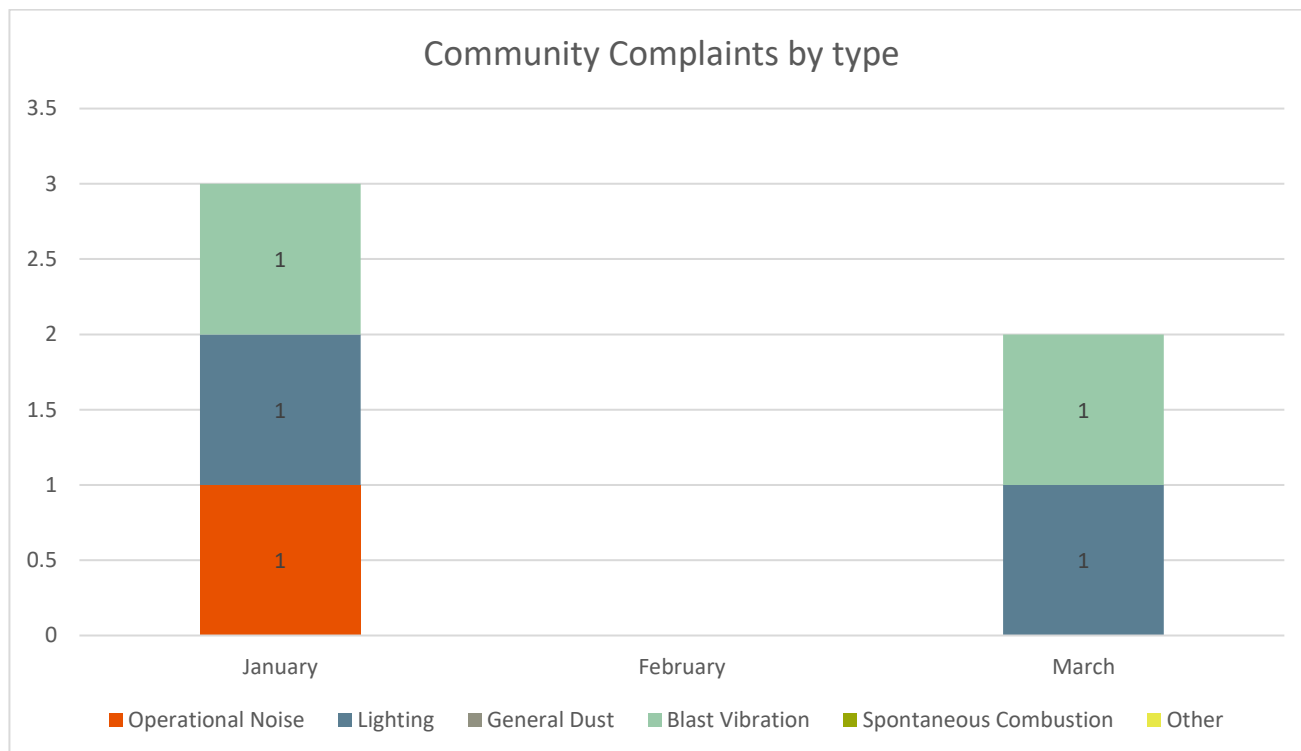


Operational Noise Monitoring (attended) Locations (Source: Noise Management Plan)

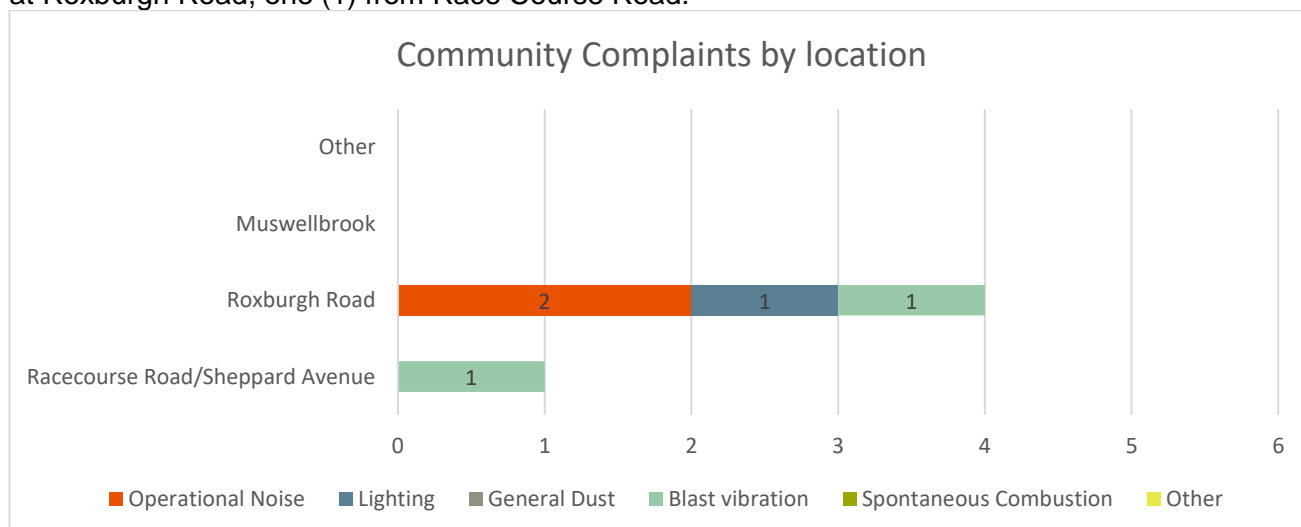
Community Complaints

The Community Complaints included in this report are for the period 1 January 31 March 2022. Mt Arthur Coal received five (5) complaints during this period, down from nine (9) in the previous period. Of the five complaints:

- two (2) were related to lighting;
- two (2) to blasting activity; and
- one (1) to operational noise.



Of the five (5) complaints received for the three-month reporting period, four (4) came from residents at Roxburgh Road, one (1) from Race Course Road.



Community Complaints Summary: 1 January to 31 March

Date	Time	From	Issue	Lodgement type	Investigation and response to caller
2/1/22	9pm	Roxburgh Road	Lighting	Community Response Line	Investigation revealed that due to a fault from the Response Line carrier, notifications were not received about this complaint. BHP has put in place a remediation with carrier, and will receive a detailed usage report every week to ensure response line is active and all complaints captured. Unfortunately due to the error of the carrier, this complaint was not actioned in line with our processes. We have shared this information with the resident.
17/1/22	12.30pm	Racecourse Road	Blast Vibration	Community Response Line	Investigation revealed that BHP Mt Arthur Coal did not blast on this date and there was no noise exceedances or vibration exceedances recorded on monitoring.
31/1/22	9.30pm	Roxburgh Road	Noise	Community Response Line	Nearest real-time monitor did not record any exceedances or distribute any alerts. Caller was advised of investigation and monitoring results
22/03/2022	9.16am	Roxburgh Road	Blast	Community Response Line	Investigation revealed that BHP Mt Arthur Coal blasted at this time but there were no exceedances for noise.
30/03/2022	5.31am	Roxburgh Road	Noise	Community Response Line	Investigation revealed that there were no exceedances at this time. There was one noise alert during the period which investigation revealed was not mining related as wet weather was halting operations at this time.

NB: In January 2022, the telecommunications carrier who operates the Mt Arthur Coal Community Response Line completed a system upgrade which resulted in notifications of community complaints to BHP Mt Arthur Coal being disrupted. Notifications were not received by BHP Mt Arthur Coal between 28 December and 26 January. As a result our community complaints response process was not activated for 2 complaints received during this period.

Actions from previous meeting/s

The actions from previous meetings are listed below.

Action	Status
No actions from February meeting	
Actions remaining open from previous meetings	
Action 1 (Feb 2019): Chair to get in touch with the DP&E (DPIE) to ascertain if a Department representative could attend a future CCC meeting to speak about the cumulative impacts of dust. The DP&E were contacted.	Ongoing. Chair to update at next meeting
Action 2 (Nov 2019): Chair to arrange a department representative to discuss the lighting issue and associated community impacts particularly through the provision of defining offensive lighting.	Ongoing. Chair to update at next meeting