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Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Daily Meeting Room – Austar Main Administration Building, Middle Road, Paxton
 Time: 9:35am – 10:12am
 Date: 26 August 2020

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
Ashlee Baker	Community Representative
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Carly McCormack (CM)	Austar Coal Mine
Julie McNaughton (JM)	Austar Coal Mine
John Rayner (JR)	Community Representative
Michael Gorman (MG) (on phone)	NSW Police Service (Cessnock)
William Farnworth (WF)	Mining Engineering Manager
Peter Sturrock (PS) (by video call)	Community Representative
Councillor Mark Lyons (ML)	Cessnock City Council Representative
Apologies	
nil	
Copy of minutes	
Councillor Bob Pynsent	Mayor of Cessnock City Council
Mr Joel Fitzgibbon MP	Federal Member for Hunter
Mr Clayton Barr	State Member for Cessnock
Mr Matthew Sprott	NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

1	Welcome
	MMH – Opened the meeting 9:35am and welcomed the CCC. No apologies.
2	Declaration of Interests
	MMH asked for any changes to previous declarations of interest Declarations of interests remain current for all members
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes
	Change to last meeting minutes requested - any member can request an extraordinary meeting if the need arises. This has been updated on the website minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. ML moved, AB seconded.
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes
	No business arising. MMH – question – impacts on staff going to C&M? CM response: this will be covered later in the presentation.
5	Correspondence
	As listed.
6	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints, Community Support
	As per presentation. ML asked if there would still be a community support program with the transition to C&M. CM replied that the CSP will be suspended until operations recommence.
7	General Business
	Nil
9	Meeting Dates
	Agreed that next meeting will be held on 31 March so results of final subsidence survey for Bellbird South mining area could be reported. To be confirmed. MMH thanked the committee for their time and effort in running an effective CCC.
9	Meeting Closed
	MMH – Thanked the CCC and declared the meeting closed at 10:12am.

Recorded: Julie McNaughton 26 August 2020

AUSTAR COAL MINE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

Q3 2020
26 August 2020

Carly McCormack
ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SUPERINTENDENT

Agenda

1. Welcome / Apologies
2. Declaration of interests
3. Confirmation of previous minutes
4. Business arising from previous minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Current operations / Environmental monitoring update / Complaints
7. General business / Community Sponsorship
8. Next meeting / Meeting close

Current Operations



Underground Mining Operations

- Longwall mining in panel LWB6 was completed on 12 February 2020
- Longwall mining equipment was brought to the surface for storage and maintenance
- Austar Coal Mine suspended production and transitioned to a Care and Maintenance phase on 30 March 2020
- 44 employees remain at Austar and are undertaking ongoing care and maintenance activities at the site, including:
 - Management of surface lands
 - Keeping the mine in a condition where it can be operated again in the future
 - Dewatering the mine to keep all areas accessible
 - Continued ventilation and underground strata support to maintain access to all areas
- No underground mining activities, including development or longwall mining
- Continued evaluation of Stage 3 mining opportunities to recommence production at Austar. This process is ongoing and does not have a fixed timeframe for completion.

Underground Mining Operations Continued

- Completion of Mining – Bellbird South area
 - Final survey to confirm subsidence complete (nominally 12 months after completion of mining and planned for after March 2021)
 - Post mining inspections
 - Rectification of any damage caused by mining operations

- Staff deployment from Austar
 - Yancoal's redeployment of staff and workers to our other operations in Hunter Valley – both open cut and underground mines
 - A number of staff and workers took voluntary redundancies
 - Contractors associated with coal production have ceased working at Austar

Current Operations

Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP)

- During care and maintenance the CHPP operates on a day shift only Monday to Friday operation
- The CHPP, raw and clean coal systems, trains and loading infrastructure, stockpile dozers and reject trucks no longer operate
- Reverse Osmosis water treatment plant continues to operate 24/7
- Raw and clean coal stockpiles have been cleared
- Last coal train left Austar 23 March 2020
- Rehabilitation of all areas not required for future operations completed
- Surface security works continue



Current Operations

Rehabilitation



**Aberdare Reject
Emplacement Area**

**West Pit Stockpile
Area**



Current Operations

Land Management

- Weed survey Austar of lands undertaken August 2020
- Implementing ongoing weed control program
 - Target weeds for 2020 have included Green Cestrum, Lantana, Mother of Millions, others
- Application lodged with RFS for hazard reduction burn on Austar owned lands behind Pelton Village. Planned for early November
- Further areas will be assessed for hazard reduction activities
- Annual rehabilitation monitoring completed – assess progress against rehabilitation closure criteria and recommends actions to meet criteria



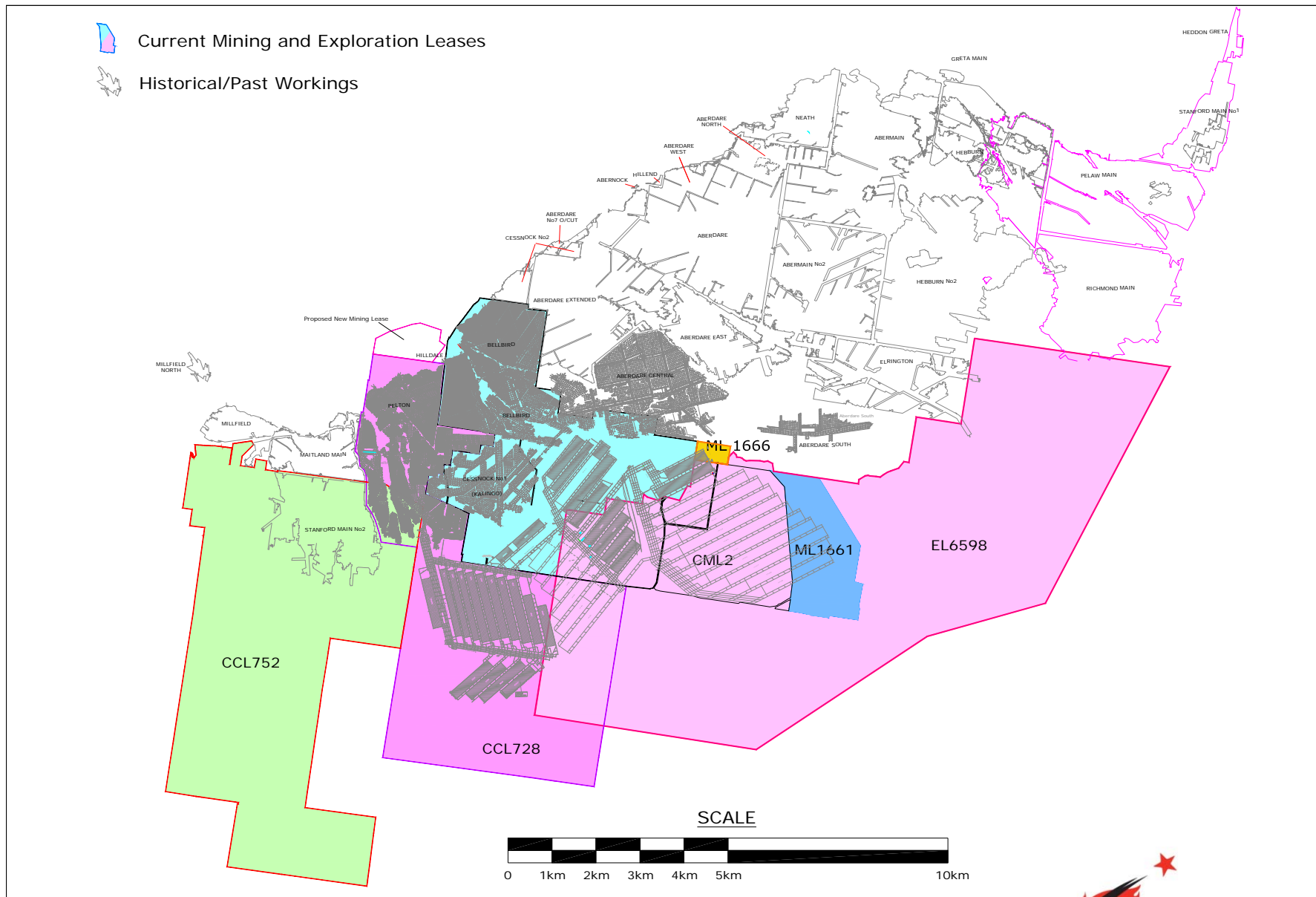
AUSTAR COAL MINE
WEED WORKS COMPLETED
Weed Works Completed June 2020 - Map 1

Current Operations

Exploration (Exploration Licence 6598)

- Four exploration boreholes rehabilitated to satisfaction DPIE DRG
- Application in preparation for further 23 rehabilitated boreholes for sign-off by Resources Regulator
- 13 rehabilitated boreholes requiring photo monitoring and or landholder sign off prior to Resources Regulator sign off
- Planning has commenced for drilling of 5 exploration boreholes
 - 3 x Land Access and Compensation Agreements executed, further 2 under discussion
 - Environmental assessment to conduct exploration drilling to be lodged with Resources Regulator and approved during 2020
 - Commencement of drilling scheduled for January 2021

Current Operations including Stage 3



Environmental Incidents

Environmental Incidents (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

HVAS 1 Not Operational 15 May – 9 June 2020

- Landowner undertaking property improvement works
- Power disconnected to HVAS 1
- 4 monitoring events not captured
- Incident report submitted to DPIE – breach recorded and DPIE advised no further enforcement action at this time

TEOM Not Operational 5 – 10 June 2020

- Compact flash card failed that holds operating system software 5 June 2020
- Occurred over long weekend
- New card and software installed, unit calibrated 10 June 2020
- Incident report submitted to DPIE – breach recorded and DPIE advised no further enforcement action at this time

Environmental Incidents

Environmental Incidents (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

EPL Limit Exceedance – RO discharge to Bellbird Creek (3 July 2020)

- Treated RO water discharged to Bellbird Creek at pH 6.22 (EPL limit 6.5-8.5 pH)
- Investigations identified faulty pH probes providing unreliable readings and variability of pH laboratory results dependant on environmental factors
- Water discharged was within background range recorded for Bellbird Creek
- Unlikely to have been any material harm caused by the discharge
- Incident reported to NSW EPA, DPIE and Resources Regulator – no further action at this time

Environmental Incidents

Environmental Incidents (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

Sediment Basins Discharging to Black Creek – Kitchener SIS (26 – 29 July 2020)

- Eastern sediment basin and lower water storage dam discharged to Black Creek
- Greater than design rainfall received – 111.4mm over ~3 days
- Regulators notified (NSW EPA, DPIE and Resources Regulator)
- Water samples collected
- Incident report submitted – no further action at this time

Environmental Incidents

On-going Clean Water Drainage Line Investigation – CHPP (since 6 June 2017)

- Minor orange staining recorded during August monitoring
- Water samples collected and pump activated for approximately 5.5 hrs in rainfall event on 10 August 2020 to return water to mine water system
- Sample results at CHPP boundary indicate negligible if any impact from observed orange staining
- Continue to monitor and seek advice from geochemist
- Reported to NSW EPA

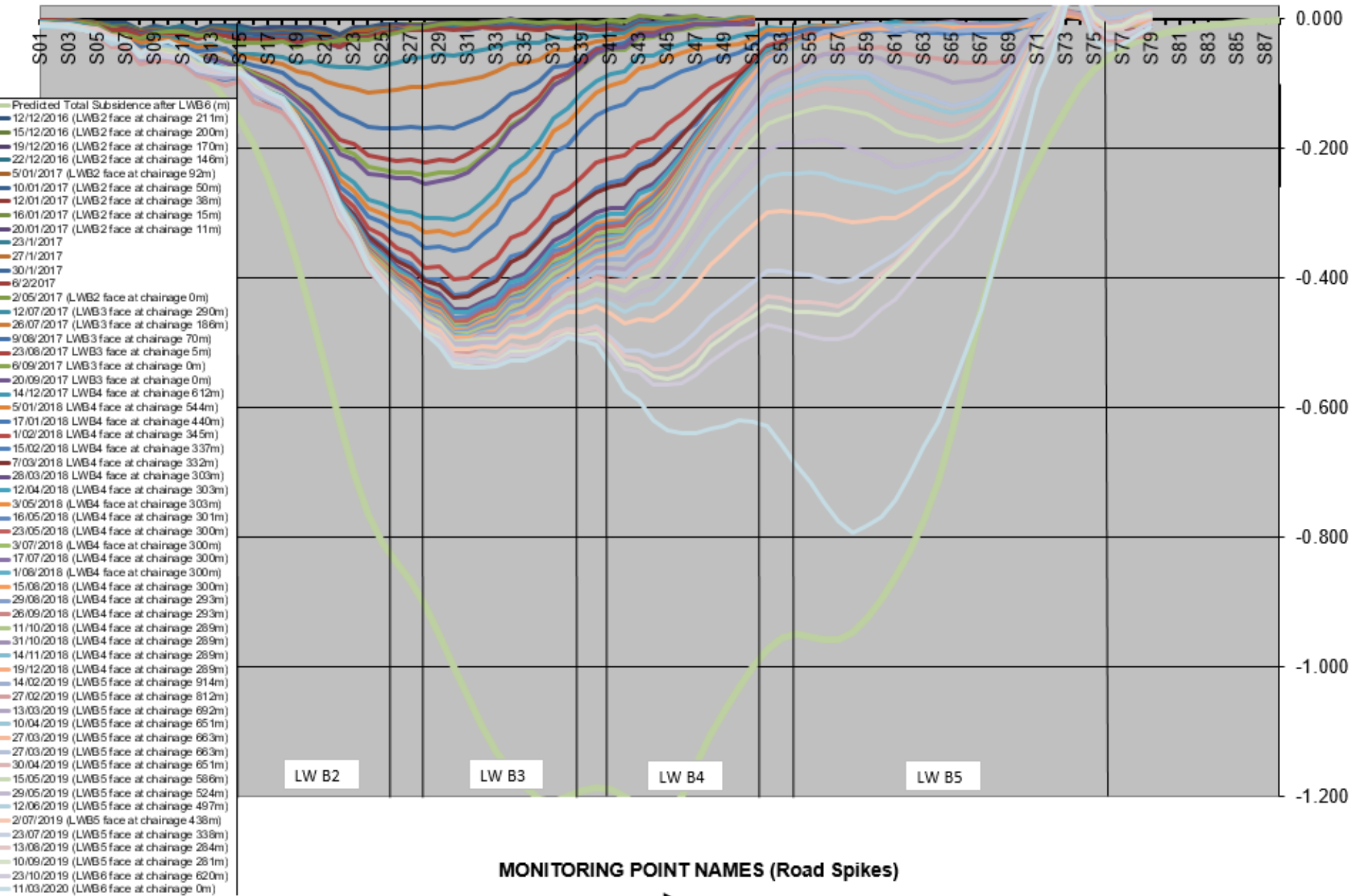
Environmental Monitoring Update

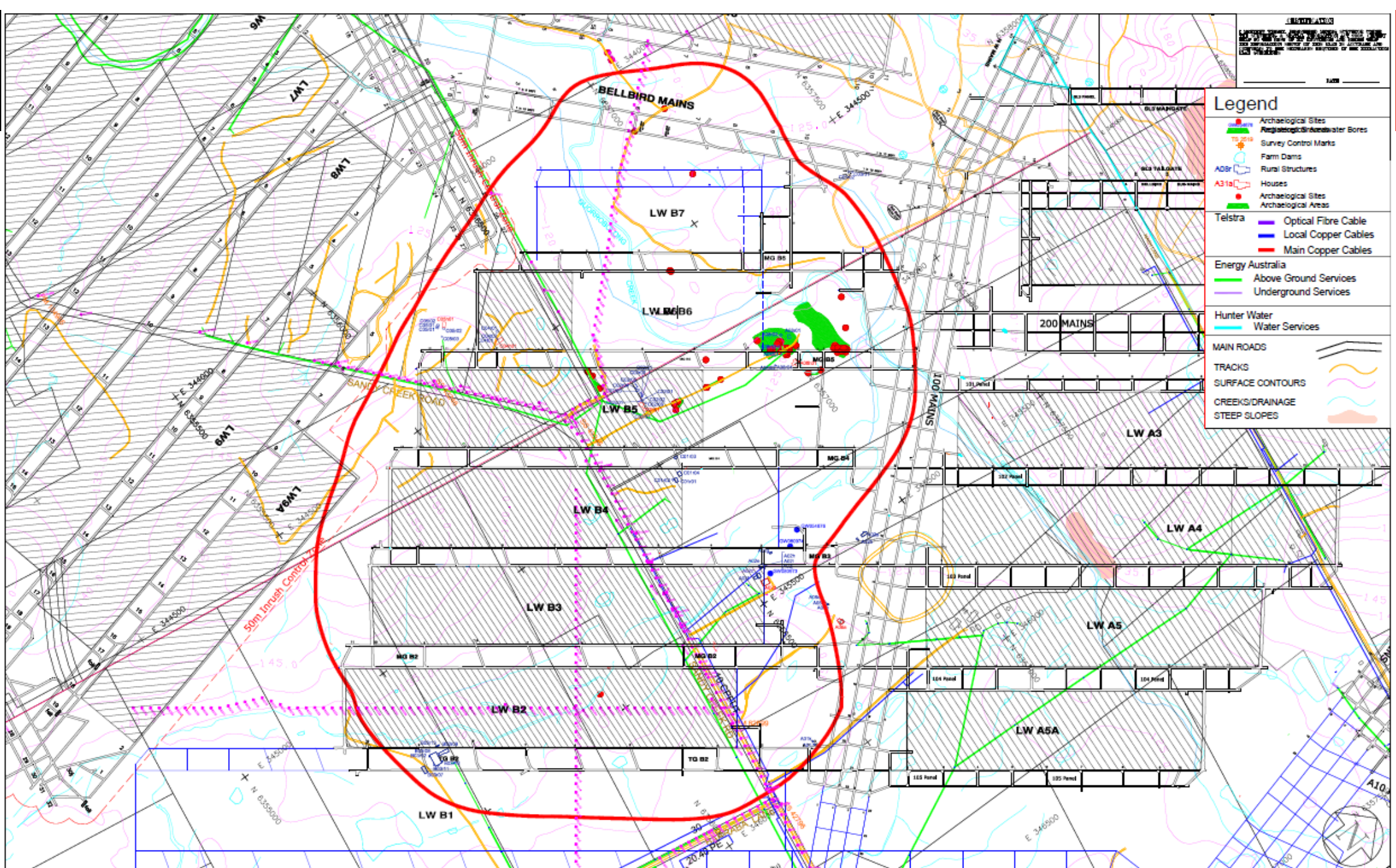
Subsidence

Bellbird South Mining Area

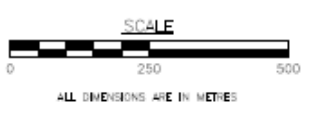
- Subsidence surveys are ongoing along the Sandy Creek Road monitoring line until it is determined subsidence is substantially complete
- Surveys required on commencement and completion of each longwall and fortnightly when the longwall is within 100m of the road
- Maximum recorded surface level movement on Sandy Creek Road is approximately 792mm with the last survey conducted on 11 March 2020
- Subsidence remains within predictions
- Signage will be removed once subsidence has been confirmed as complete following final survey planned for early 2021

Subsidence- LINE "SCR1"





- ### Legend
- Archaeological Sites
 - Registered/Unregistered Water Bores
 - Survey Control Marks
 - Farm Dams
 - Rural Structures
 - Houses
 - Archaeological Sites
 - Archaeological Areas
 - Telstra Optical Fibre Cable
 - Local Copper Cables
 - Main Copper Cables
 - Energy Australia Above Ground Services
 - Undergound Services
 - Hunter Water Water Services
 - MAIN ROADS**
 - TRACKS**
 - SURFACE CONTOURS**
 - CREEKS/DRAINAGE**
 - STEEP SLOPES**



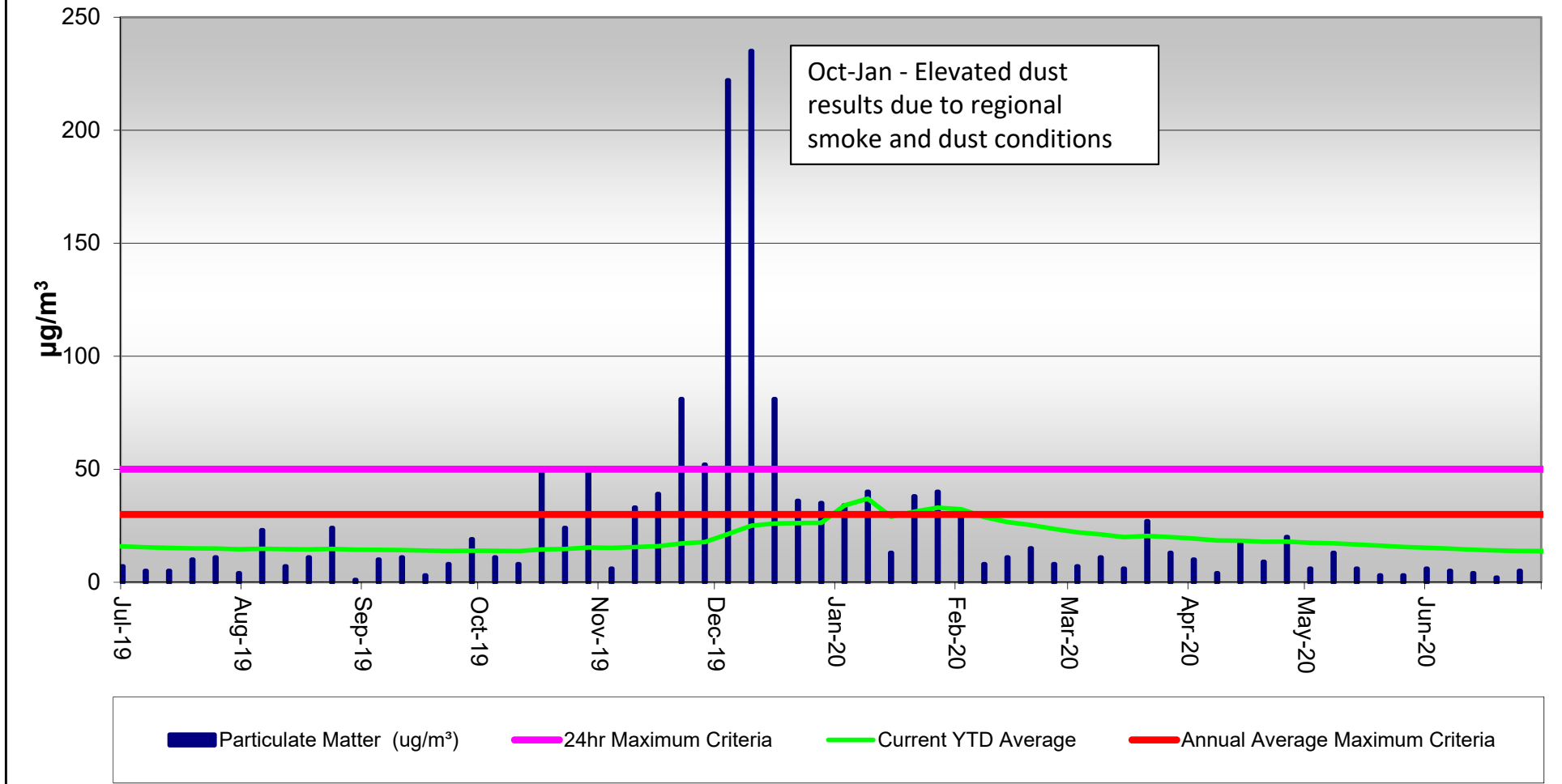
- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED WORKINGS SHOWING ROADWAY CENTRE DIMENSIONS
 - EXISTING WORKINGS
 - EXISTING SUBSIDENCE MARK

- LWB4 - B7 EXTRACTION PLAN AREA
- LONGWALL EXTRACTED AREA
- SURFACE CONTOURS

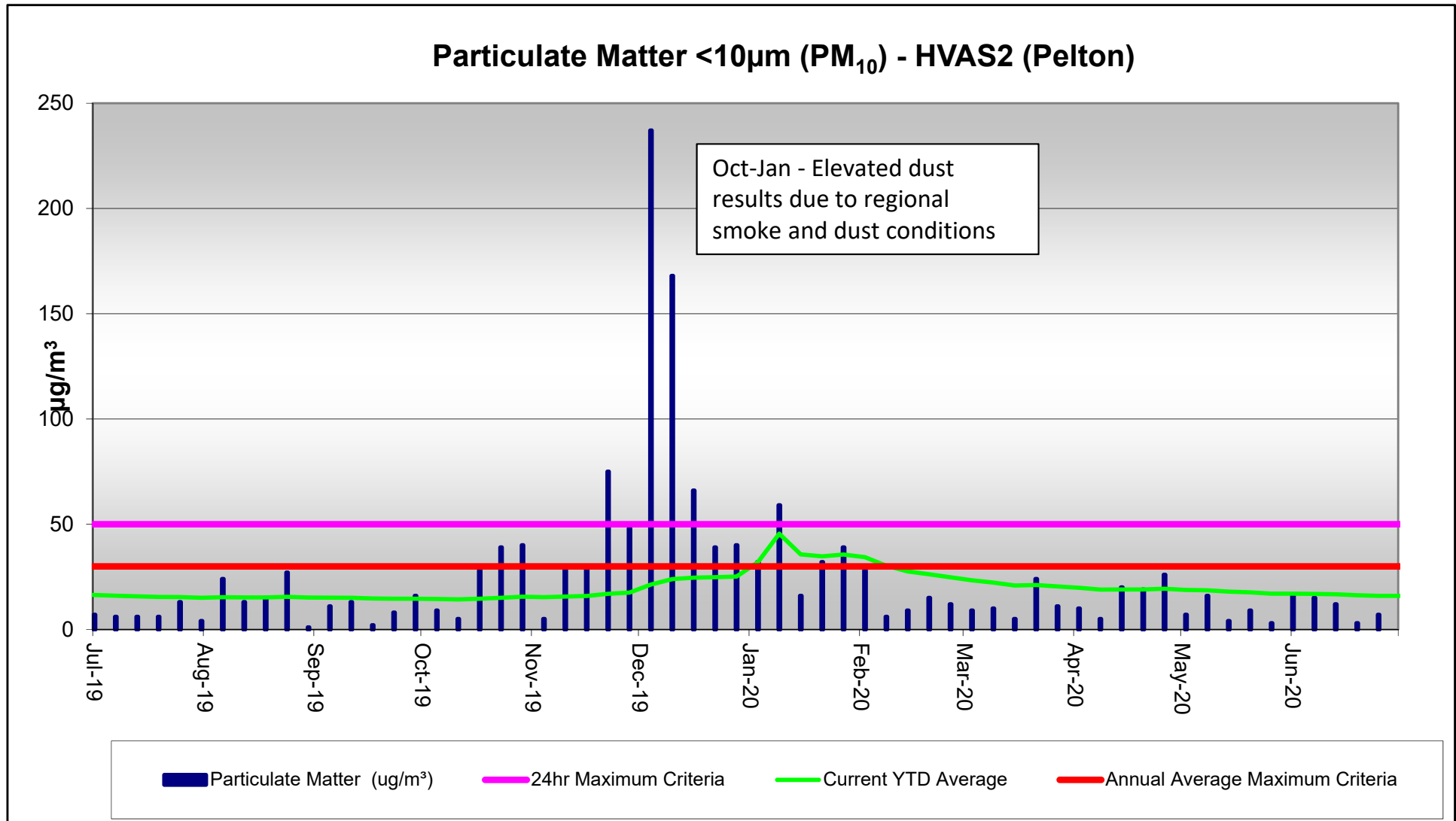
Drawn: M. WRIGHT REVISION DATE: 5/11/2019 USER: GUY BROWN		AUSTAR COAL MINE YANCOAL MINING SERVICES PTY LTD	
TITLE: LONGWALL B4-B7 EXTRACTION PLAN UPDATE		DRAWING No: GEN1995	
DATE:	SCALE: 1:5000	REV: 0	

Air Quality

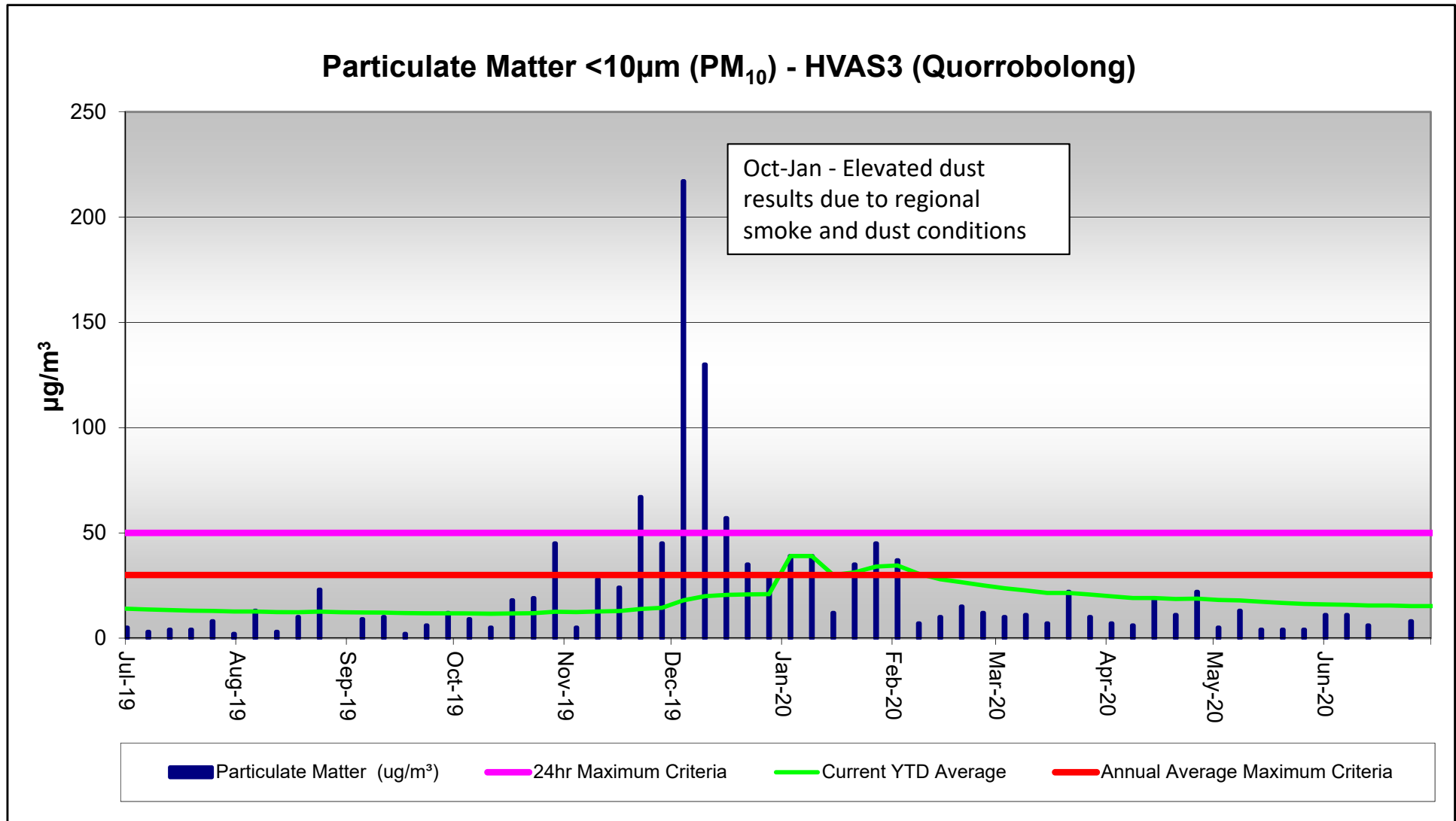
Particulate Matter <10µm (PM₁₀) - HVAS1 (Mount View)



Air Quality

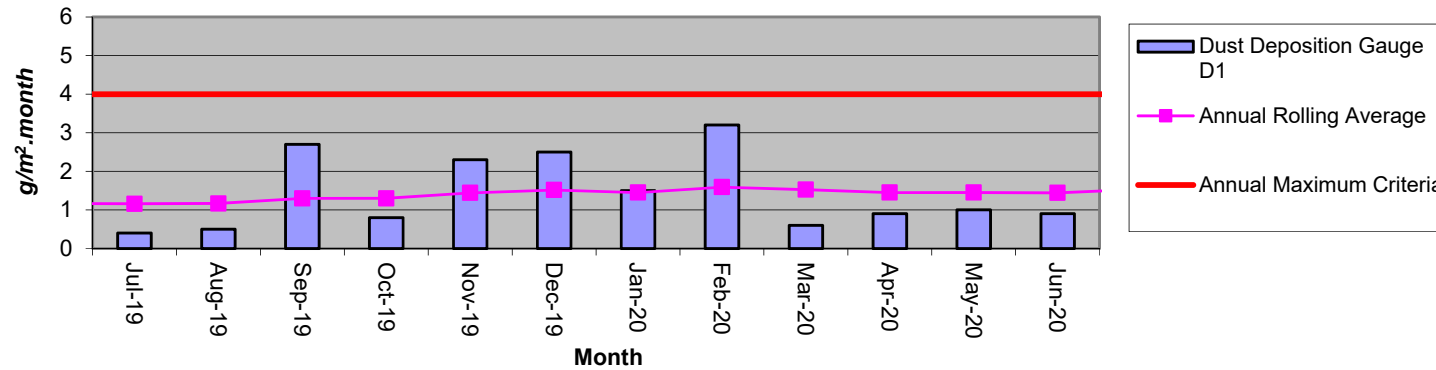


Air Quality

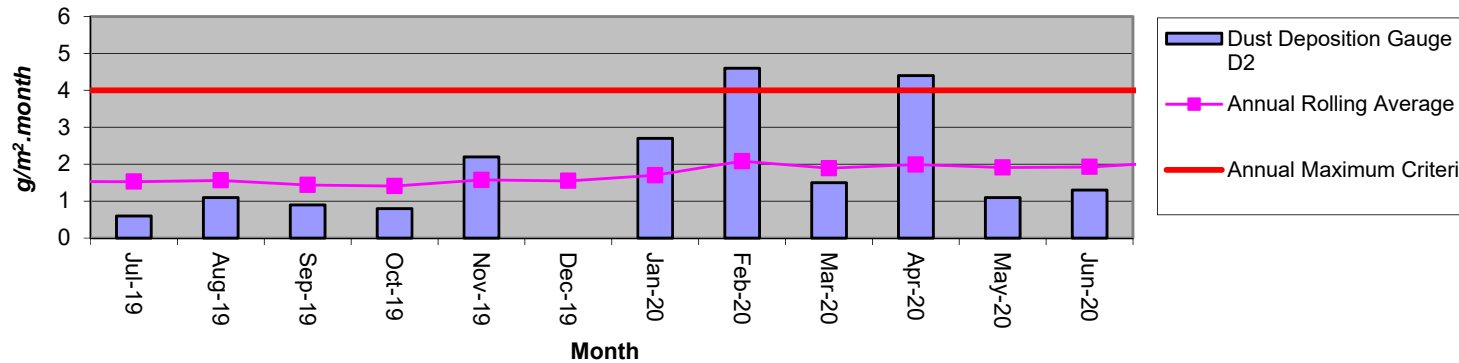


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D1 - Insoluble Solids (Mount View)

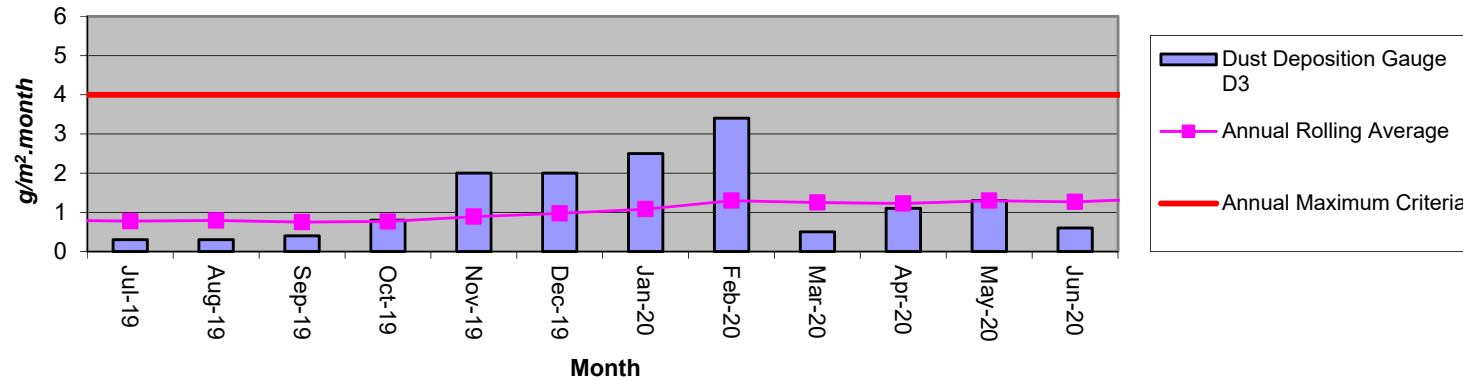


Dust Deposition Gauge D2 - Insoluble Solids (Pelton)

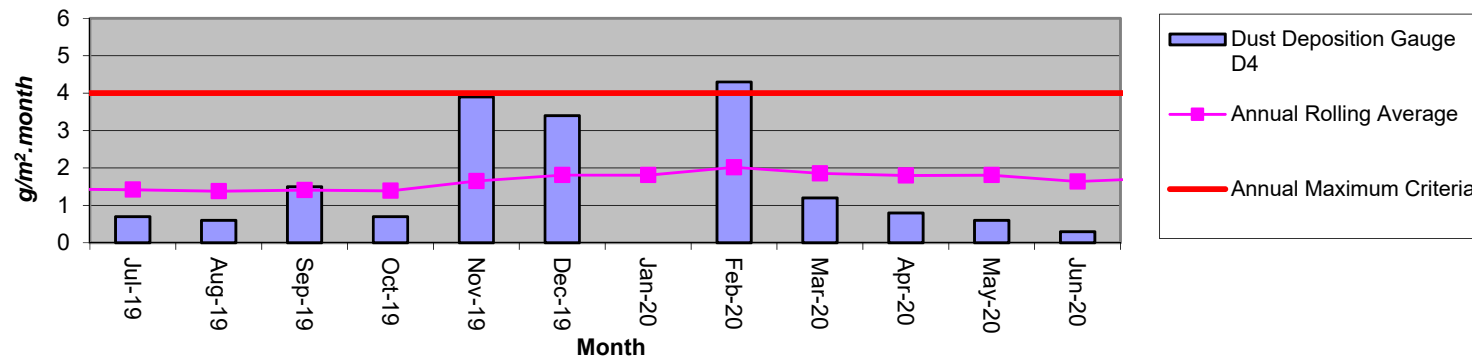


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D3 - Insoluble Solids (Bellbird)

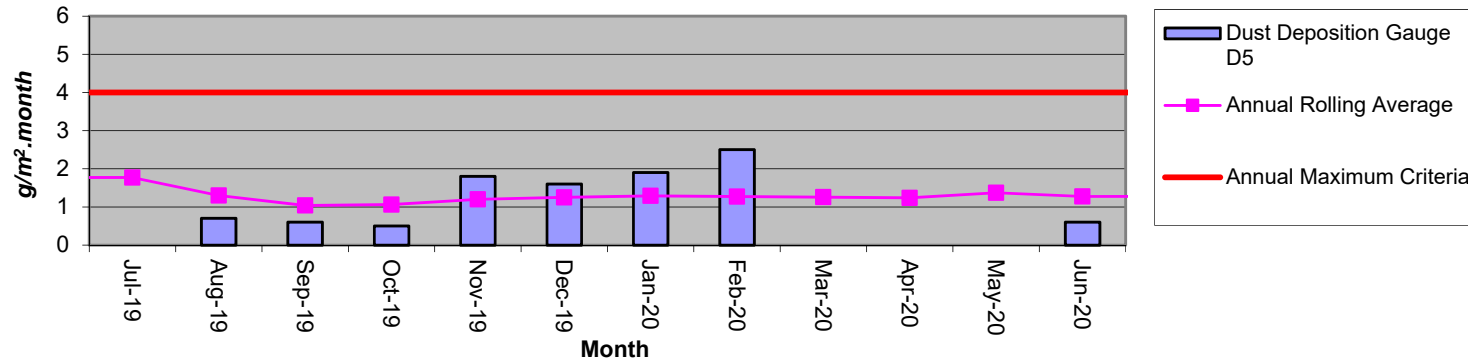


Dust Deposition Gauge D4 - Insoluble Solids (Ellalong)

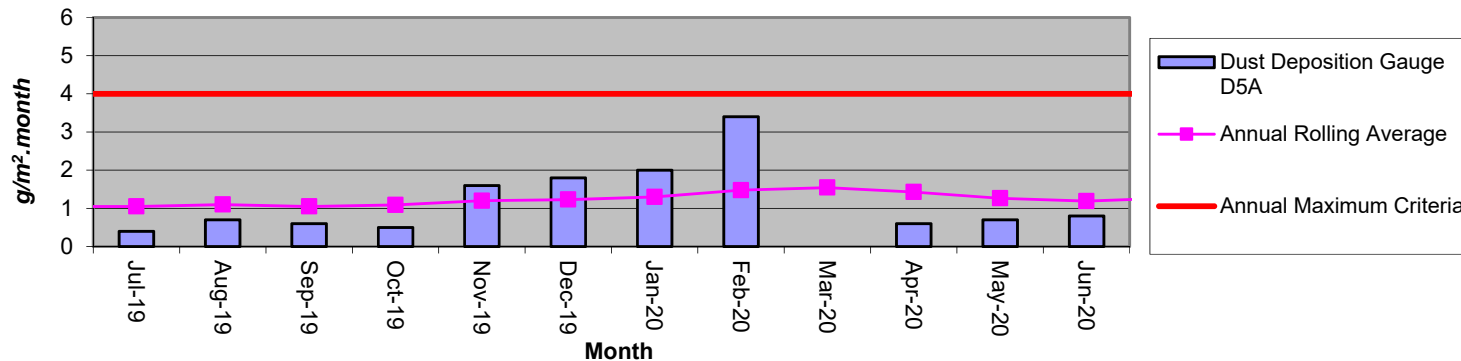


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D5 - Insoluble Solids (3 Shaft)

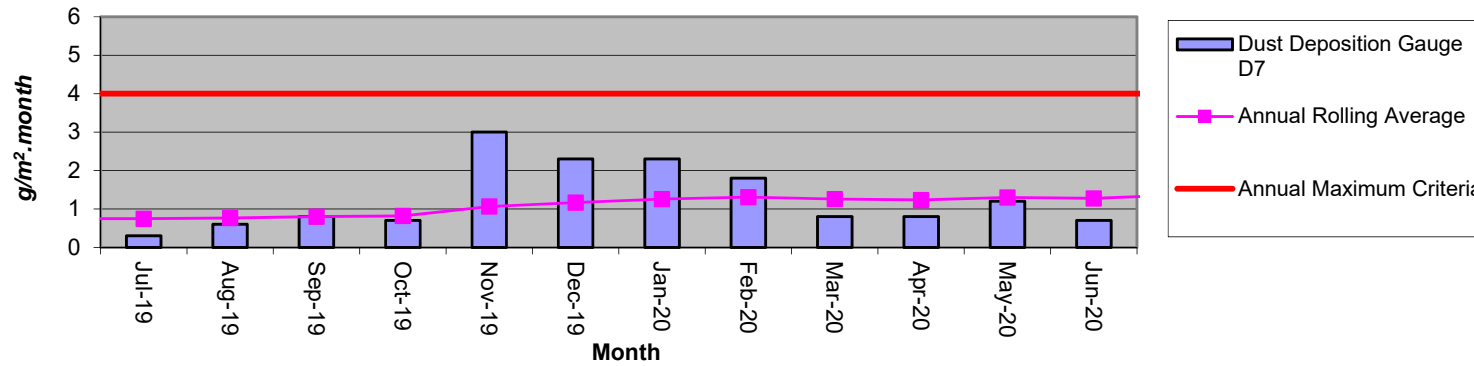


Dust Deposition Gauge D5A - Insoluble Solids (3 Shaft)

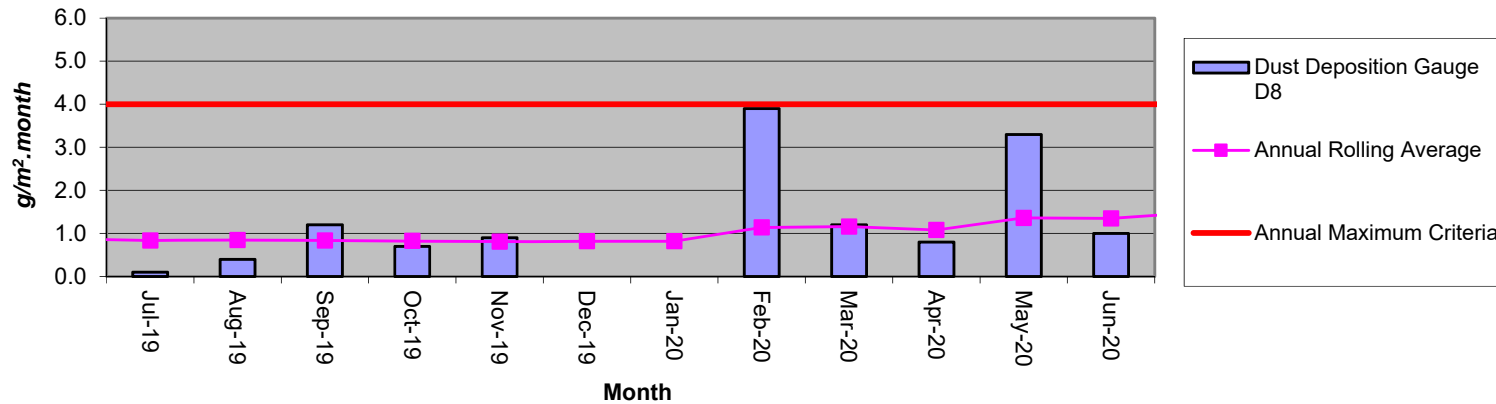


Air Quality

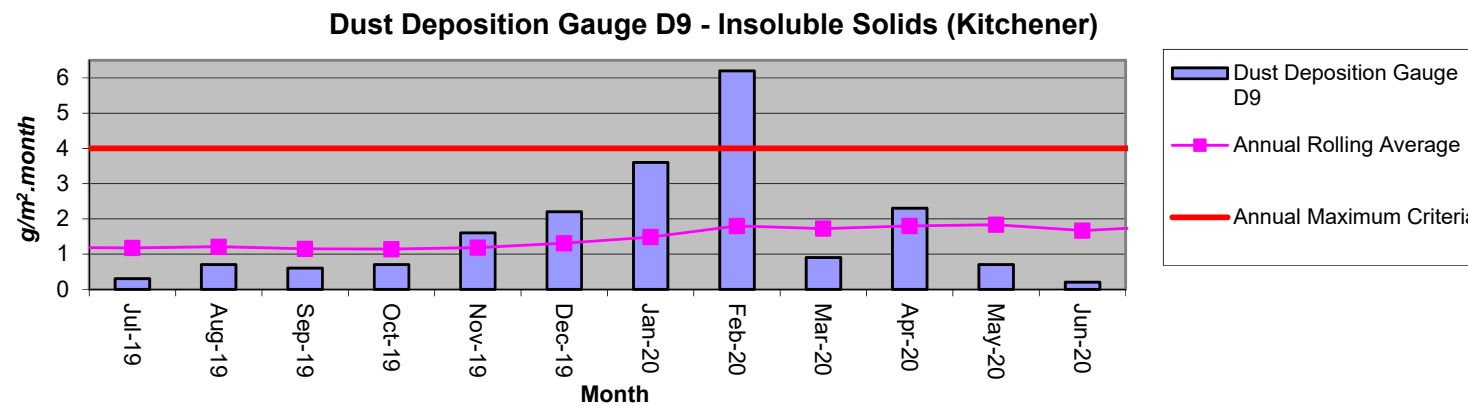
Dust Deposition Gauge D7 - Insoluble Solids (Pelton Fire Trail)



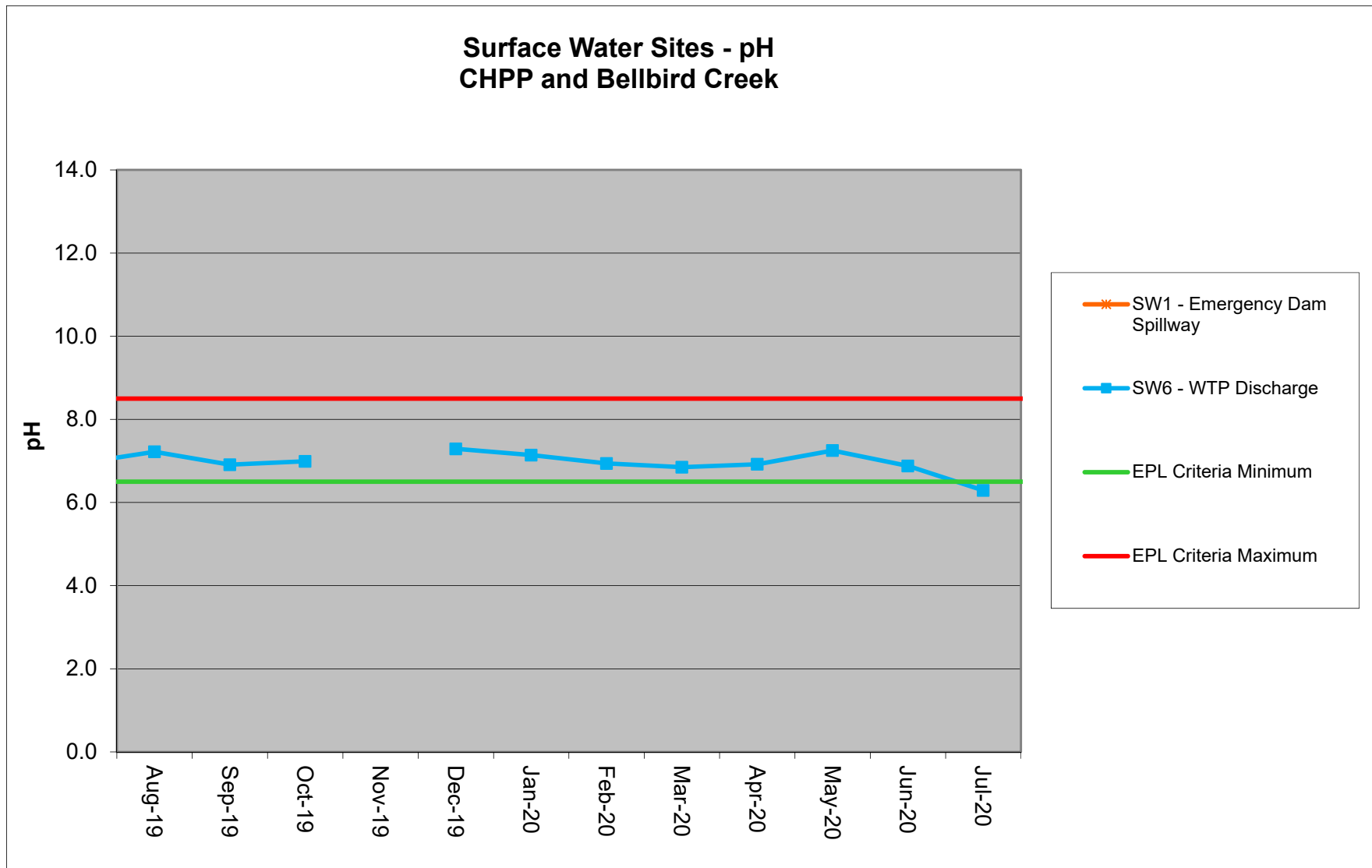
Dust Deposition Gauge D8 - Insoluble Solids (Coney Creek Lane)



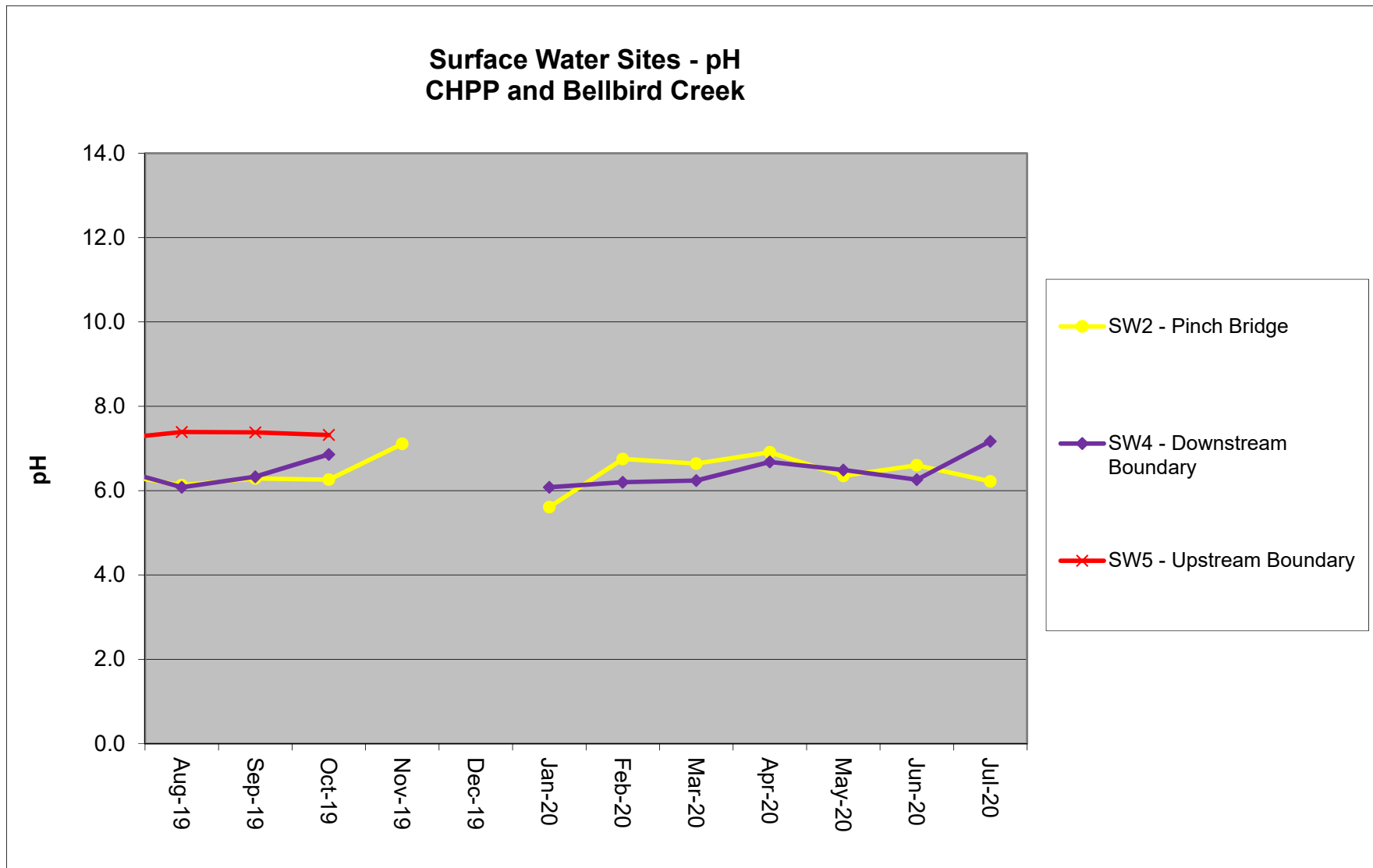
Air Quality



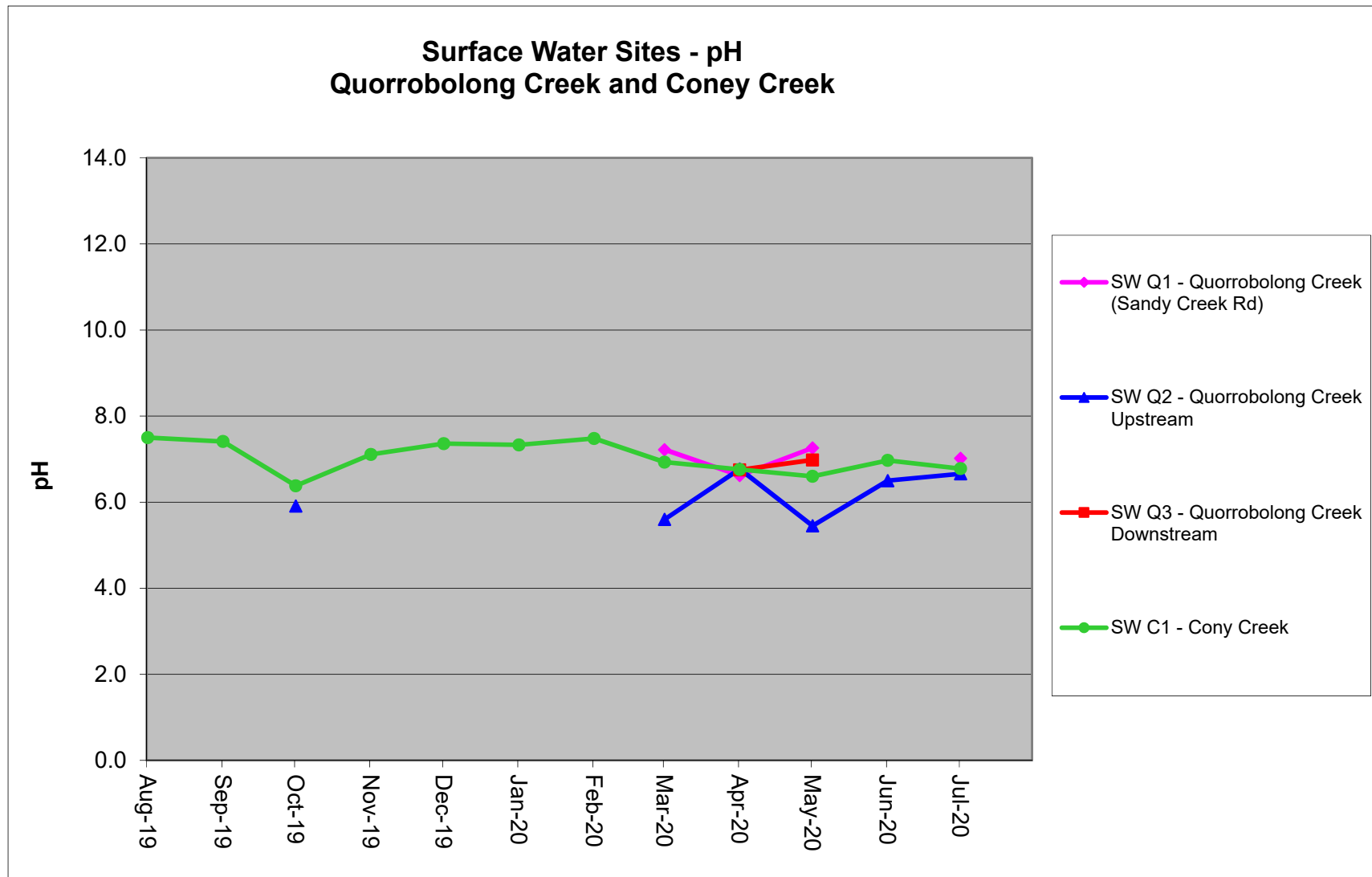
Water Monitoring



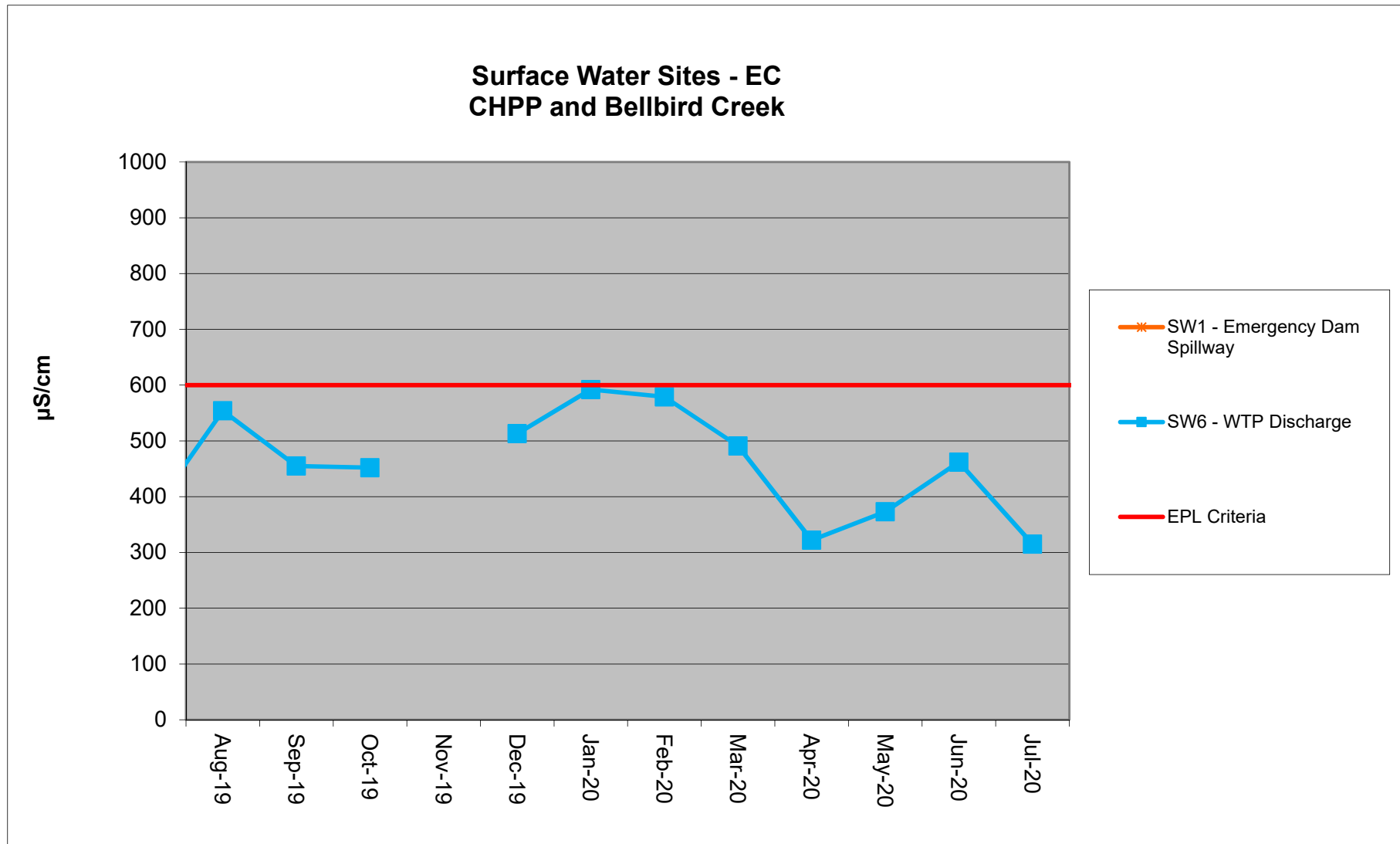
Water Monitoring



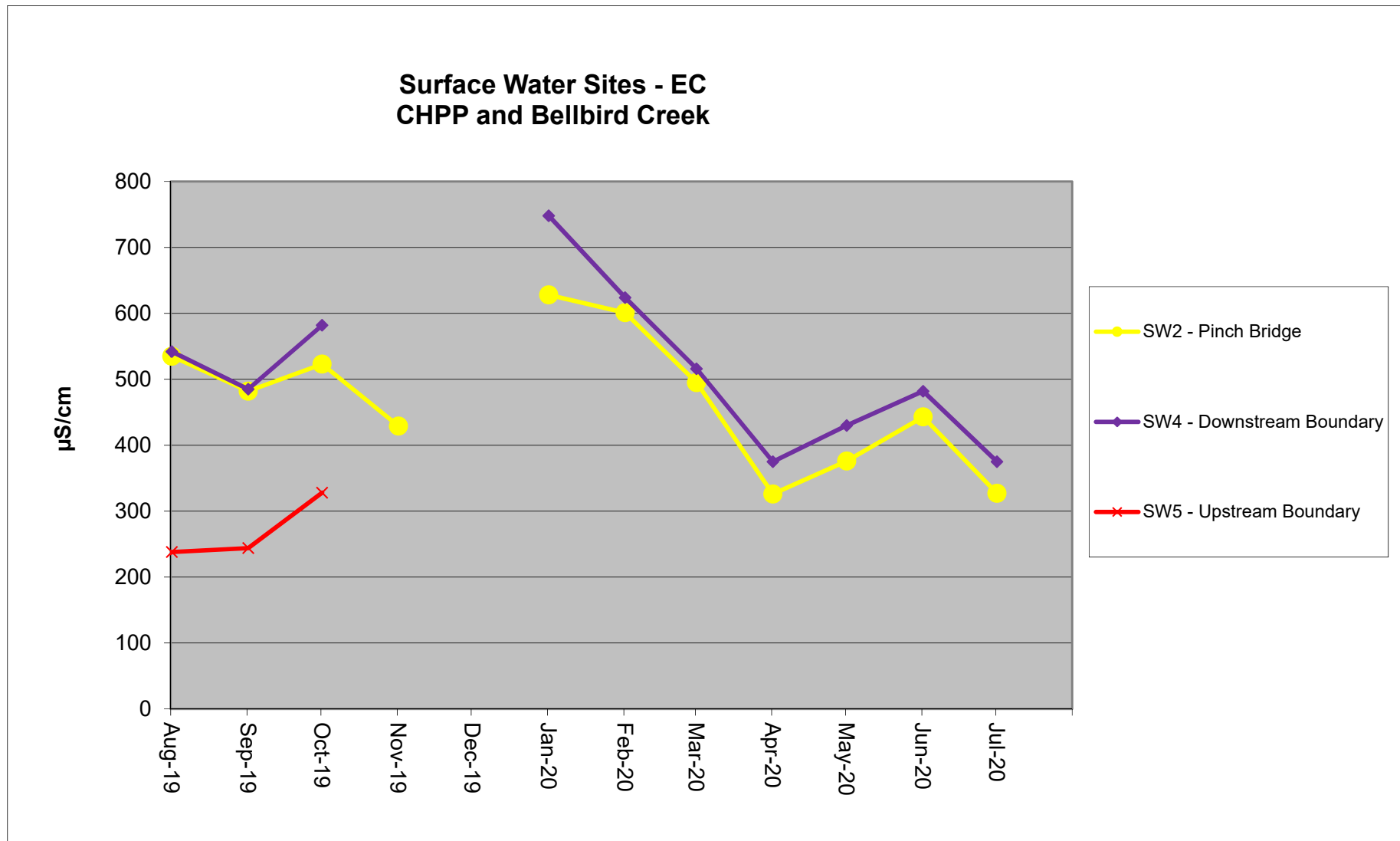
Water Monitoring



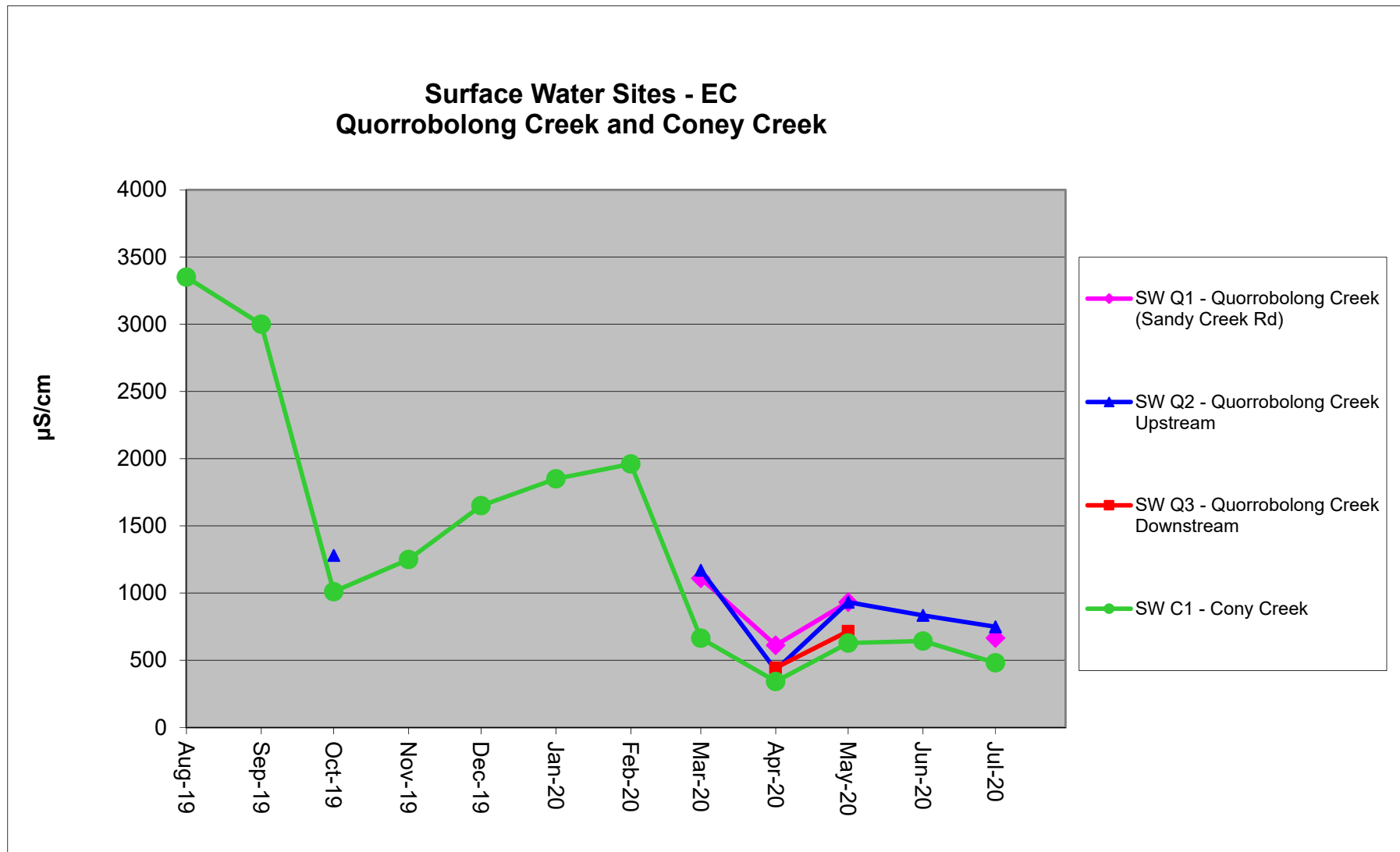
Water Monitoring



Water Monitoring

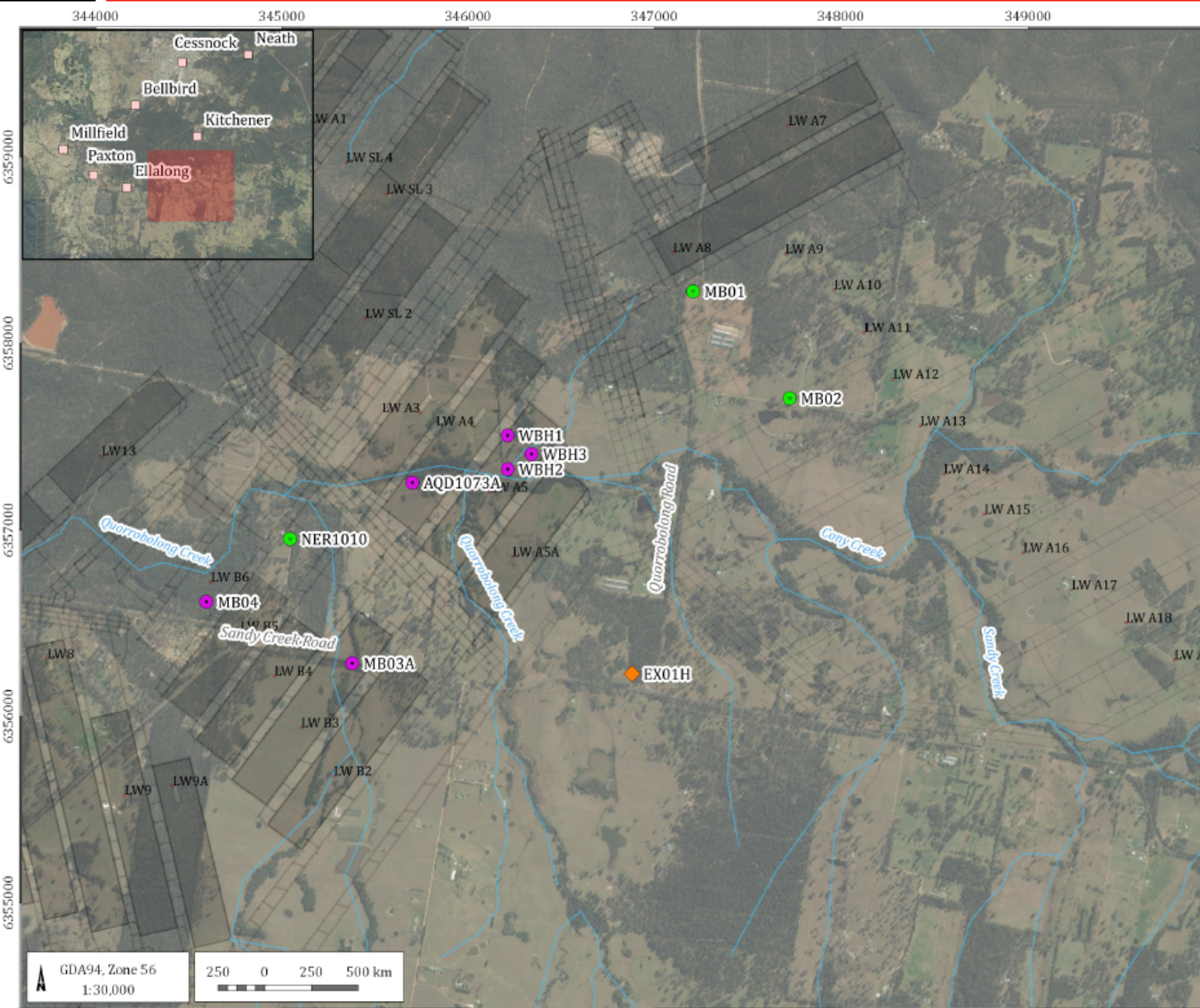


Water Monitoring



Groundwater Monitoring

- There are no new trends in groundwater quality or water levels
- Groundwater levels in alluvial monitoring bores show a generally increasing trend in response to significant rainfall since January 2020
- The water level in NER1010 has increased in response to rainfall
- Groundwater level of MB02 continues to increase following air lift development in October 2019
- An obstruction was removed from MB01 in Q2 2020 with the bore showing a slight decline in water level when compared to Q4 2019



- LEGEND**
- Populated place
 - Monitoring locations**
 - Alluvium
 - Braxton Formation
 - VWP, Braxton Formation and Greta Coal Measures
 - Mine plan
 - Longwall panels
 - Watercourse

Yancoal - Austar Coal Mine
Groundwater Monitoring (G1828I)

Austar monitoring bore and VWP locations

GDA94, Zone 56
1:30,000

DATE
24/09/2019

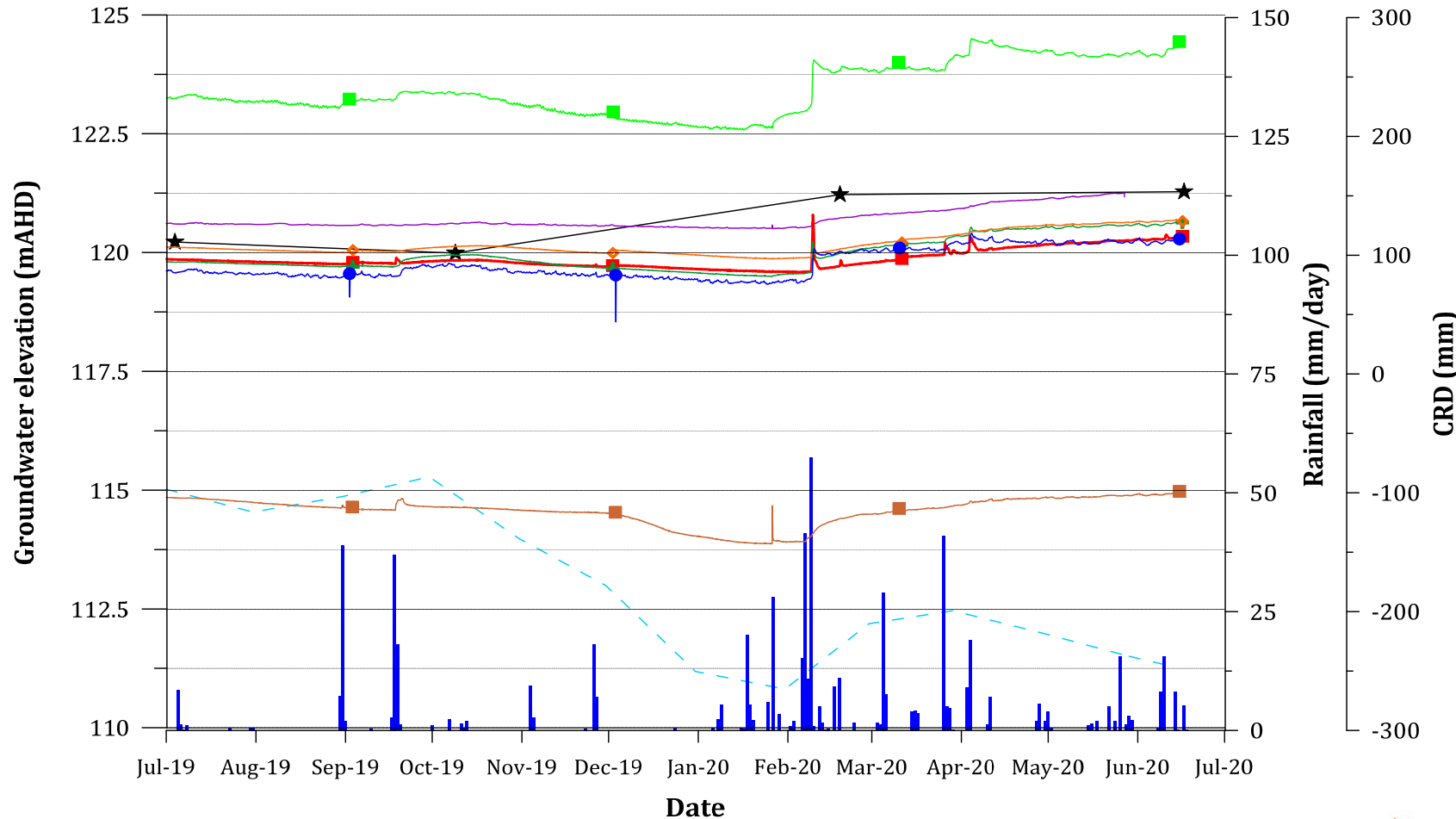
FIGURE No:
2.1



©2019 Australasian Groundwater and Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd (AGE) - www.ageconsultants.com.au
 H:\Groundwater\Jobs\G1828I\Yancoal Austar GW monitoring and compliance 2019\3_GIS\Workspaces\20190924_G1828I_Austar monitoring bore and VWP locations_updatedSept2019.ggs
 Note: longwall panel background georeferenced accuracy ~ 10 m.

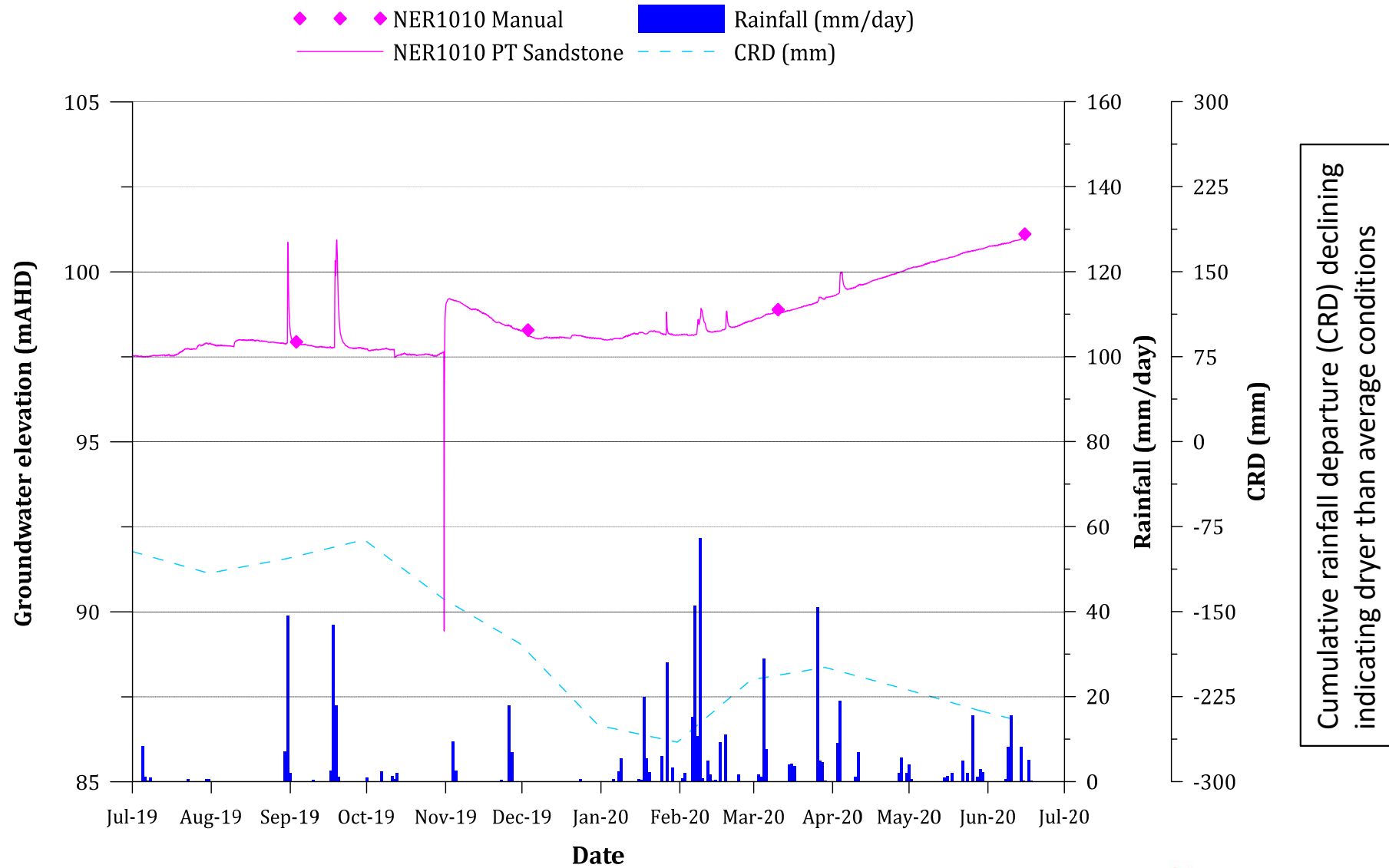
Groundwater Monitoring

- ● ● AQD1073a Manual + + + WBH2 Manual — — — WBH3 PT Alluvium ■ ■ ■ MB04 Manual — — — GW080974
- — — AQD1073a PT Alluvium — — — WBH2 PT Alluvium ■ ■ ■ MB03A Manual — — — MB04 PT Alluvium ★ ★ ★ GW080975
- ◆ ◆ ◆ WBH1 Manual ■ ■ ■ WBH3 Manual — — — MB03A PT Alluvium ■ ■ ■ Rainfall (mm/day) - - - - - CRD (mm)
- — — WBH1 PT Alluvium



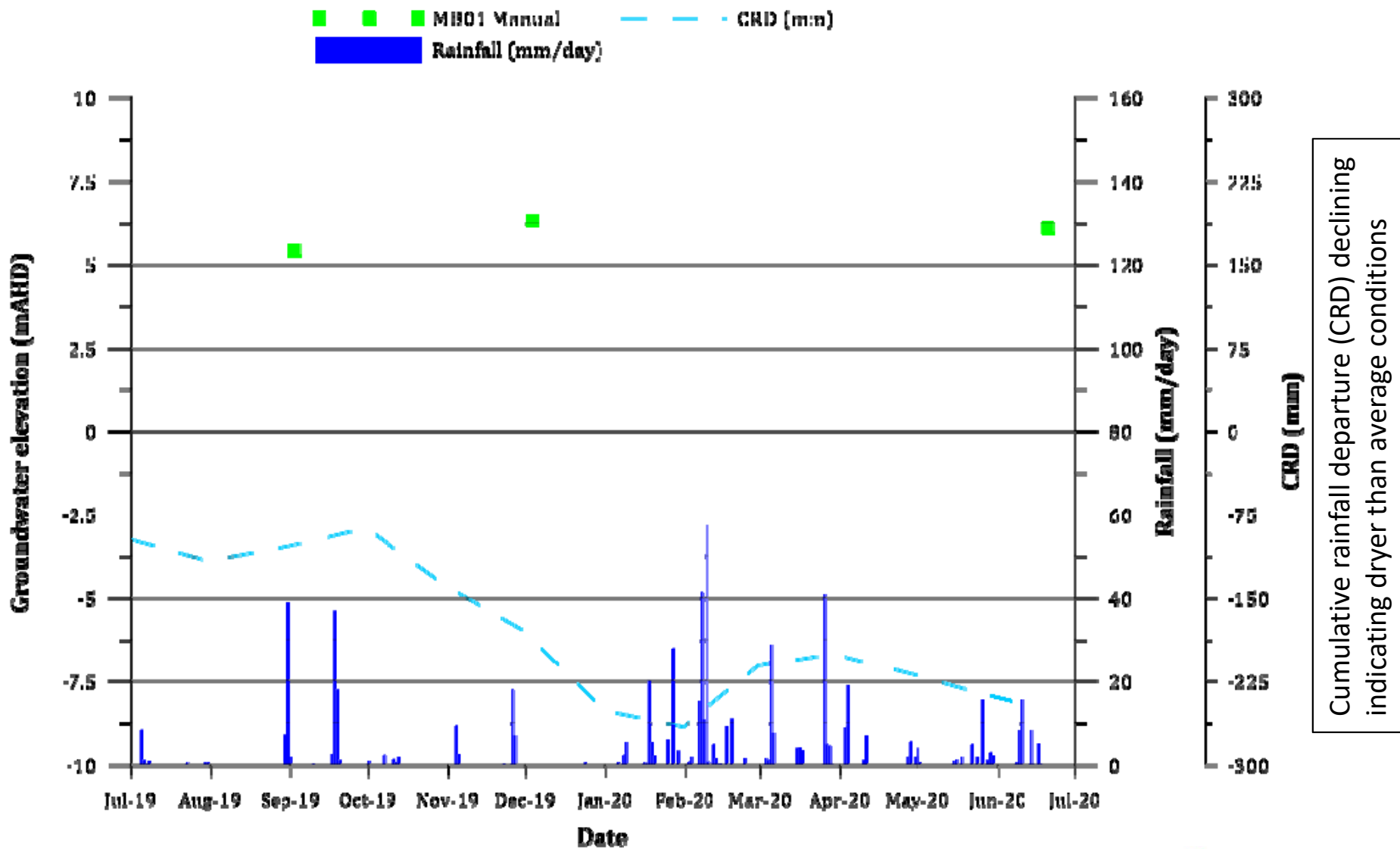
**Stage 2 & Bellbird South alluvium and Water NSW
groundwater level hydrographs**

Groundwater Monitoring



NER1010 groundwater level hydrograph

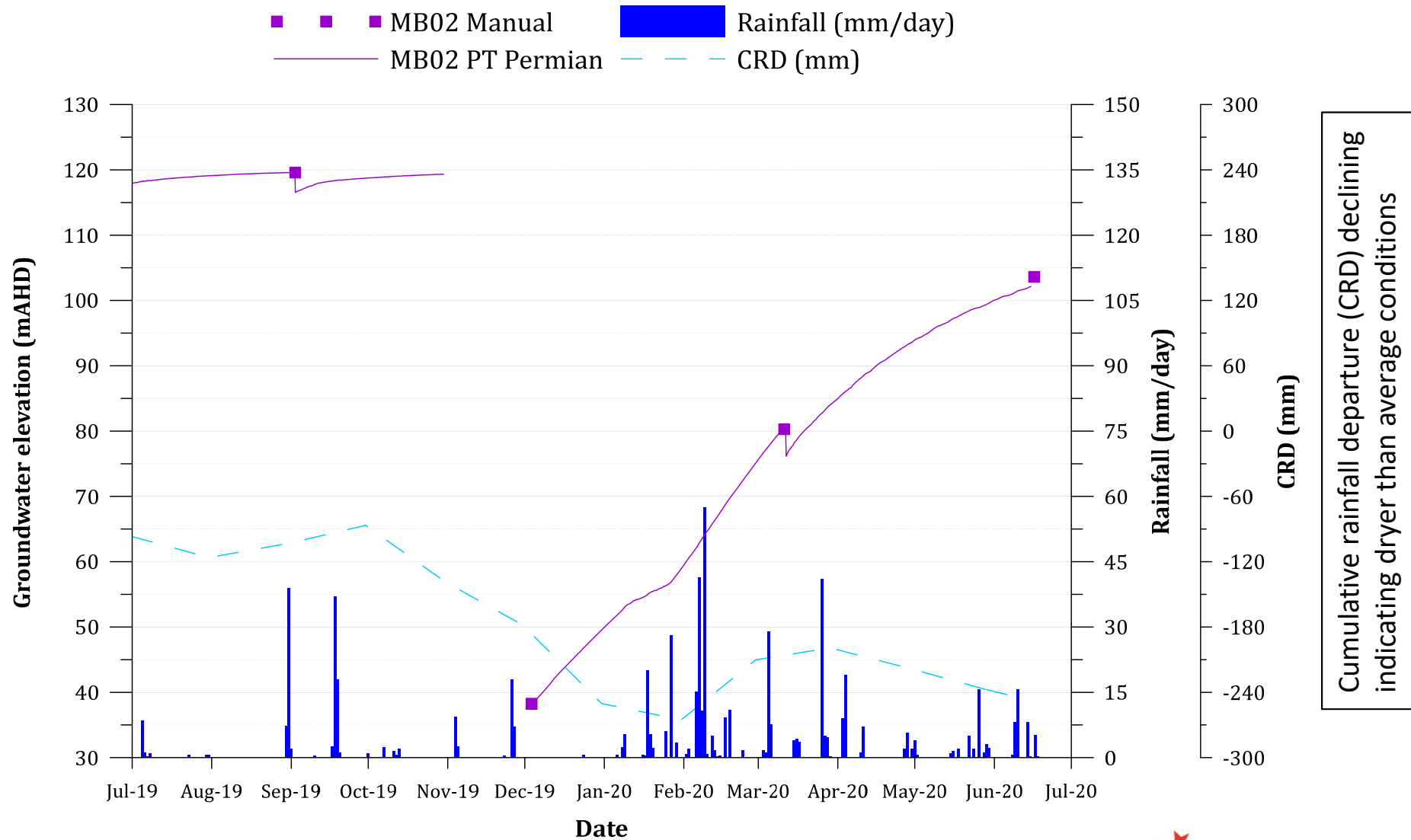
Groundwater Monitoring



Cumulative rainfall departure (CRD) declining indicating dryer than average conditions

Stage 3 MB01 sandstone aquifer groundwater level hydrograph

Groundwater Monitoring



Cumulative rainfall departure (CRD) declining indicating dryer than average conditions

Stage 3 MB02 sandstone aquifer groundwater level hydrograph

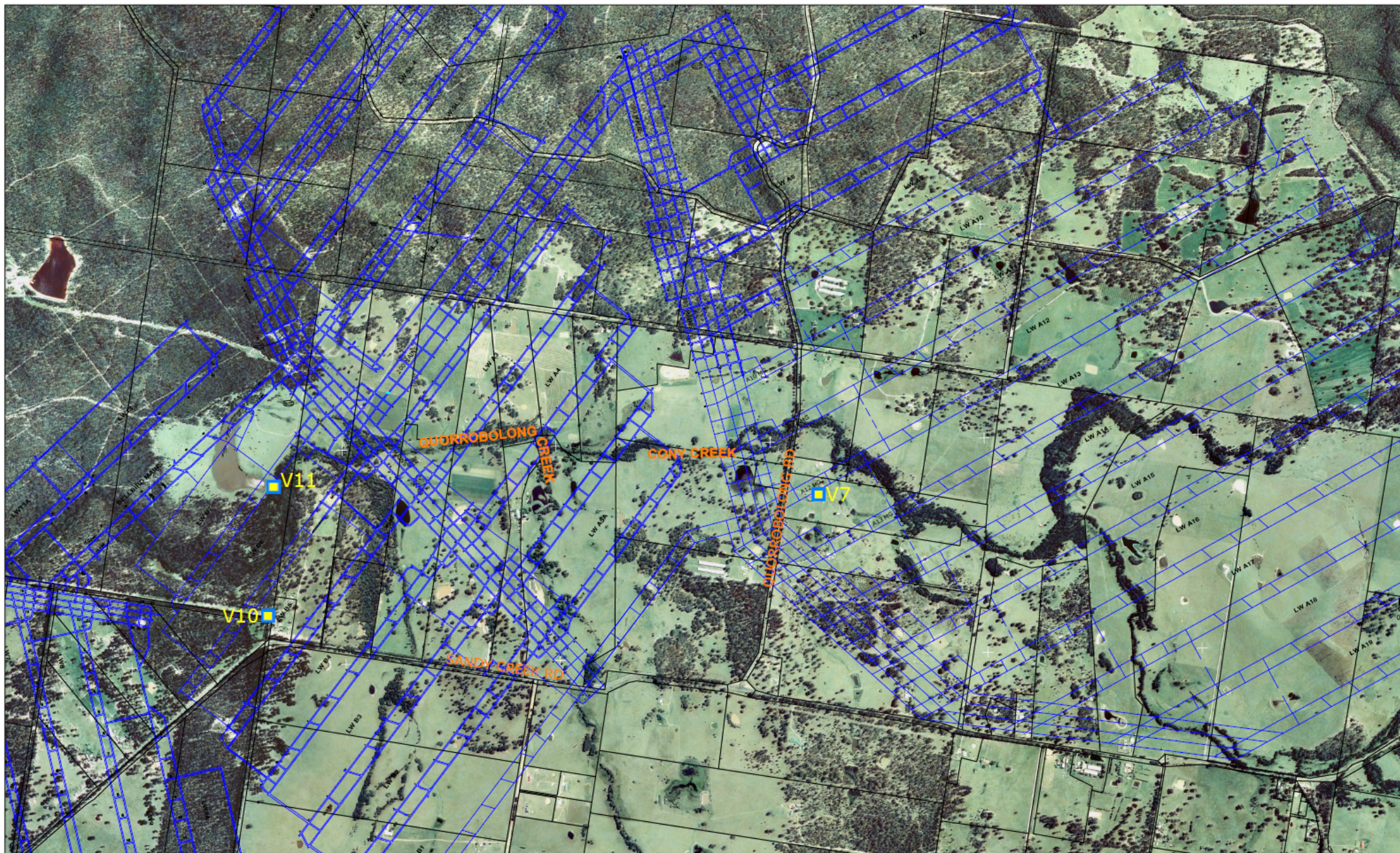
Noise Monitoring

Since last CCC meeting (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

- NIL noise exceedances since last meeting
- CHPP and associated infrastructure not operational since commencement of care and maintenance (March 2020)
- Ventilation fans, surface water pumps, drift and shaft haulage remain operational
- RO water treatment plant continues to operate 24/7

Since last CCC meeting (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

- **Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road**
 - Monitoring commenced 11 June 2013
 - No new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
- **Monitor V11 – above LWB6**
 - Monitoring commenced 19 July 2017
 - No new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
 - Last vibration event recorded 26/01/2020
 - LWB6 completed 12/02/2020
- **Monitor V10 – above LWB5**
 - Monitoring commenced 28 August 2017
 - 3 new vibration events recorded greater than 1mm/s on any axis
 - Ranging between 1.18-2.35 mm/s peak vibration
- Minimal risk of cosmetic damage criteria 15 mm/s (BS 7385:1993)



LEGEND:

■ V7 Vibration Monitors

DRAWN
J. Chadwick
DATE
21/1/2019
CHECKED
C. McCormack
APPROVED
C. McCormack

AUSTAR COAL MINE

TITLE
Figure 11: Vibration Monitoring Locations

SCALE
Not to scale

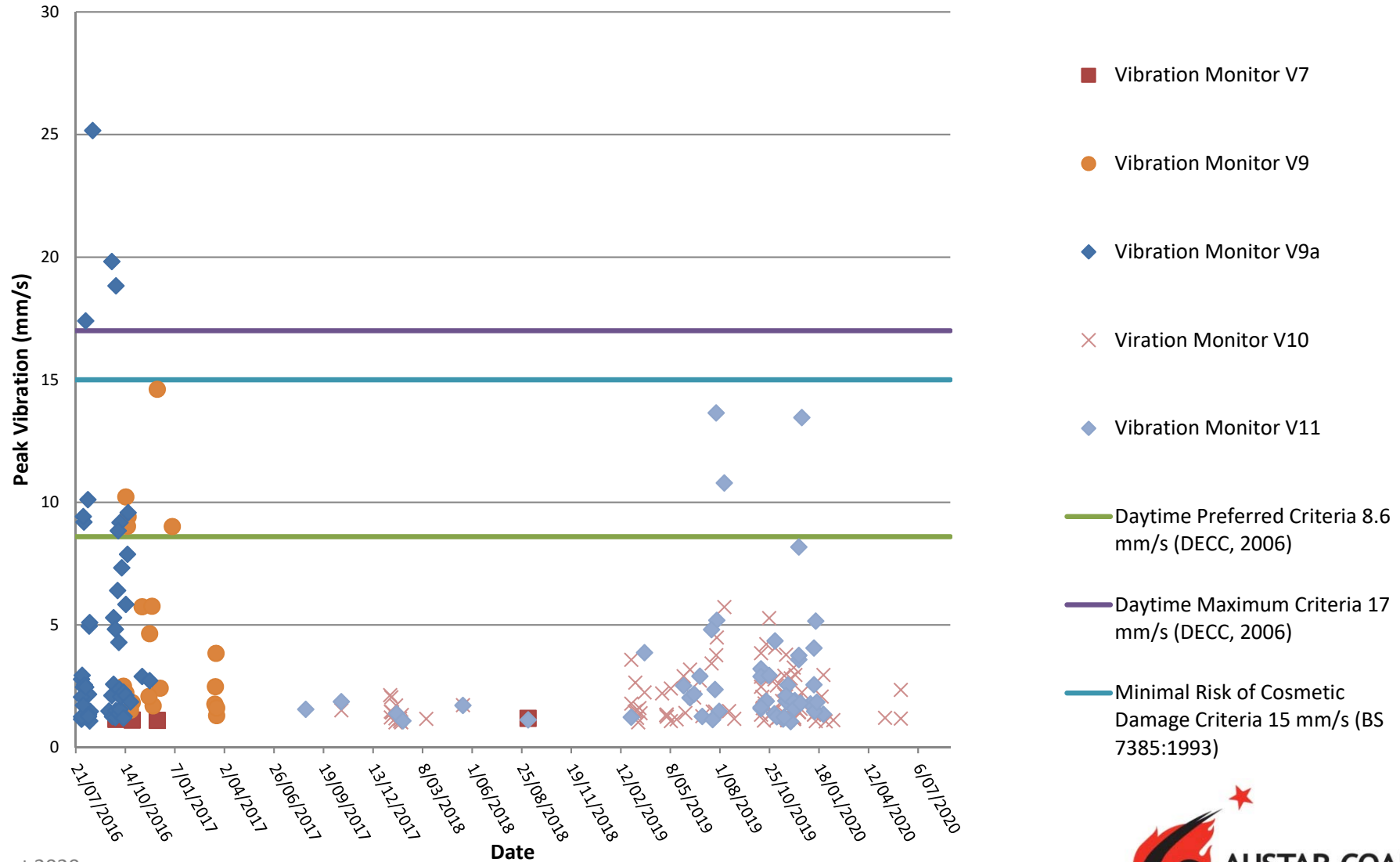
DRAWING No.
Environmental/ Monitoring Plan

A3



Vibration

Austar Peak Ground Vibration - Night and Day Combined (Events > 1mm/sec)



Community Complaints

Since last CCC meeting (26 February 2020 – 25 August 2020)

- NIL community complaints since last meeting

General Business



Community Sponsorship and Donations

Community Support Program 2020

- Applications closed 4 November 2019
- 16 applications received
- 9 successful applicants notified
- Funds being distributed and projects in progress

Community Donations

- Cessnock City Council Bushland Festival 2020

Mining Tenements

- Applications made to renew 4 x mining leases

Environmental Management Strategy and Management Plans

- To be reviewed and updated for care and maintenance and approved by DPIE

Reporting – in preparation

- National Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reporting (NGERS) – due lodge end October
- National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) Reporting – due lodge end September
- Annual Review 2019-2020 – due lodge end September

Independent Environmental Audit – DPIE

- Due to be undertaken before end 2020

Completed Reports and Studies

- Mining Operations Plan (MOP) Care and Maintenance – lodged Resources Regulator 1 July 2020
- EL6598 Annual Exploration Report – lodged with Resources Regulator 12 August 2020
- Yancoal Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Report 2019 published

- **Other Business –**

Next Meeting / Close