



Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report

Yancoal Mount Thorley Warkworth

April 2024

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Revision History

Version No.	Version Details	Date
1.0	Final	05/08/2024

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 April to 30 April 2024.

2.0 AIR QUALITY

2.1 Meteorological Monitoring

Meteorological data is collected at MTW’s ‘Charlton Ridge’ meteorological station (refer to **Figure 3**).

2.1.1 Rainfall

Rainfall for the reporting period is summarised in **Table 1**. The year-to-date monthly rainfall totals, 2024 monthly rainfall totals and historical average monthly rainfall trend are shown in **Figure 1**.

Table 1: Monthly Rainfall MTW

2024	Monthly Rainfall (mm)	Cumulative Rainfall (mm)
April	131.2	257.4

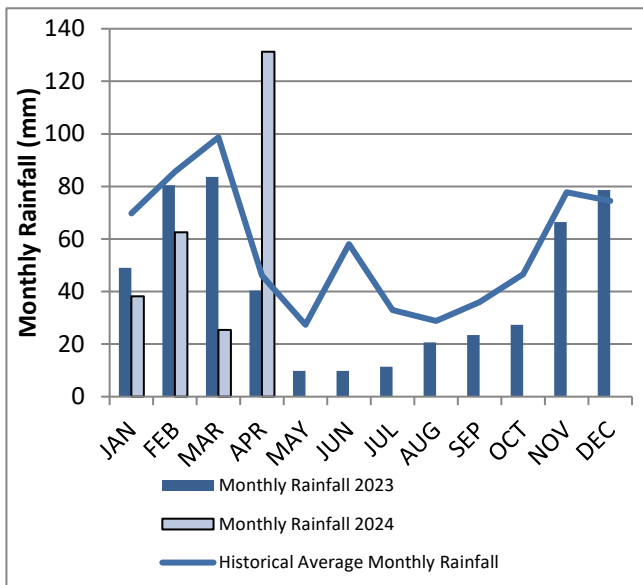


Figure 1: Rainfall Trend YTD

Note: The historical average monthly rainfall is calculated from 2007 to 2023 monthly totals.

2.1.2 Wind Speed and Direction

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

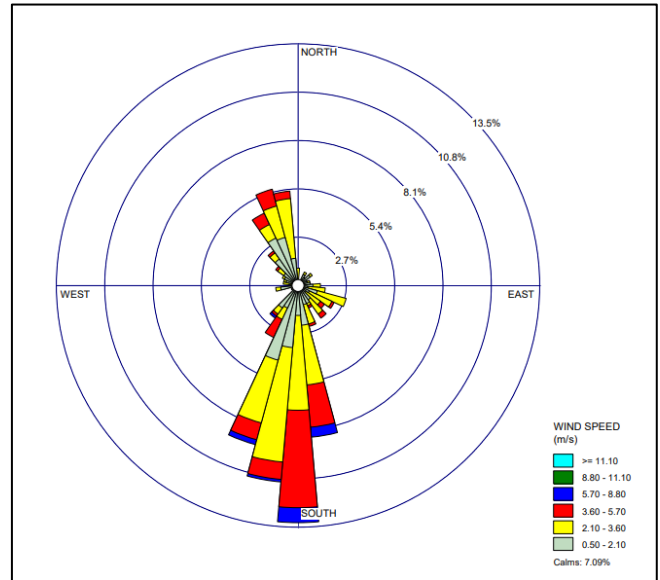


Figure 2: Charlton Ridge Wind Rose – April 2024

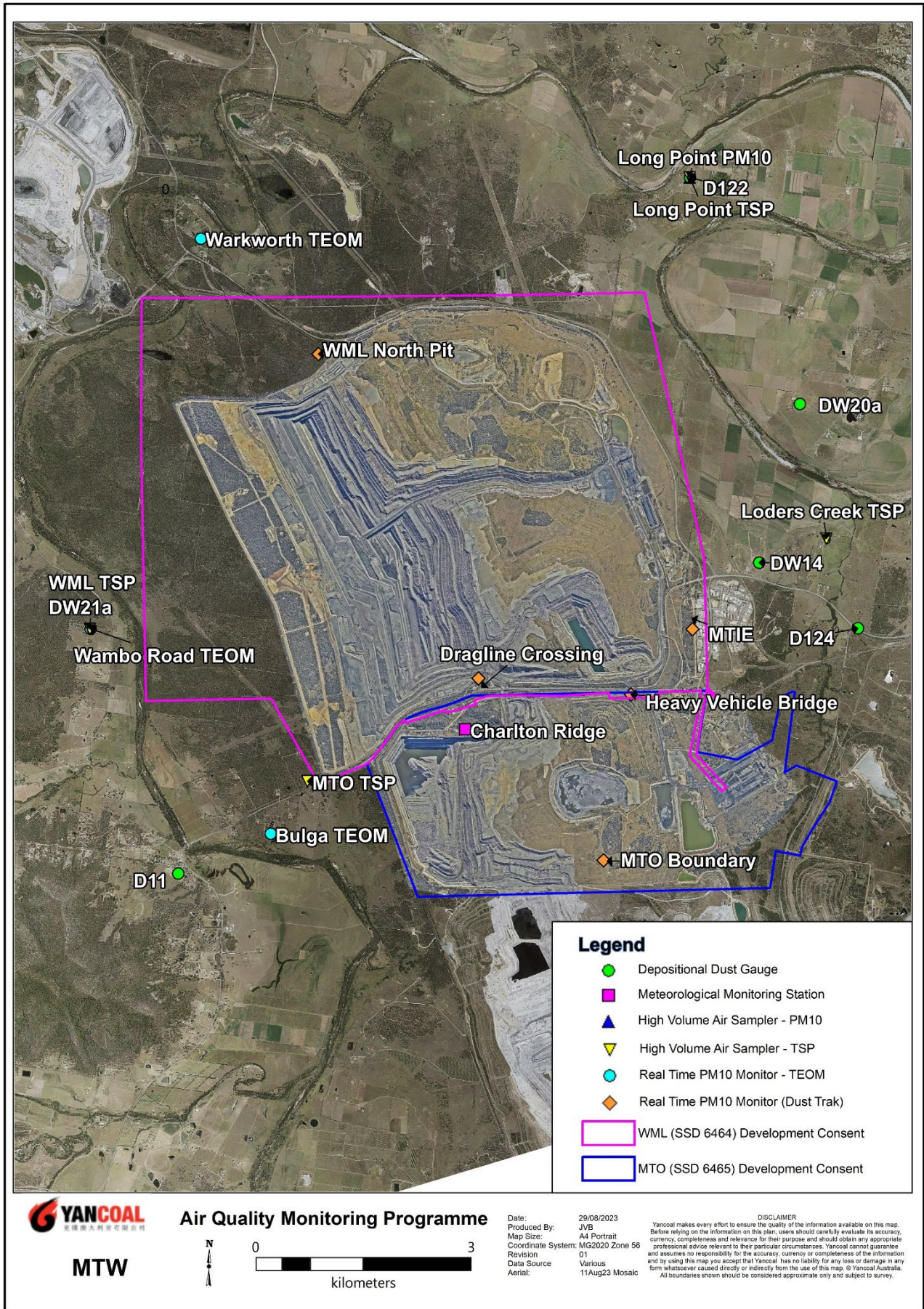


Figure 3: Air Quality Monitoring Locations

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 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 2024 Annual Review Report.

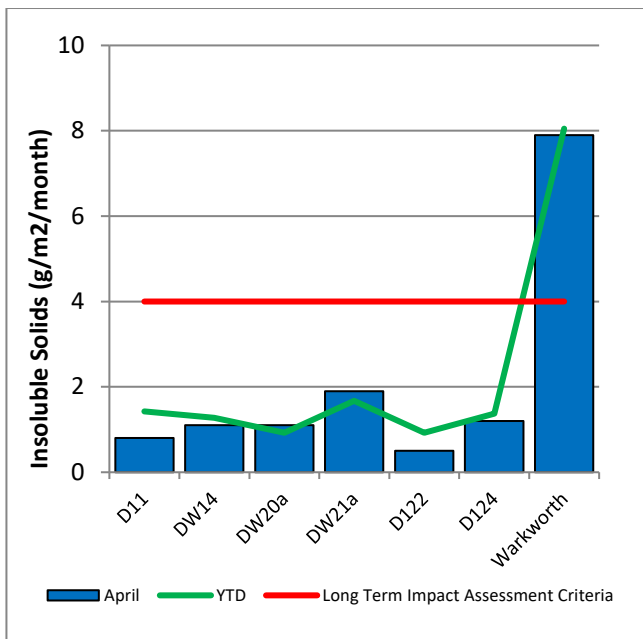


Figure 4: Depositional Dust – April 2024

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 (PM₁₀). 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 PM₁₀ Results

Figure 5 shows the individual PM₁₀ results at each monitoring station against the short-term impact assessment criteria of 50µg/m³.

Data from the Long Point HVAS PM₁₀ unit was not available on 11 April 2024 due to equipment issues.

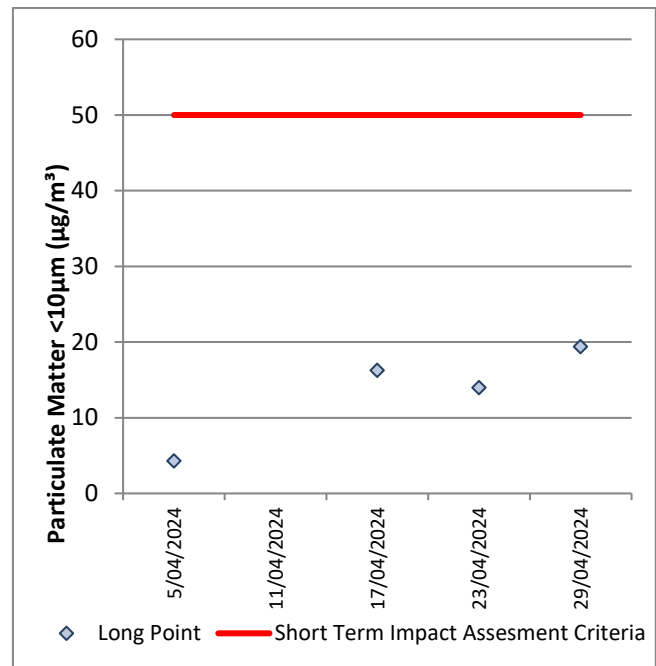


Figure 5: Individual PM₁₀ Results – April 2024

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 2024 Annual Review Report.

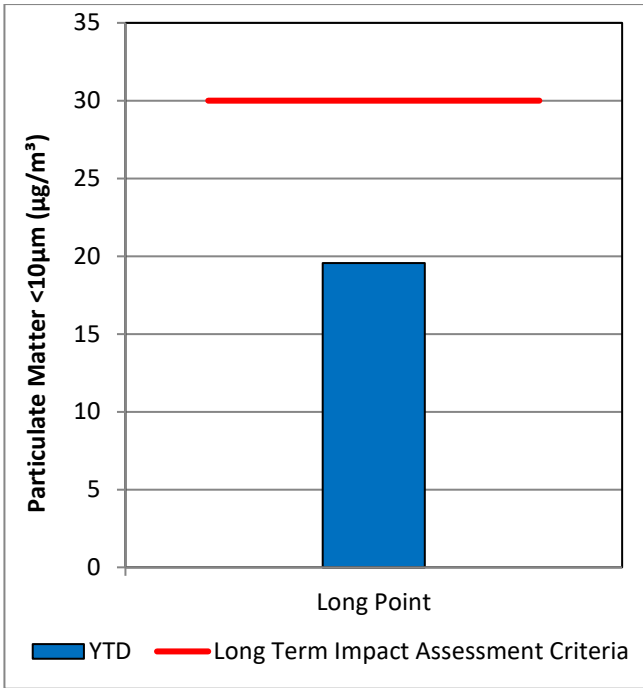


Figure 6: Annual Average PM₁₀ – April 2024

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 2024 Annual Review Report.

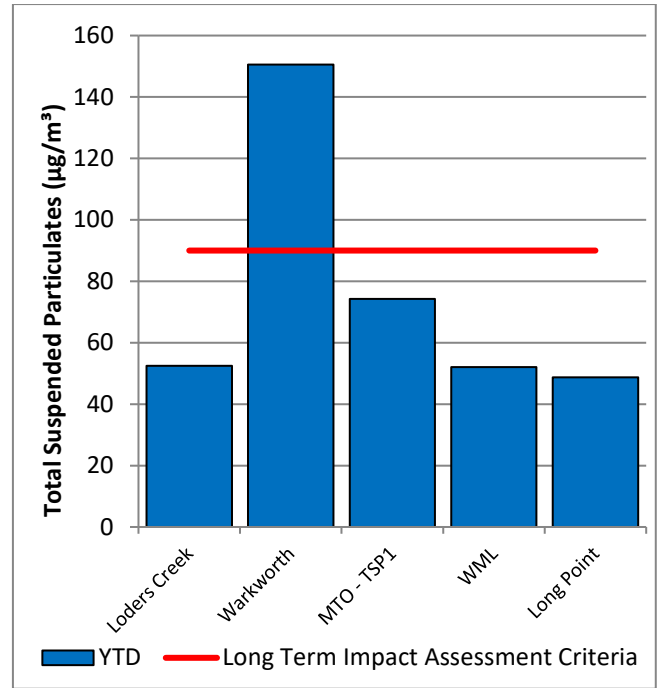


Figure 7: Annual Average Total Suspended Particulates – April 2024

2.3.3 Real Time PM₁₀ Results

MTW maintains a network of real time PM₁₀ 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 PM₁₀ result and the annual PM₁₀ average.

Data was not available from the Wambo Monitor on 18 April due to equipment issues.

2.3.4 Real Time Alarms for Air Quality

During April, the real time monitoring system generated 58 automated air quality related alerts, including 8 alerts for adverse meteorological conditions and 50 alerts for elevated PM₁₀ levels

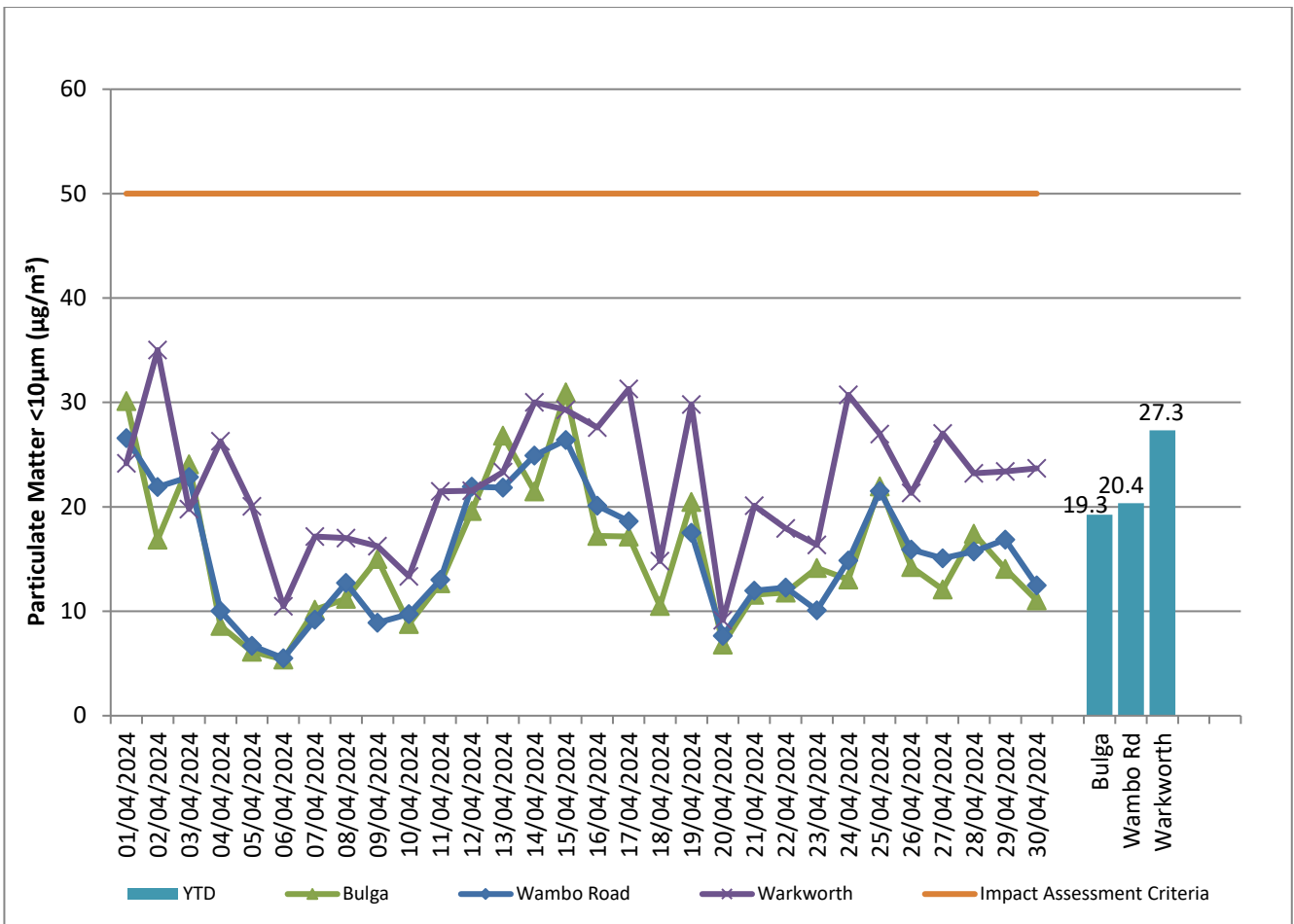


Figure 8: Real Time PM₁₀ daily 24hr average (line graphs) and YTD annual average (column graphs) – April 2024

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 June 2024 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 discharged 13.76 ML from Dam 9S during 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 June 2024 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 April 2024, 24 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 5mm/s criteria for ground vibration, or the 115dB(L) threshold for airblast overpressure.

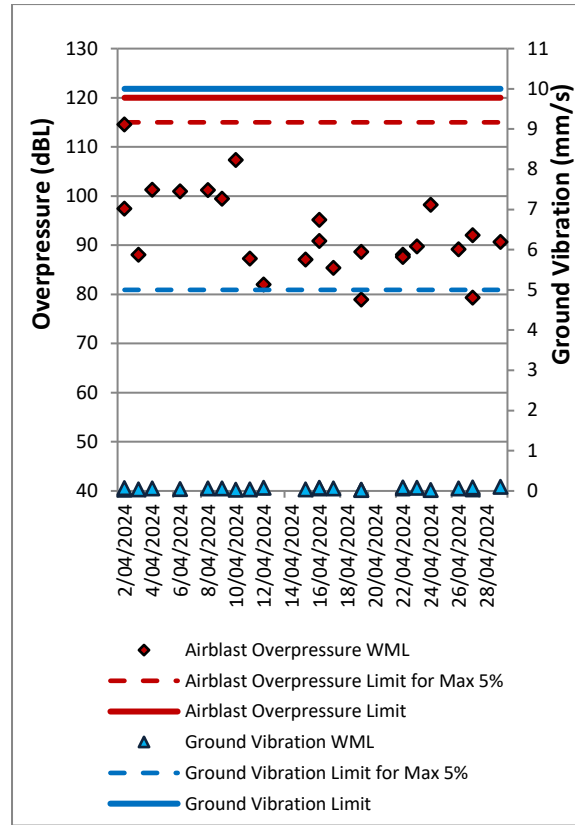


Figure 9: Abbey Green Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024

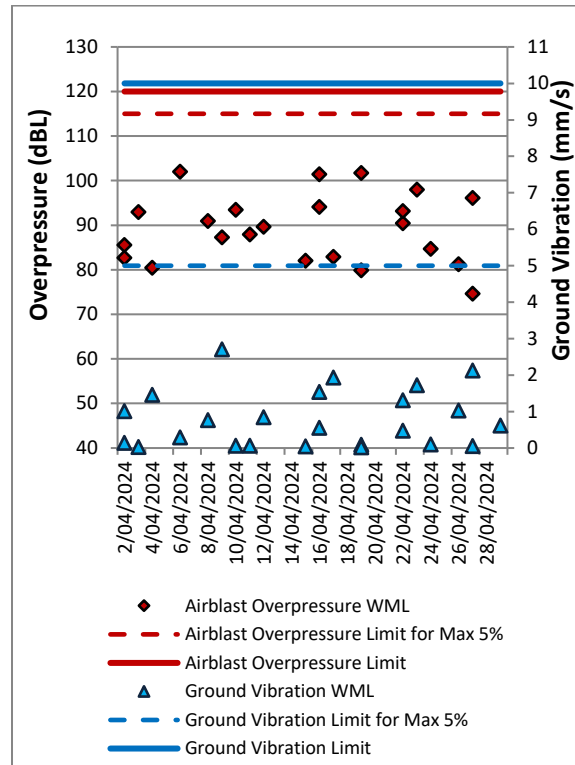


Figure 10: Bulga Village Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024

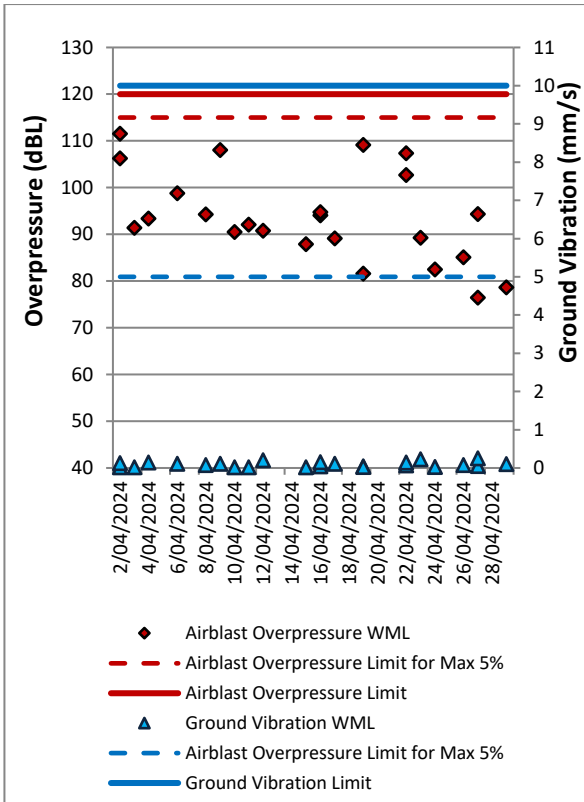


Figure 11: MTIE Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024

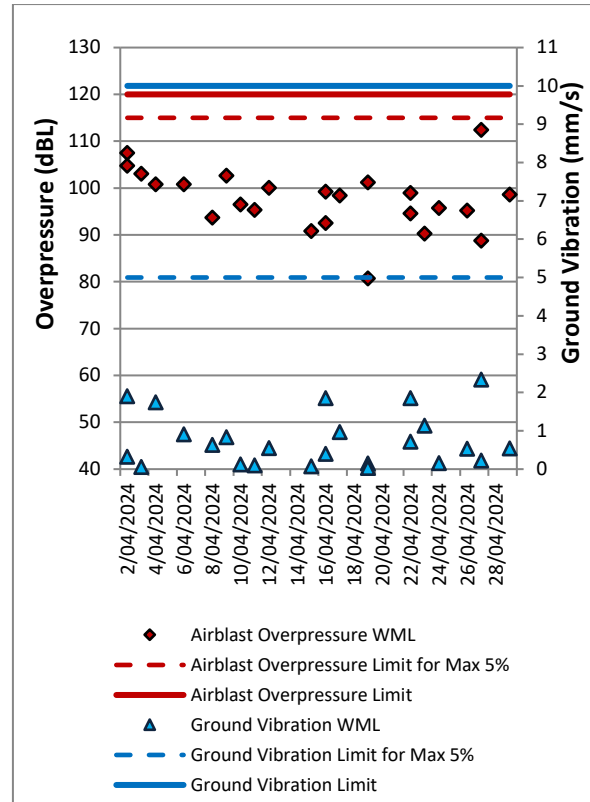


Figure 13: Wambo Road Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024

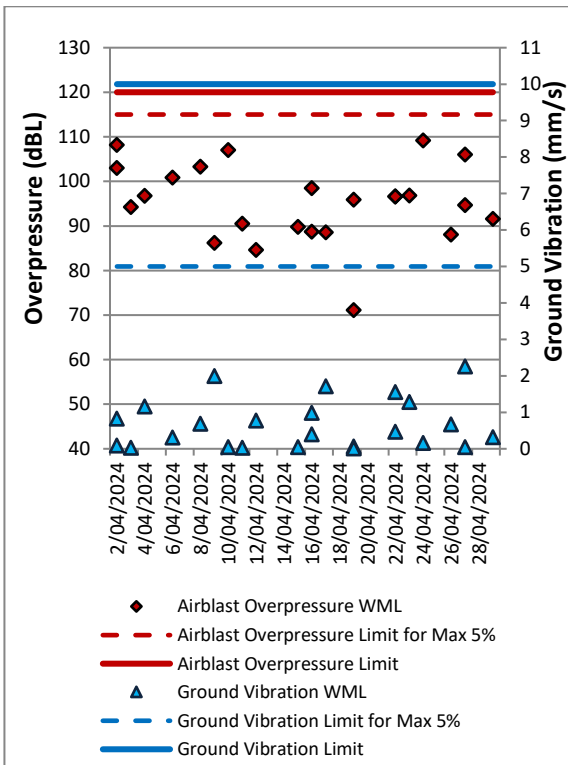


Figure 12: Wollemi Peak Road Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024

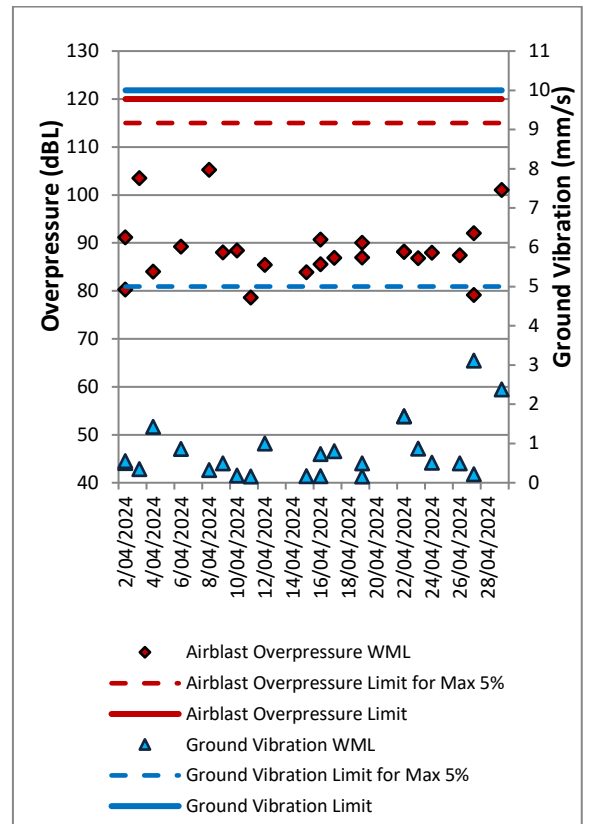


Figure 14: Warkworth Blast Monitoring Results – April 2024



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 nights of 22 and 29 April 2024. Measurements complied with the relevant criteria, with the exception of WML levels at Inlet Road, where noise levels were increased by the applicability of a low frequency modifying factor (refer to **Table 7**). Follow up monitoring conducted on 29 April 2024 (as required by the MTW Noise Management Plan) complied with the relevant criteria at the remeasured location. Results are detailed in **Table 3** to **Table 6**.

5.1.1 WML Noise Assessment

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

Table 3: LAeq, 15 minute Warkworth Impact Assessment Criteria – April 2024

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB(A)	Criterion Applies? ¹	WML LAeq dB ^{2,3}	Exceedance ^{3,4}
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	2.6	E	37	Yes	30	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	2	D	38	Yes	<25	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	2.2	E	38	Yes	33	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	2.2	E	37	Yes	38	1
Inlet Road ⁵	29/04/2024 22:00	2.5	E	37	Yes	35	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	0.2	F	35	Yes	35	Nil
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	0.2	F	35	Yes	IA	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	2.7	D	35	Yes	<30	Nil
Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	1.9	D	38	Yes	38	Nil

Notes:

1. Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: 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.

5. Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

Table 4: LA1, 1 minute Warkworth - Impact Assessment Criteria – April 2024

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB(A)	Criterion Applies? ¹	WML LA1, 1min dB ^{2,3}	Exceedance ^{3,4}
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	2.6	E	47	Yes	40	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	2	D	48	Yes	<25	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	2.2	E	48	Yes	38	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	2.2	E	47	Yes	43	Nil
Inlet Road ⁵	29/04/2024 22:00	2.5	E	47	Yes	38	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	0.2	F	45	Yes	40	Nil
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	0.2	F	45	Yes	IA	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	2.7	D	45	Yes	33	Nil

Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	1.9	D	48	Yes	40	Nil
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Notes:

- Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: 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;
- Site-only LA1,15minute attributed to WML;
- Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
- NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.
- Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

5.1.2 MTO Noise Assessment

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

Table 5: LAeq, 15minute Mount Thorley - Impact Assessment Criteria – April 2024

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB	Criterion Applies? ¹	MTO LAeq dB ^{2,3}	Exceedance ^{3,4}
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	2.6	E	37	Yes	IA	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	2	D	38	Yes	IA	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	2.2	E	35	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	2.2	E	37	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road ⁵	29/04/2024 22:00	2.5	E	37	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	0.2	F	35	Yes	IA	Nil
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	0.2	F	35	Yes	IA	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	2.7	D	36	Yes	IA	Nil
Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	1.9	D	38	Yes	IA	Nil

Notes:

- Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: 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;
- Site-only LAeq,15minute attributed to MTO, including modifying factors if applicable;
- Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
- NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.
- Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

Table 6: LA1, 1Minute Mount Thorley - Impact Assessment Criteria – April 2024

Location	Date and Time	Wind Speed (m/s)	Stability Class	Criterion dB	Criterion Applies? ¹	MTO LA1, 1min dB ^{2,3}	Exceedance ^{3,4}
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	2.6	E	47	Yes	IA	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	2	D	48	Yes	IA	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	2.2	E	45	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	2.2	E	47	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road ⁵	29/04/2024 22:00	2.5	E	47	Yes	IA	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	0.2	F	45	Yes	IA	Nil
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	0.2	F	45	Yes	IA	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	2.7	D	46	Yes	IA	Nil
Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	1.9	D	48	Yes	IA	Nil

Notes:

- Noise criteria apply during all meteorological conditions except the following: 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;
- Site-only LA1,1minute attributed to MTO;
- Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant criterion; and
- NA in exceedance column means atmospheric conditions outside conditions specified in consent, therefore criterion was not applicable.
- Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

5.1.3 NPfl Low Frequency Assessment

In accordance with the requirements of the EPA’s Noise Policy for Industry (NPfl), the applicability of the low frequency modification factor corrections has been assessed. This resulted in the application of a 2dB penalty to the site only LAeq for the measurements taken at Inlet Road, Inlet Road West and Wambo Road on 22 April 2024. Resulting LAeq noise levels exceeded the WML impact assessment criteria at Inlet Road by 1dB.

As described in **Section 8**, the Inlet Road results and MTW’s response was reported to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

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 – April 2024

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
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	30	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	<25	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	33	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	36	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	3 dB at 80 Hz	2 dB
Inlet Road ³	29/04/2024 22:00	35	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	33	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	1 dB at 80 Hz	2 dB
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	<30	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	36	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	1 dB at 80 Hz	2 dB

Notes:

1. NA denotes 'not applicable'; and

2. Bold results indicate that application of NPfl modifying factor/s is required.

3. Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

Table 8: Mount Thorley Operations Low Frequency Noise Assessment – April 2024

Location	Date and Time	Measured MTO 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
Bulga RFS	22/04/2024 23:11	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Bulga Village	22/04/2024 22:30	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Gouldsville	22/04/2024 21:25	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Inlet Road	22/04/2024 21:28	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Inlet Road ³	29/04/2024 22:00	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Inlet Road West	22/04/2024 21:01	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Long Point	22/04/2024 21:00	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
South Bulga	22/04/2024 23:52	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil
Wambo Road	22/04/2024 22:05	IA	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	N/A	Nil

Notes:

1. NA denotes 'not applicable'; and
2. Bold results indicate that application of NPfI modifying factor/s is required.
3. Follow up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

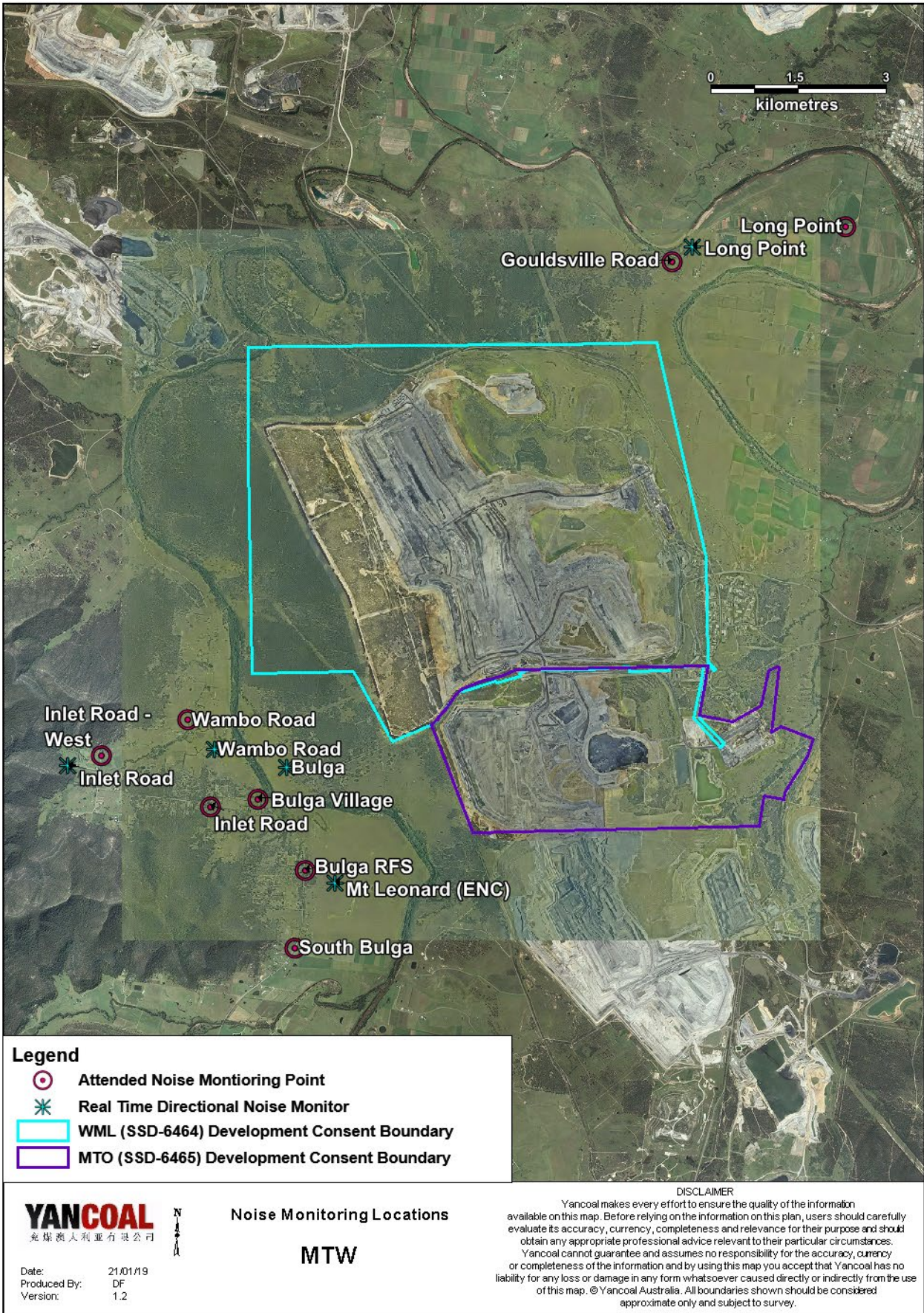


Figure 16: Noise Monitoring Location Plan

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 April are provided in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Supplementary Attended Noise Monitoring Data – April 2024

No. of assessments	No. of assessments > trigger	No. of nights where assessments > trigger	% greater than trigger
704	27	10	3.8

6.0 OPERATIONAL DOWNTIME

During April, a total of 600.9 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**.

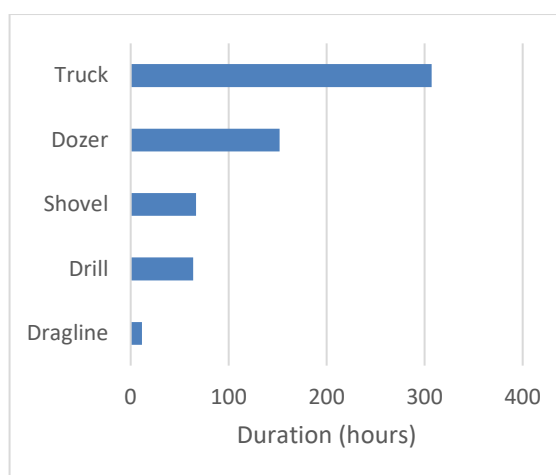


Figure 17: Operational Downtime by Equipment Type – April 2024

7.0 REHABILITATION

During April 2024, 25.35 Ha of land was released, 3.27 Ha was bulk shaped, 4.57 Ha was top soiled, and 5.33 Ha was rehabilitated.

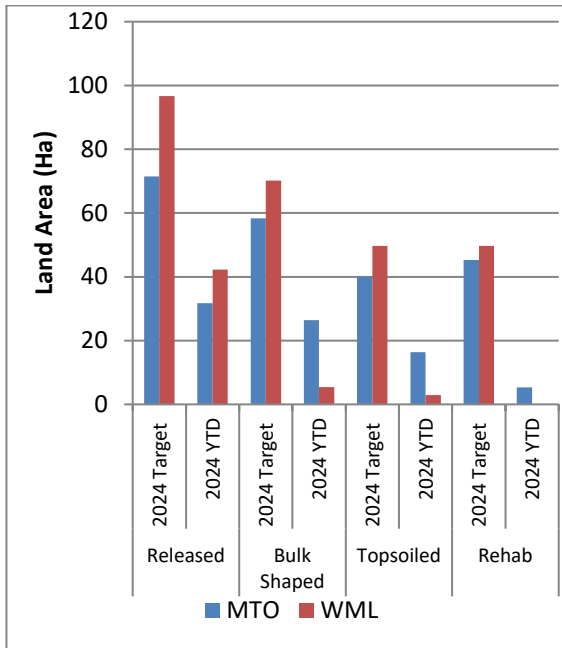


Figure 18: Rehabilitation YTD – April 2024

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

There was one environmental incident recorded during the reporting period.

An exceedance of the WML noise criterion was recorded at the Inlet Road monitoring location on 22 April 2024 starting at 21:28. A mining continuum from WML was audible throughout the measurement, generating an onsite LAeq of 36dB. A low frequency modifying factor of +2dB was applicable in accordance with the Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI) resulting in an adjusted site-only LAeq of 38dB, which exceeded the relevant criterion by 1dB. In accordance with the approved Noise Management Plan process, after the conclusion of the entire noise monitoring survey on the 23 April 2024 at 00:31am, the noise consultant advised MTW of the potential noise exceedances at the Inlet Road location. MTW had already been undertaking supplementary noise readings and had attended the Wambo Road monitoring location at 22/04/24 20:45 in response to a Red Alarm triggered at 22/4/24 20:35. In response, operational controls were implemented to reduce noise prior to attending the Wambo Road location for a secondary supplementary noise monitoring at 21:35, which was 2dB below the relevant criterion. Operational controls were put in place in response and all supplementary handheld noise readings taken between 22/4/2024 21:00 and 23/4/2024 03:10 were within the relevant noise criteria at all locations, which included visits to the Inlet Road monitoring location at 22/4/2024 22:40 and 23/4/2024 03:10 which were 3dB and 5dB below the relevant noise criterion respectively. No further operational controls were necessary.

Follow up attended compliance monitoring in response to the recorded exceedance was conducted at the Inlet Road location at 29/4/2024 22:00, (i.e. within 2 weeks) in accordance with the process outlined in the approved NMP. The noise level during follow up monitoring from WML was LAeq, 15min 35 dB, and LA1, 1min 38 dB which complied with the relevant noise criteria. The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure was notified in writing of the exceedance measurement on 23 April 2024. A written report was also provided to DPHI on 1 May 2024. The private residences within the Inlet Road representative monitoring area were also notified of the noise

exceedance, and of the follow up noise monitoring which complied with the noise criterion.

9.0 COMPLAINTS

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

Table 10: Complaints Summary YTD

	Noise	Dust	Blast	Lighting	Other	Total
January	1	3	5	2	0	11
February	3	4	1	0	0	8
March	3	1	2	0	0	6
April	7	2	1	5	0	15
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	14	10	9	7	0	40

Appendix A: Meteorological Data

Table 11: Meteorological Data – Charlton Ridge Meteorological Station –April 2024

Date	Air Temperature		Relative Humidity		Wind Direction	Wind Speed	Rainfall
	Maximum (°C)	Minimum (°C)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Average (°)	Average (m/sec)	total (mm)
1/04/2024	13	30	100	26	164	1.5	0.0
2/04/2024	14	27	100	47	246	2.0	3.2
3/04/2024	11	26	92	33	205	1.9	0.0
4/04/2024	14	18	100	87	164	3.2	23.6
5/04/2024	14	18	100	100	151	3.2	69.8
6/04/2024	14	27	100	43	233	2.3	4.2
7/04/2024	12	28	100	36	251	2.0	0.0
8/04/2024	13	26	99	41	247	1.8	0.0
9/04/2024	9	24	100	33	241	3.0	5.2
10/04/2024	10	21	84	35	192	3.9	0.0
11/04/2024	8	24	94	33	199	1.5	0.0
12/04/2024	10	24	98	40	160	1.8	0.0
13/04/2024	11	26	100	36	175	1.6	0.0
14/04/2024	13	27	100	35	198	1.6	0.0
15/04/2024	12	27	100	38	182	1.1	0.0
16/04/2024	14	27	99	43	168	2.0	0.0
17/04/2024	13	27	100	47	164	2.7	14.2
18/04/2024	12	25	100	49	222	1.7	0.4
19/04/2024	9	21	94	36	223	1.5	0.0
20/04/2024	12	17	100	79	183	4.0	8.4
21/04/2024	12	22	100	56	172	4.5	0.4
22/04/2024	12	24	99	47	156	2.8	0.0
23/04/2024	10	25	100	37	209	1.7	0.0
24/04/2024	11	26	100	44	252	2.0	0.0
25/04/2024	11	22	95	45	164	2.2	0.0
26/04/2024	9	21	92	37	171	2.4	0.0
27/04/2024	8	22	100	47	160	2.3	0.0
28/04/2024	10	23	100	48	191	1.3	0.0
29/04/2024	10	26	100	34	222	1.2	0.0
30/04/2024	12	22	100	60	185	3.6	1.8