Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report

Yancoal Mount Thorley Warkworth

January 2023

CONTENTS

Figures

Tables

Revision History

Version No.	Version Details	Document Status	Date
1.0	**Environment and Community Advisor**	**Final**	**19/05/2023**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report has been compiled to provide a monthly summary of environmental monitoring results for Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW). This report includes all monitoring data collected for the period 1 January to 31 January 2023.

2.0 AIR QUALITY

2.1 Meteorological Monitoring

Meteorological data is collected at MTW's 'Charlton Ridge' meteorological station (refer to **Figure 3**: Air Quality Monitoring Locations).

2.1.1 Rainfall

Rainfall for the reporting period is summarised in **Table 1**. The year-to-date monthly rainfall totals, 2023 monthly rainfall totals and historical average monthly rainfall trend are shown in **Figure 1**.

Table 1: Monthly Rainfall MTW

2023	Monthly Rainfall (mm)	Cumulative Rainfall (mm)
January	49	49

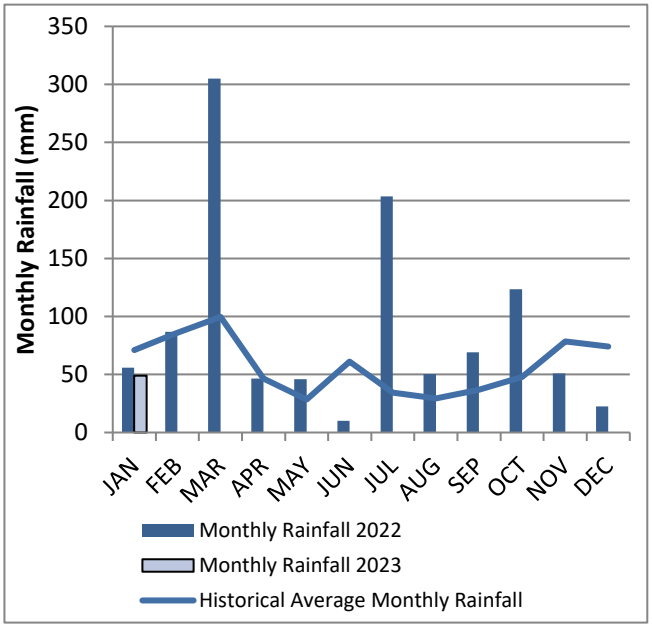

Figure 1: Rainfall Trend YTD

Note: The historical average monthly rainfall is calculated from 2007 to 2022 monthly totals.

2.1.2 Wind Speed and Direction

Winds from the South were dominant during the reporting period as shown in **Figure 2.**

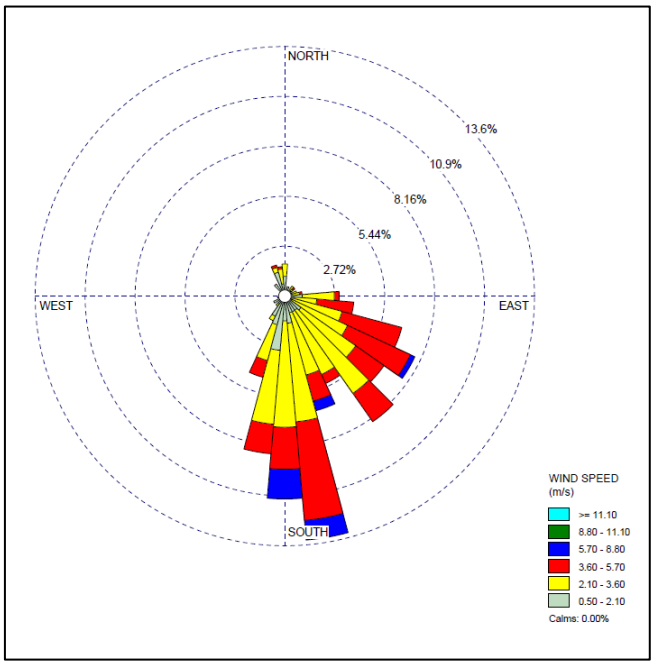

Figure 2: Charlton Ridge Wind Rose – January 2023

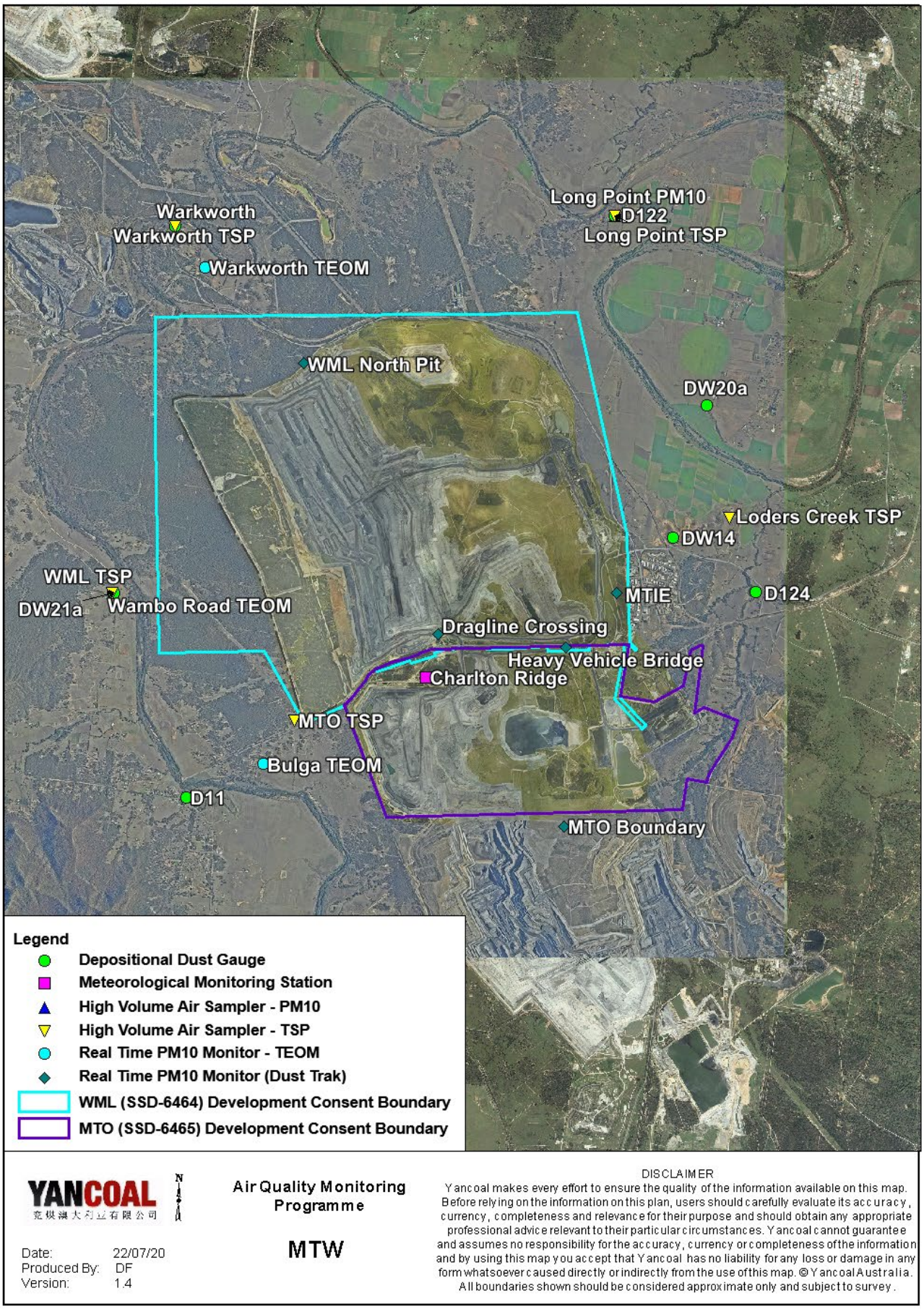

Figure 3: Air Quality Monitoring Locations

2.2 Depositional Dust

To monitor air quality, MTW operates and maintains a network of seven depositional dust gauges, situated on private and mine owned land surrounding MTW.

During the reporting period the Warkworth monitor recorded a monthly result above the long-term impact assessment criteria of 4.0 g/m2 per month. There is no evidence to suggest that the Warkworth result is contaminated. Accordingly, the result will be included in the annual average calculation.

Figure 4 displays insoluble solids results from depositional dust gauges during the reporting period compared against the year-to-date average and the annual impact assessment criteria.

An annual assessment of MTW's compliance with the Long-Term Impact Assessment Criteria will be provided in the 2023 Annual Review Report.

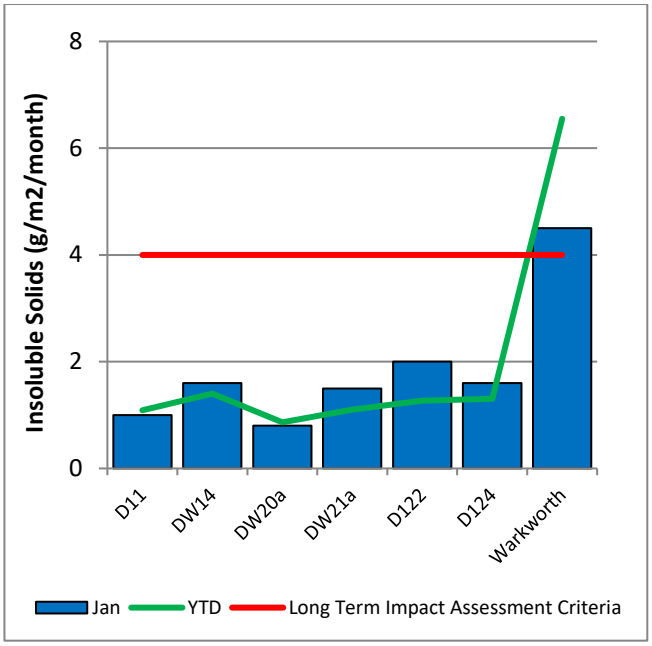

Figure 4: Depositional Dust – January 2023

2.3 Suspended Particulates

Suspended particulates are measured by a network of High Volume Air Samplers (HVAS) measuring Total Suspended Particulates (TSP) and Particulate Matter <10µm (PM_{10}). The location of these monitors can be found in **Figure 3**. Each HVAS was run for 24 hours on a six-day cycle in accordance with EPA requirements.

2.3.1 HVAS PM_{10} Results

Figure 5 shows the individual PM_{10} results at each monitoring station against the short-term impact assessment criteria of 50µg/m³.

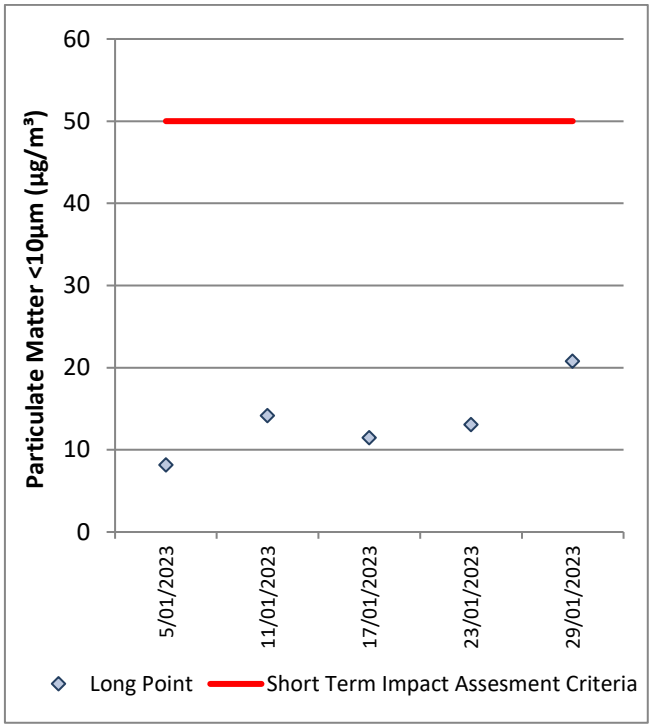

Figure 5: Individual PM10 Results – January 2023

Figure 6 shows the annual average PM10 result against the long term impact assessment criteria.

An assessment of MTW's compliance with the Long-Term Impact Assessment Criteria will be provided in the 2023 Annual Review Report.

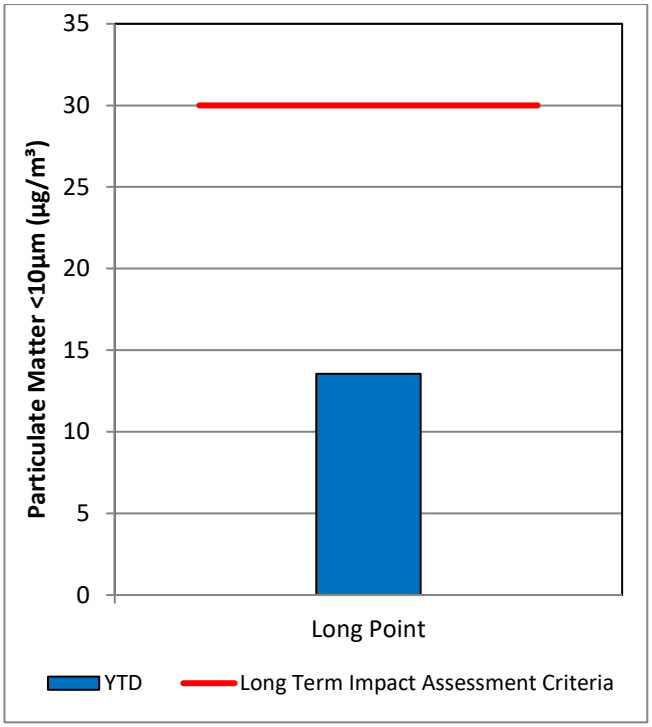

Figure 6: Annual Average PM_{10} – January 2023

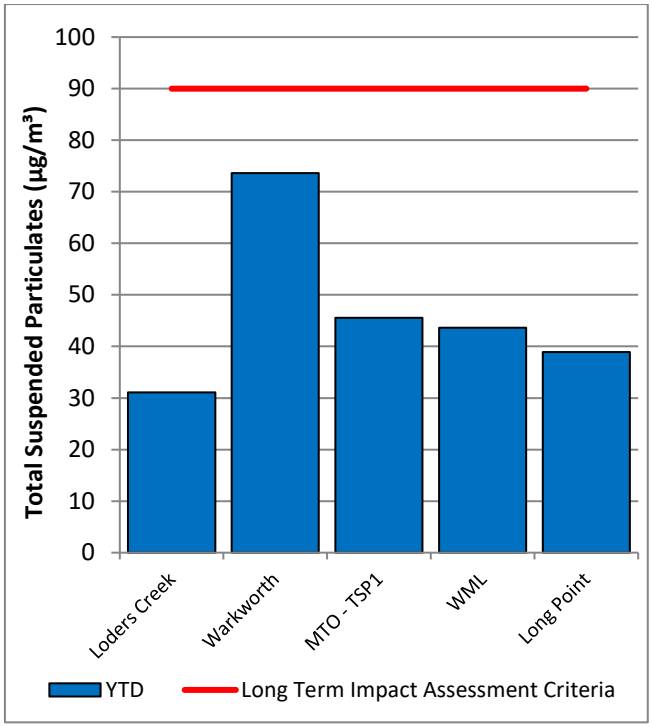

Figure 7: Annual Average Total Suspended Particulates – January 2023

2.3.2 TSP Results

Figure 7 shows the annual average TSP results compared against the long-term impact assessment criteria of 90µg/m³.

An assessment of MTW's compliance with the Long-Term Impact Assessment Criteria will be provided in the 2023 Annual Review Report.

2.3.3 Real Time PM_{10} Results

MTW maintains a network of real time PM_{10} monitors. The real time air quality monitoring stations continuously log information and transmit data to a central database, generating internal alerts when particulate matter levels exceed internal trigger limits.

Results for real time dust sampling are shown in **Figure 8**, including the daily 24-hour average PM_{10} result and the annual PM_{10} average.

On 24 January 2023, the Warkworth OEH TEOM (54.6µg/m³) exceeded the short term (24hr) criteria. The measurement was assessed for MTW's potential contribution based on meteorological conditions and background PM_{10} levels on this day resulting in a maximum estimated contribution of 33.6 µg/m³, less than a 62% contribution to the result. Accordingly, no further action is required (as per approved Air Quality Monitoring Programme).

On 27 January 2023, the Warkworth OEH TEOM (50.3µg/m³) exceeded the short term (24hr) criteria. The measurement was assessed for MTW's potential contribution based on meteorological conditions and background PM_{10} levels on this day resulting in a maximum estimated contribution of 27.9

µg/m³, less than a 56% contribution to the result. Accordingly, no further action is required (as per approved Air Quality Monitoring Programme).

2.3.4 Real Time Alarms for Air Quality

During January, the real time monitoring system generated 94 automated air quality related alerts, including 12 alerts for adverse meteorological conditions and 82 alerts for elevated PM_{10} levels.

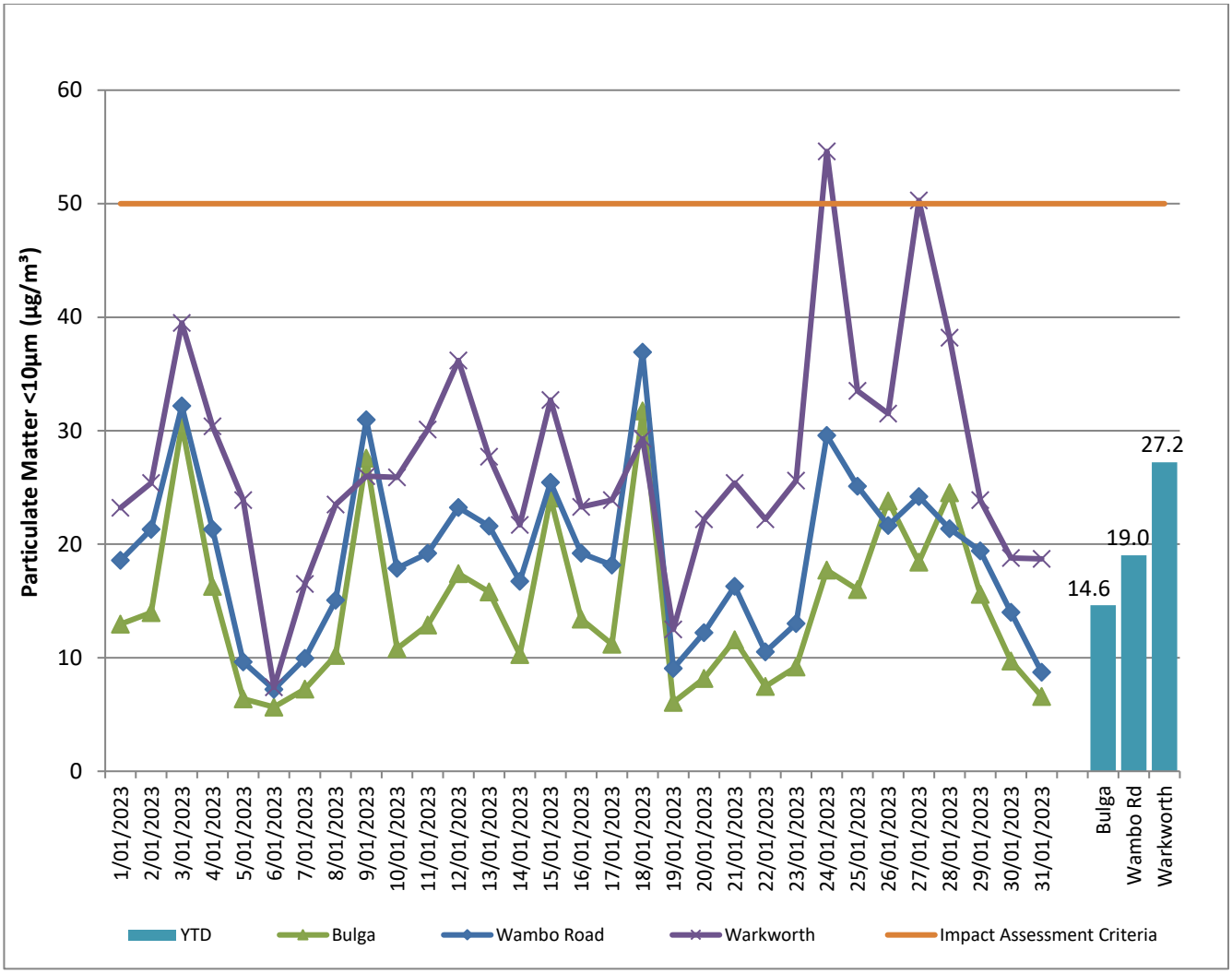

Figure 8: Real Time PM_{10} daily 24hr average (line graphs) and YTD annual average (column graphs) – January 2023

3.0 WATER QUALITY

MTW maintains a network of surface water and groundwater monitoring sites.

3.1 Surface Water

Monitoring is conducted at mine site dams and surrounding natural watercourses.

Surface water courses are sampled on a monthly or quarterly sampling regime. Water quality is evaluated through the parameters of pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). The Hunter River and the Wollombi Brook are sampled both upstream and downstream of mining operations, to record background water quality and to monitor the potential impact of mining on the river system. Other Hunter River tributaries are also monitored.

Results of monitoring are reported quarterly, next available in the March 2023 report.

3.2 HRSTS Discharge

MTW participates in the Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme (HRSTS), allowing discharge from licensed discharge points located at Dam 1N and Dam 9S. Discharges can only take place subject to HRSTS regulations.

MTW did not undertake any HRSTS discharges in the reporting period.

3.3 Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring is undertaken on a quarterly basis in accordance with the MTW Groundwater Monitoring Programme.

Groundwater results are reported quarterly, next available in the March 2023 report.

4.0 BLAST MONITORING

MTW have a network of six blast monitoring units. These are located at nearby privately owned residences and function as regulatory compliance monitors.

The location of these monitors can be found in **Figure 15**.

4.1 Blast Monitoring Results

During January 2023, 18 blasts were initiated at MTW. **Figure 9** to **Figure 14** show the blast monitoring results for the reporting period against the impact assessment criteria. The criteria are summarised in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Blasting Limits

Airblast Overpressure (dB(L))	Comments
115	5% of the total number of blasts in a 12 month period at WML or MTO
120	0%
Ground Vibration (mm/s)	**Comments**
5	5% of the total number of blasts in a 12 month period at WML or MTO
10	0%

During the reporting period no blasts exceeded the 115 dB(L) 5% threshold for airblast overpressure or 5mm/s 5% threshold for ground vibration.

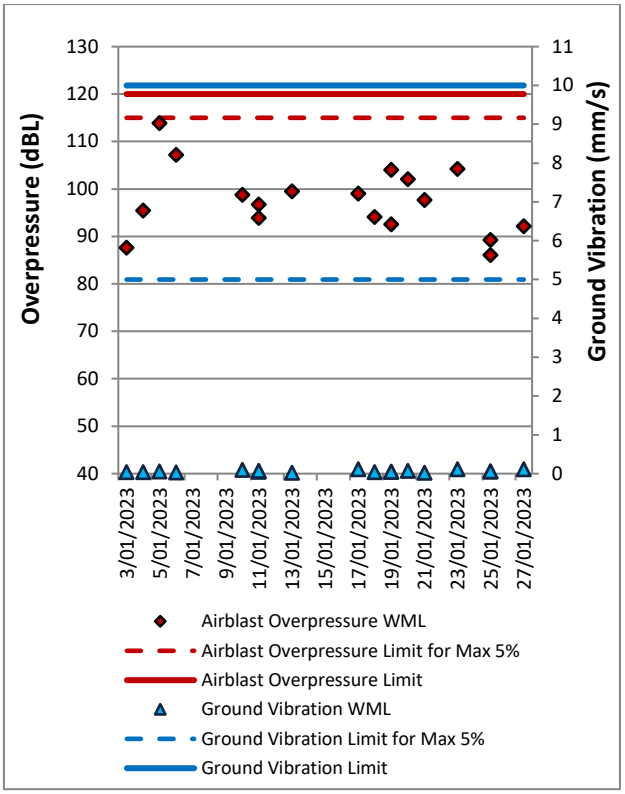

Figure 9: Abbey Green Blast Monitoring Results – January 2023

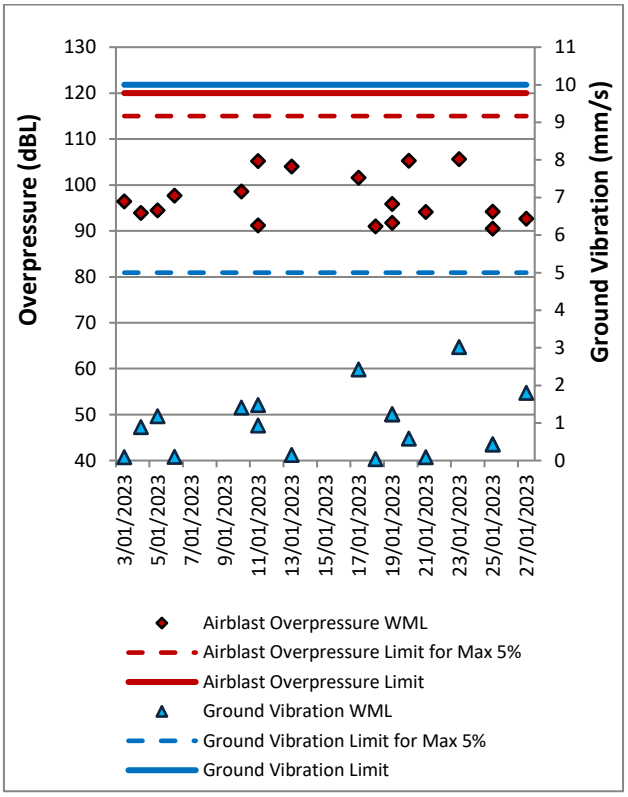

Figure 10: Bulga Village Blast Monitoring Results – January 2023

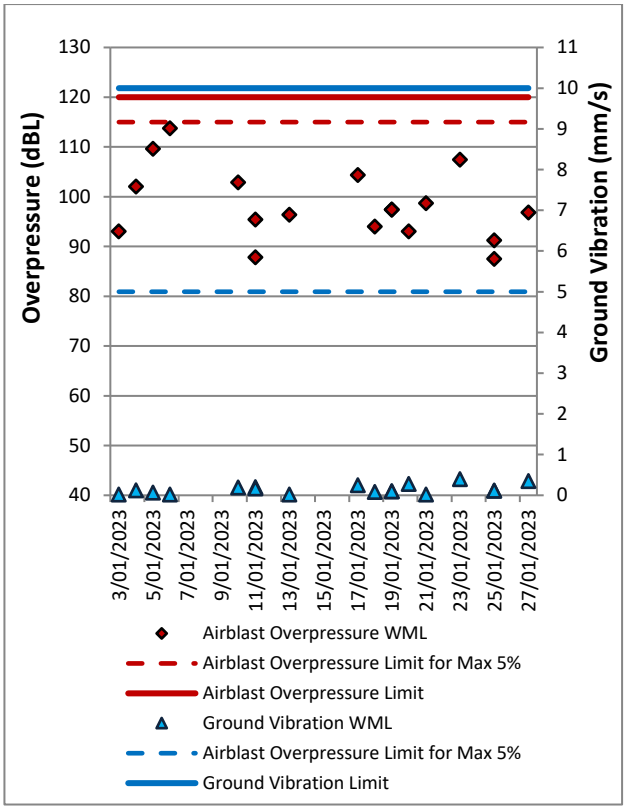

Figure 11: MTIE Blast Monitoring Results – January 2023

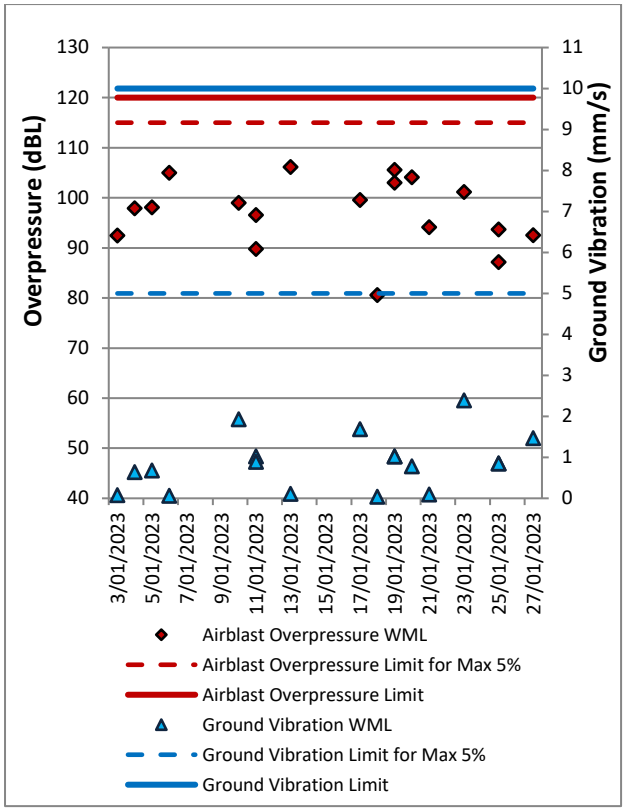

Figure 13: Wambo Road Blast Monitoring Results – January 2023

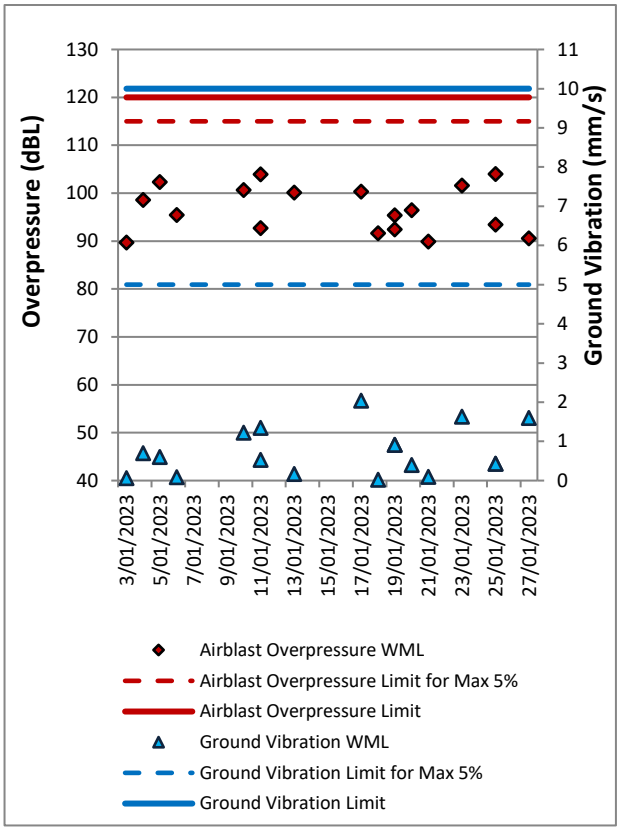

Figure 12: Wollemi Peak Road Blast Monitoring Results – January 2023

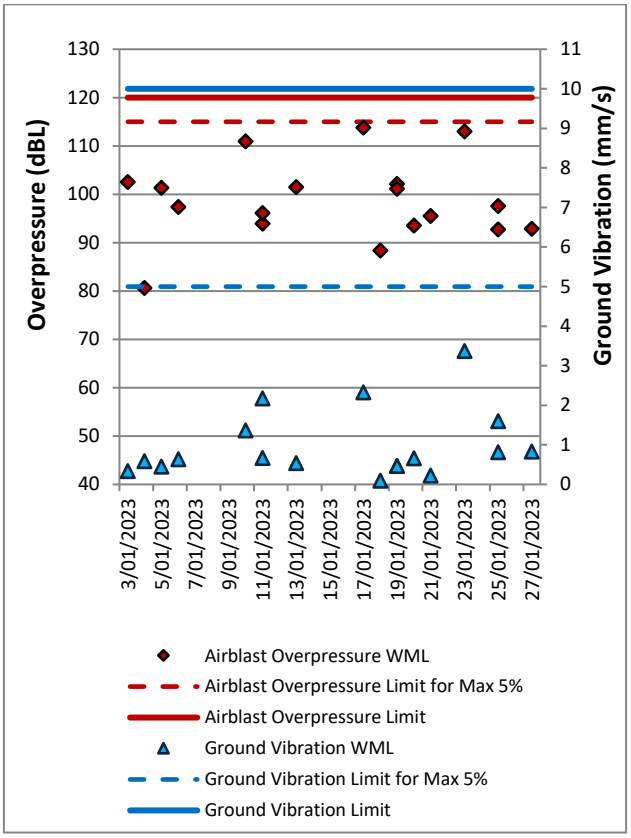

Figure 14: Warkworth Blast Monitoring Results - January 2023

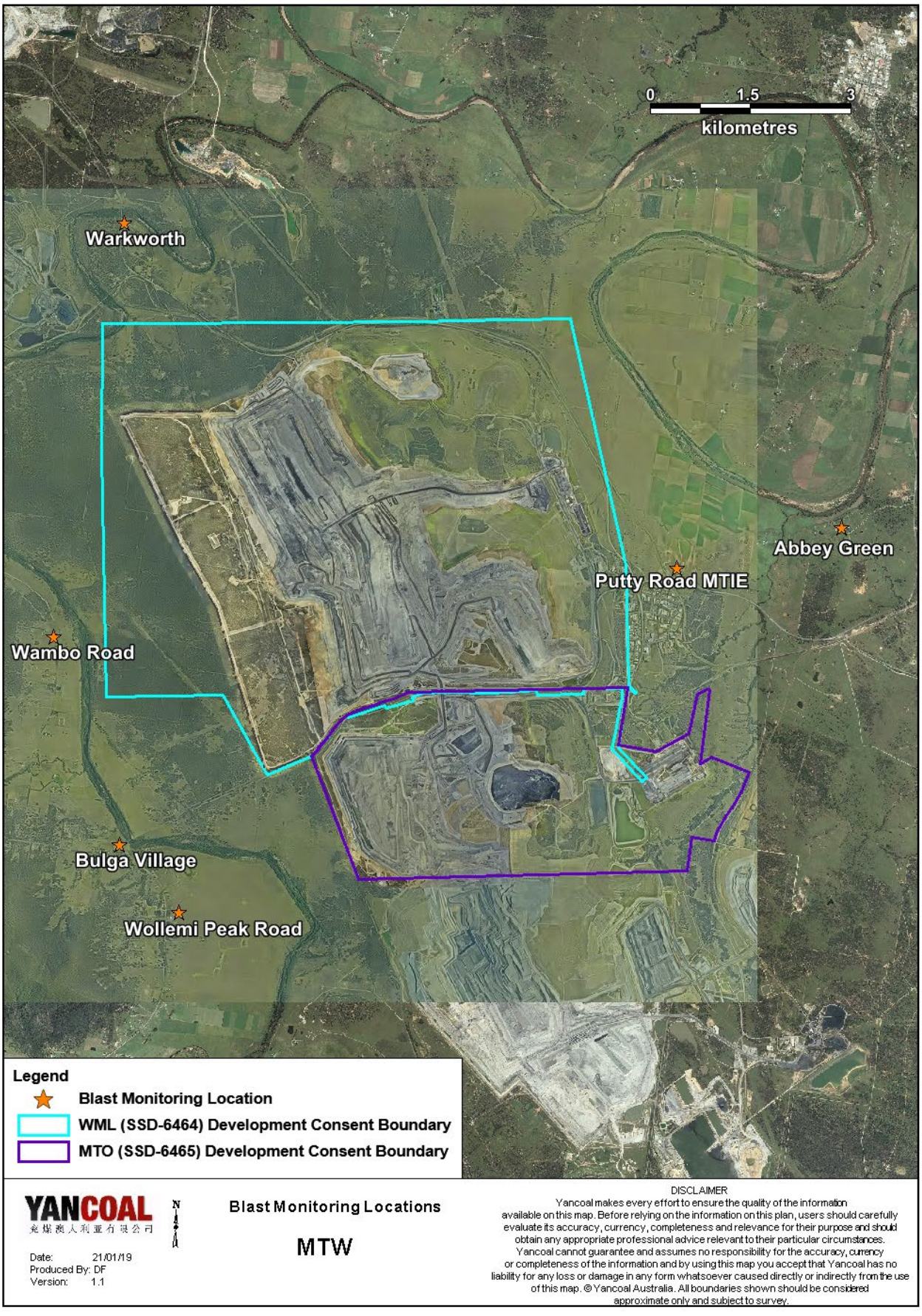

Figure 15: MTW Blast Monitoring Location Plan

5.0 NOISE

Routine attended noise monitoring is carried out in accordance with the MTW Noise Management Plan. A review against EIS predictions will be reported in the Annual Review. The purpose of the noise surveys is to quantify and describe the acoustic environment around the site and compare results with specified limits. Real time noise monitoring also occurs at five sites surrounding MTW. Noise monitoring locations are displayed in **Figure 16**.

5.1 Attended Noise Monitoring Results

Attended monitoring was conducted at receiver locations surrounding MTW on the night of 17 January 2023. Measurements complied with the relevant criteria.

5.1.1 WML Noise Assessment

Compliance assessments undertaken against the WML noise criteria are presented in **Tables 3** and **4**.

Table 3: $L_{Aeq,\ 15\ minute}$ Warkworth Impact Assessment Criteria – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB(A)	Criterion Applies?[1]	WML L_{Aeq} dB[2,3]	Exceedance[3,4]
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	3.1	D	37	No	35	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	2.7	E	38	Yes	32	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	3.4	D	38	No	IA	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	3.5	E	37	No	31	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	3.8	D	35	No	27	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	3.8	D	35	No	IA	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	2.5	F	35	No	IA	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	3.1	E	38	No	33	Nil

Notes:
1. Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: during periods of rain or hail; average wind speed at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s; wind speeds greater than 3 m/s measured at 10 metres above ground level; stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2m/s at 10m above ground level; or stability category G temperature inversion conditions. Criterion may or may not apply due to rounding of meteorological data values;
2. Site-only LAeq,15minute attributed to WML, including modifying factors if applicable;
3. Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
4. NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.

Table 4: $L_{A1,\ 1\ minute}$ Warkworth - Impact Assessment Criteria – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB(A)	Criterion Applies?[1]	WML $L_{A1,\ 1min}$ dB[2,3]	Exceedance[3,4]
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	3.1	D	47	No	38	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	2.7	E	48	Yes	35	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	3.4	D	48	No	IA	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	3.5	E	47	No	35	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	3.8	D	45	No	32	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	3.8	D	45	No	IA	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	2.5	F	45	No	IA	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	3.1	E	48	No	40	Nil

Notes:
1. Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: during periods of rain or hail; average wind speed at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s; wind speeds greater than 3 m/s measured at 10 metres above ground level; stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2m/s at 10m above ground level; or stability category G temperature inversion conditions. Criterion may or may not apply due to rounding of meteorological data values;
2. Site-only LA1,1minute attributed to WML;
3. Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
4. NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.

5.1.2 MTO Noise Assessment

Compliance assessments undertaken against the MTO noise criteria are presented in **Table 5** and **6**.

Table 5: $L_{Aeq,\ 15minute}$ Mount Thorley - Impact Assessment Criteria – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB	Criterion Applies?[1]	MTO L_{Aeq} dB[2,3]	Exceedance[3,4]
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	3.1	D	37	No	IA	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	2.7	E	38	Yes	IA	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	3.4	D	35	No	IA	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	3.5	E	37	No	31	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	3.8	D	35	No	NM	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	3.8	D	35	No	IA	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	2.5	F	36	No	30	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	3.1	E	38	No	IA	Nil

Notes:
1. Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: during periods of rain or hail; average wind speed at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s; wind speeds greater than 3 m/s measured at 10 metres above ground level; stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2m/s at 10m above ground level; or stability category G temperature inversion conditions. Criterion may or may not apply due to rounding of meteorological data values;
2. Site-only LAeq,15minute attributed to MTO, including modifying factors if applicable;
3. Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
4. NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.

Table 6: $L_{A1,\ 1Minute}$ Mount Thorley - Impact Assessment Criteria – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB	Criterion Applies?[1]	MTO $L_{A1,\ 1min}$ dB[2,3]	Exceedance[3,4]
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	3.1	D	47	No	IA	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	2.7	E	48	Yes	IA	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	3.4	D	45	No	IA	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	3.5	E	47	No	35	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	3.8	D	45	No	NM	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	3.8	D	45	No	IA	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	2.5	F	46	No	35	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	3.1	E	48	No	IA	Nil

Notes:
1. Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: during periods of rain or hail; average wind speed at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s; wind speeds greater than 3 m/s measured at 10 metres above ground level; stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2m/s at 10m above ground level; or stability category G temperature inversion conditions. Criterion may or may not apply due to rounding of meteorological data values;
2. Site-only LA1,1minute attributed to MTO;
3. Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
4. NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.

5.1.3 NPfI Low Frequency Assessment

In accordance with the requirements of the EPA's Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI), the applicability of the low frequency modification factor corrections has been assessed. There were no noise measurements taken during the reporting period which required the penalty to be applied. The WML assessment for low frequency noise is shown in **Table 7** and the MTO assessment for low frequency noise is shown in **Table 8**.

Table 7: Warkworth Low Frequency Noise Assessment – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Measured WML LAeq dB	Criterion Applies?	Intermittency Modifying Factor?	Tonality Modifying Factor?	Frequency of Tonality [1]	Low-frequency Modifying Factor?	Maximum Exceedance of Reference Spectrum [1,2]	Penalty dB [2]	Exceedance
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	35	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	32	Yes	No	No	NA	No	NA	Nil	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	31	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	27	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	33	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil

Notes:
1. NA denotes 'not applicable'; and
2. Bold results indicate that application of NPfI modifying factor/s is required.

Table 8: Mount Thorley Operations Low Frequency Noise Assessment – January 2023

Location	Date and Time	Measured WML LAeq dB	Criterion Applies?	Intermittency Modifying Factor?	Tonality Modifying Factor?	Frequency of Tonality[1]	Low-frequency Modifying Factor?	Maximum Exceedance of Reference Spectrum [1,2]	Penalty dB[2]	Exceedance [2]
Bulga RFS	17/01/2023 22:50	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Bulga Village	17/01/2023 22:12	IA	Yes	No	No	NA	No	NA	Nil	Nil
Gouldsville	17/01/2023 21:23	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Inlet Rd	17/01/2023 21:22	31	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Inlet Rd West	17/01/2023 21:04	NM	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Long Point	17/01/2023 21:00	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
South Bulga	17/01/2023 23:33	30	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
Wambo Road	17/01/2023 21:48	IA	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nil	Nil

Notes:
1. NA denotes 'not applicable'; and
2. Bold results indicate that application of NPfI modifying factor/s is required.

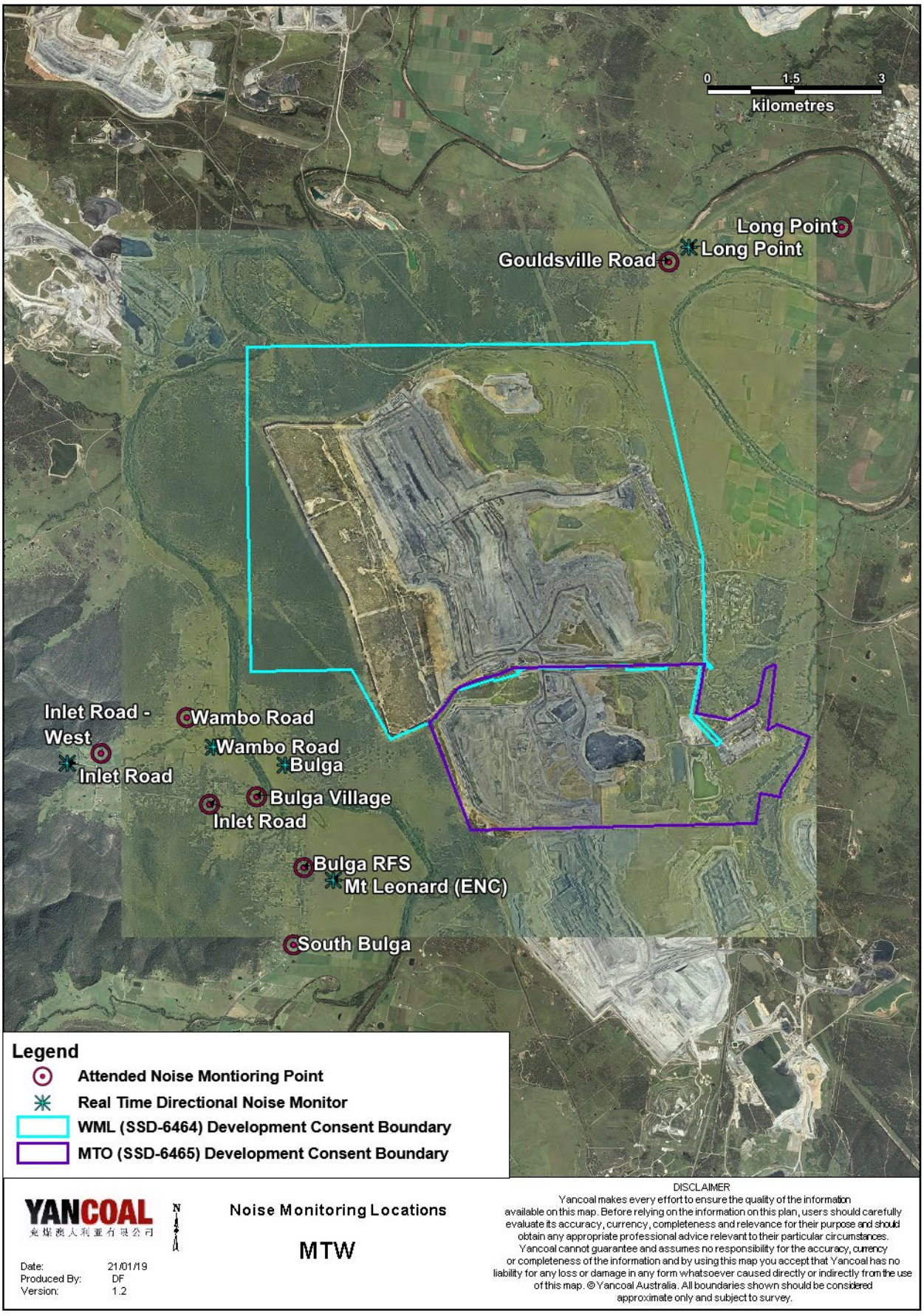

Figure 16: Noise Monitoring Location Plan

5.2 Noise Management Measures

A program of targeted supplementary attended noise monitoring is in place at MTW, supported by the real-time directional monitoring network and ensuring the highest level of noise management is maintained. The supplementary program is undertaken by MTW personnel and involves:

- Routine inspections from both inside and outside the mine boundary;
- Routine and as-required handheld noise assessments (undertaken in response to noise alarm and/or community complaint), comparing measured levels against consent noise limits; and
- Validation monitoring following operational modifications to assess the adequacy of the modifications.

Where a noise assessment identifies noise emissions which are exceeding the relevant noise limit(s) for any particular residence, modifications will be made to ensure that the noise event is resolved within 75 minutes of identification. The actions taken are commensurate with the nature and severity of the noise event, but can include:

- Changing the haul route to a less noise sensitive haul;
- Changing dump locations (in-pit or less exposed dump option);
- Reducing equipment numbers;
- Shut down of task; or
- Site shut down.

A summary of these assessments undertaken during January are provided in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Supplementary Attended Noise Monitoring Data – January 2023

No. of assessments	No. of assessments > trigger	No. of nights where assessments > trigger	% greater than trigger
480	0	0	0

6.0 OPERATIONAL DOWNTIME

During January, a total of 249 hours of equipment downtime was logged in response to environmental events such as dust, noise and adverse meteorological conditions. Operational downtime by equipment type is shown in **Figure 17**.

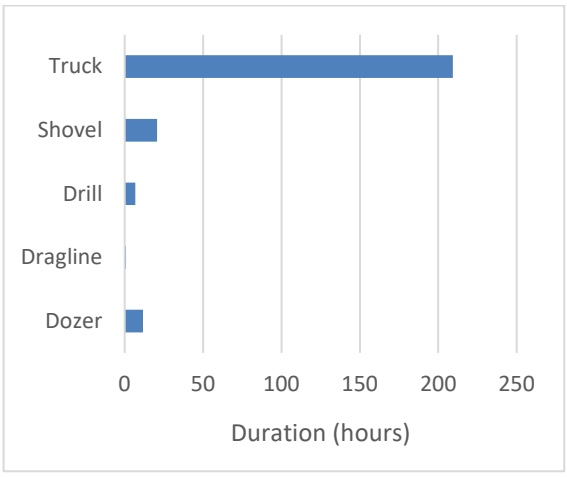

Figure 17: Operational Downtime by Equipment Type – January 2023

7.0 REHABILITATION

During January 2023, 14.3 Ha of land was released and 1.0 Ha was bulk shaped.

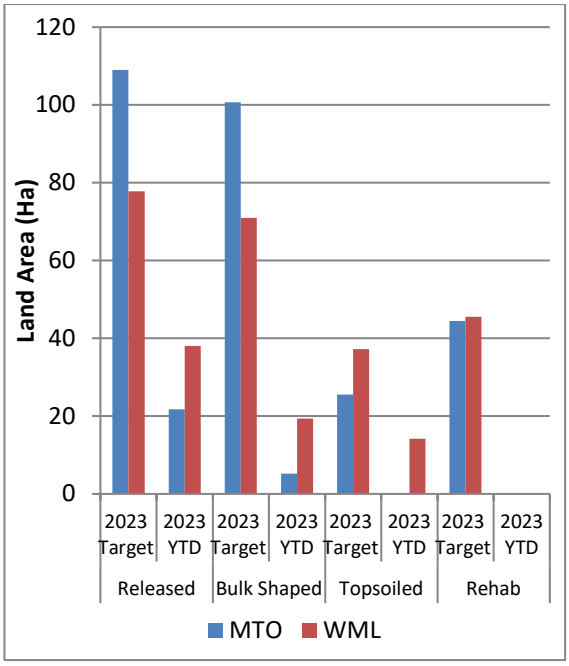

Figure 18: Rehabilitation YTD – January 2023

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

There were no environmental incidents recorded during the reporting period.

9.0 COMPLAINTS

8 complaints were received during the reporting period. Details of these complaints are shown in **Table 10** below.

Table 10: Complaints Summary YTD

	Noise	Dust	Blast	Lighting	Other	Total
January	1	2	2	3	0	8
February						
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	1	2	2	3	0	8

Appendix A: Meteorological Data

Table 11: Meteorological Data – Charlton Ridge Meteorological Station – January 2023

Date	Air Temperature		Relative Humidity		Wind Direction	Wind Speed	Rainfall
	Maximum (°C)	Minimum (°C)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Average (°)	Average (m/sec)	total (mm)
1/01/2023	30	9	93	36	124	3.3	0.0
2/01/2023	31	8	93	29	122	2.7	0.0
3/01/2023	35	9	91	27	151	2.5	1.8
4/01/2023	32	8	100	38	153	3.1	7.4
5/01/2023	22	11	100	51	171	5.4	2.8
6/01/2023	24	3	100	49	181	4.3	1.2
7/01/2023	25	5	93	48	168	4.7	0.0
8/01/2023	28	6	90	25	157	2.8	0.0
9/01/2023	33	3	96	26	160	2.4	0.0
10/01/2023	30	3	97	32	160	2.8	0.0
11/01/2023	29	8	85	35	141	2.9	0.0
12/01/2023	32	5	91	36	143	3.1	0.0
13/01/2023	31	8	89	31	145	3.0	0.0
14/01/2023	30	7	92	30	120	3.3	0.0
15/01/2023	34	5	94	25	159	2.5	0.0
16/01/2023	31	8	89	31	133	3.8	0.0
17/01/2023	31	7	94	32	132	3.1	0.0
18/01/2023	35	5	97	20	165	2.5	0.0
19/01/2023	20	13	100	77	186	3.1	5.6
20/01/2023	21	4	100	59	158	3.5	3.8
21/01/2023	27	4	93	27	152	2.8	0.0
22/01/2023	22	5	100	58	145	2.6	4.2
23/01/2023	29	4	94	40	158	2.7	0.0
24/01/2023	32	5	100	26	165	2.5	3.0
25/01/2023	33	6	100	27	164	3.1	0.2
26/01/2023	39	6	99	14	185	2.5	3.2
27/01/2023	33	7	92	37	155	3.4	0.2
28/01/2023	36	9	93	28	172	2.0	0.0
29/01/2023	38	8	98	22	183	2.5	5.0
30/01/2023	23	7	100	82	172	1.7	10.4
31/01/2023	29	6	99	42	167	2.5	0.2