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Austar Coal Mine

Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: LTCC Meeting Room, Austar CHPP
 Time: 9:30am – 10:17am
 Date: 29 August 2018

Name	Representative
Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chairperson
Ashlee Baker (AB)	Community Representative
Peter Sturrock (PS)	Community Representative
Brian Wesley (BW)	Austar Coal Mine
Carly McCormack (CM)	Austar Coal Mine
Josh Chadwick (JC)	Austar Coal Mine
Apologies	
John Rayner (JR)	Community Representative
Alan Smith (AS)	Community Representative
Councillor Mark Lyons (ML)	Cessnock City Council Representative
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 Howard Reed	NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Ms Valerie Phillips	Librarian, Cessnock City Council

Item	Issue	Action	Date
1	Welcome		
	MMH – Opened the meeting 9:30am Apologies noted		
2	Declaration of Interests		
	MMH asked for changes to previous declarations of interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMH – no change • CM declared she was an Austar employee and submitted a Declaration of Interest Form to MMH to that effect • No changes to declarations of interests for other members 		
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
	The minutes of the previous meeting were considered representative of that meeting. AB moved, JC seconded.		
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes		
	Site underground visit rescheduled for December due to site constraints. This invitation was also extended to CCC members.	JC to convey to Cessnock City Council	3/9/2018
5	Correspondence		
	Out 11/7/2018 – Carly McCormack emailed Austar Coal Mine update including media release from 9/7/2018 detailing workforce stand down to CCC members.		

6	Current Operations, Environmental Monitoring Update, Complaints		
	<p>BW– provided an update on current and proposed underground and CHPP operations as per attached presentation.</p> <p>There was some additional comment on the ‘Current Operations’ section from the attached presentation which is included below:</p> <p>AB – Asked what had been done to lift Resource Regulator notices?</p> <p>BW – Responded that changes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced wait times between cessation of longwall cutting and entering the area for up to half an hour depending on what activity had been undertaken or what signs had been observed. • Drilling large diameter boreholes ahead of the longwall miner to destress the area prior to mining. <p>CM – provided update on environmental performance, environmental monitoring, community complaints and community sponsorships.</p>		
7	General Business		
	<p>CM – Stated that the Austar Mine Complex Bushfire Management Plan had been updated including several consultations with the Rural Fire Service and was currently being finalised.</p>		
8	Next Meeting		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remaining 2018 meeting date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 28 November 2018 		
10	Meeting Closed		
	<p>MMH – Declared the meeting closed at 10:17am.</p>		

Recorded: Josh Chadwick 29/8/2018

Minutes Confirmed: To be confirmed at next meeting

Chairperson – Margaret MacDonald-Hill

AUSTAR COAL MINE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

Q3 2018
29 August 2018

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

- Two prohibition notices issued by the Resource Regulator significantly restricted longwall mining capacity at Austar since May. These notices were cancelled on 30 July and 3 August.
- As a result of the notices, a significant number of employees were stood down or redeployed to other Yancoal mines for 5 weeks during July and August. Staff were recalled to Austar once the notices were cancelled.
- Staff have undertaken additional coal burst training on return to work at Austar and longwall mining has now recommenced.
- Longwall panel B4 commenced on 5 October 2017 with approximately 829m of retreat completed by 23 August 2018.
- Panel B4 had a planned total panel length of 1125m but will now stop at 849m due to potentially elevated coal burst risk for the abandoned portion of the panel. The longwall will then be moved to B5 where extraction is expected to start in November 2018.

Current Operations

UNDERGROUND

- Development mining operations in Bellbird South were completed in July 2018. As a result, the workforce was reduced by 44 employees with the majority of employees redeployed to other Yancoal mines.
- The Stage 3 project continues to be assessed.

Current Operations

CHPP

- The mining limitations (described in the previous slide) meant there has been very limited coal sent from the mine to the wash plant since May.
- The residual stocks on the product stockpile allowed ongoing train loading and sales through to July. Railing is scheduled to start again at the end of September.
- Staff levels were reduced for the 5 week stand down period but are now essentially back to normal.
- There will be limited production due to the longwall move but 20,000t is expected to be railed by November.
- Production will increase in November with 150,000t expected to be railed by the end of the year.

Environmental Incidents

Environmental Incidents (22 May 2018 – 28 August 2018)

- Six environmental incidents occurred between 22 May 2018 and 28 August 2018
- **28 May 2018 – Water spill to land, not reportable.** A resident on Dry Creek Road reported a puddle forming above the potable water pipeline to Aустar’s 2 Shaft facility. On investigation it was found the potable water PVC pipe has cracked. Local residents also use this line.

ACTIONS:

- Potable water line was closed at the valve
- Notified residents using the line
- Council permit obtained to work in road corridor
- Repaired damaged section of pipeline
- Put back into service and notified residents



Environmental Incidents

- **29 June 2018 – Trespasser cutting down trees on Austar land, not reportable.** Trees were cut down with a chainsaw, and one pushed over, in the firebreak behind the houses on Glennie St, Ellalong.

ACTIONS:

- Spoke to neighbours to try to ascertain when and/or who had cut down trees
 - Removed cut trees/wood from site
 - Delivered a letter to residents in Glennie and Holmes streets that back onto Austar land describing the importance of the firebreak and giving contact details for any issues
-
- **18 July 2018 – Grass Fire, not reportable.** Security patrol found small grassfire burning on Austar owned land south of Bellbird Heights (near Aberdare Emplacement Area).

ACTIONS:

- Notified Fire Brigade who attended and extinguished

Environmental Incidents

- **18 July 2018 – Dust exceedance, reportable to DP&E**
- HVAS3, located on Coney Creek Lane, recorded a monitored result of 55 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for 18 July 2018, which exceeded the 24-hour average PM_{10} criterion of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) published a media release on 19 July 2018 which stated:

“On Wednesday morning (18 July 2018), there was a *moderate dust storm occurring over inland NSW*, with additional dust transported to the east/northeast over Illawarra, Sydney basin and further north, leading to increase in PM_{10} levels over these regions. The PM_{10} exceedance over the Upper Hunter region was related to this event.
- The nearest Austar Coal Mine infrastructure is Kitchener Surface Infrastructure Site located >950m to the north west of the monitoring location which is vegetated at present.
- Given the predominant north-northwest wind direction and high regional dust levels observed on the 18 July, it is believed that airborne dust from Austar Coal Mine was not the cause of the elevated PM_{10} results.

ACTIONS:

- Notified the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) 22 August 2018
- Provided report to DP&E 28 August 2018

Environmental Incidents

- **2 August 2018 – Grass Fire, not reportable.** Smoke visible from the Aberdare Emplacement Area access road alerted staff to a small grassfire burning on Austar owned land south of Bellbird Heights. A large tree had been felled, with large slabs cut from it, in the area of the fire. There was also a large amount of dumped rubbish in this same area.

ACTIONS:

- Notified Fire Brigade who attended and extinguished
- **15 August 2018 – Water spill to land, not reportable.** A routine inspection found a damp salt stained area 1m² above an unused, depressurised Austar pipeline to the south of the Kalingo Dam on Austar owned land. When uncovered it was found the plastic weld on the pipe had failed.

ACTIONS:

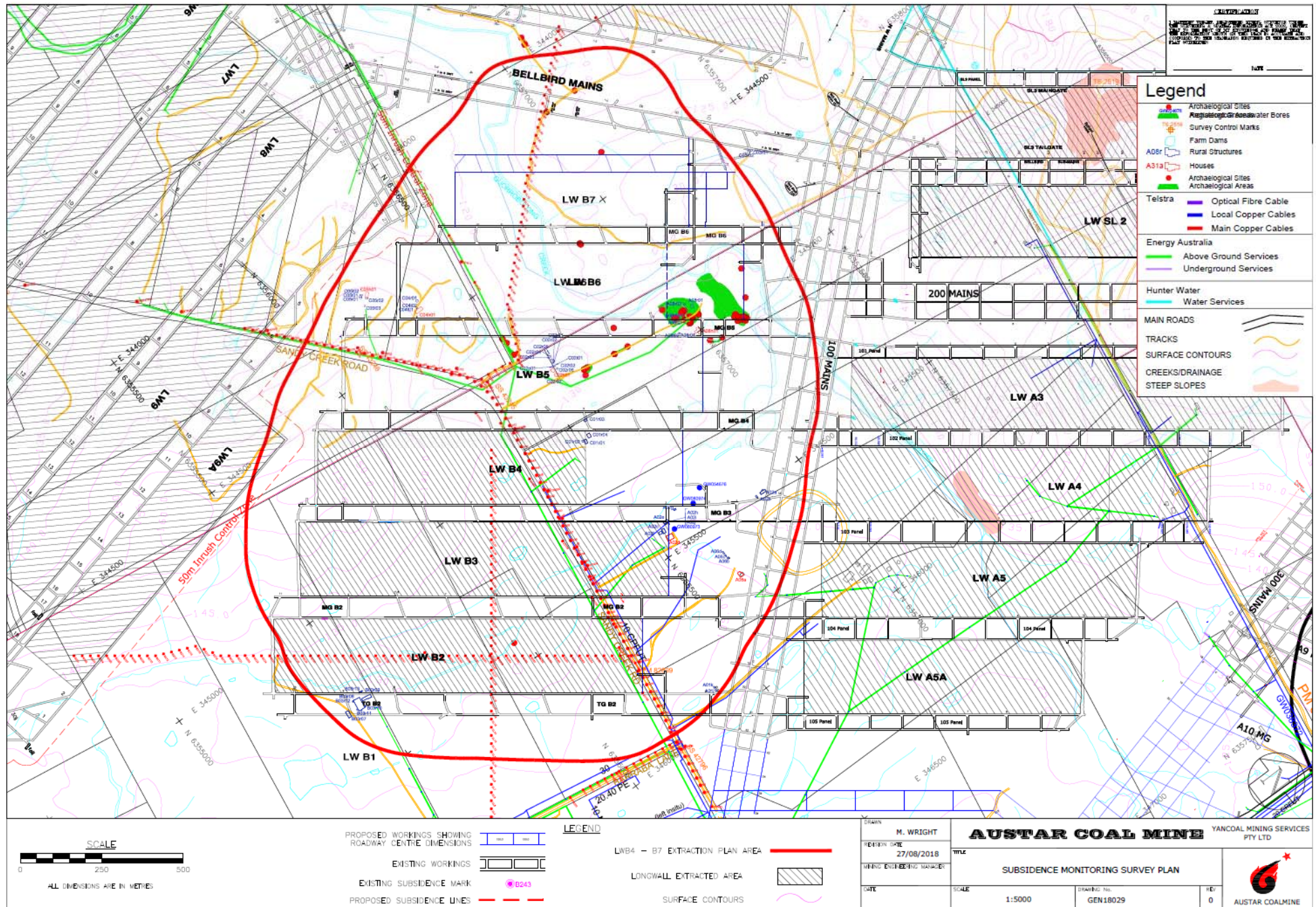
- Drained the line at the valve and at the leaking area
- Repaired the pipeline
- Completely isolated the line (now capped not just shut off with valves)

Environmental Monitoring Update

Subsidence

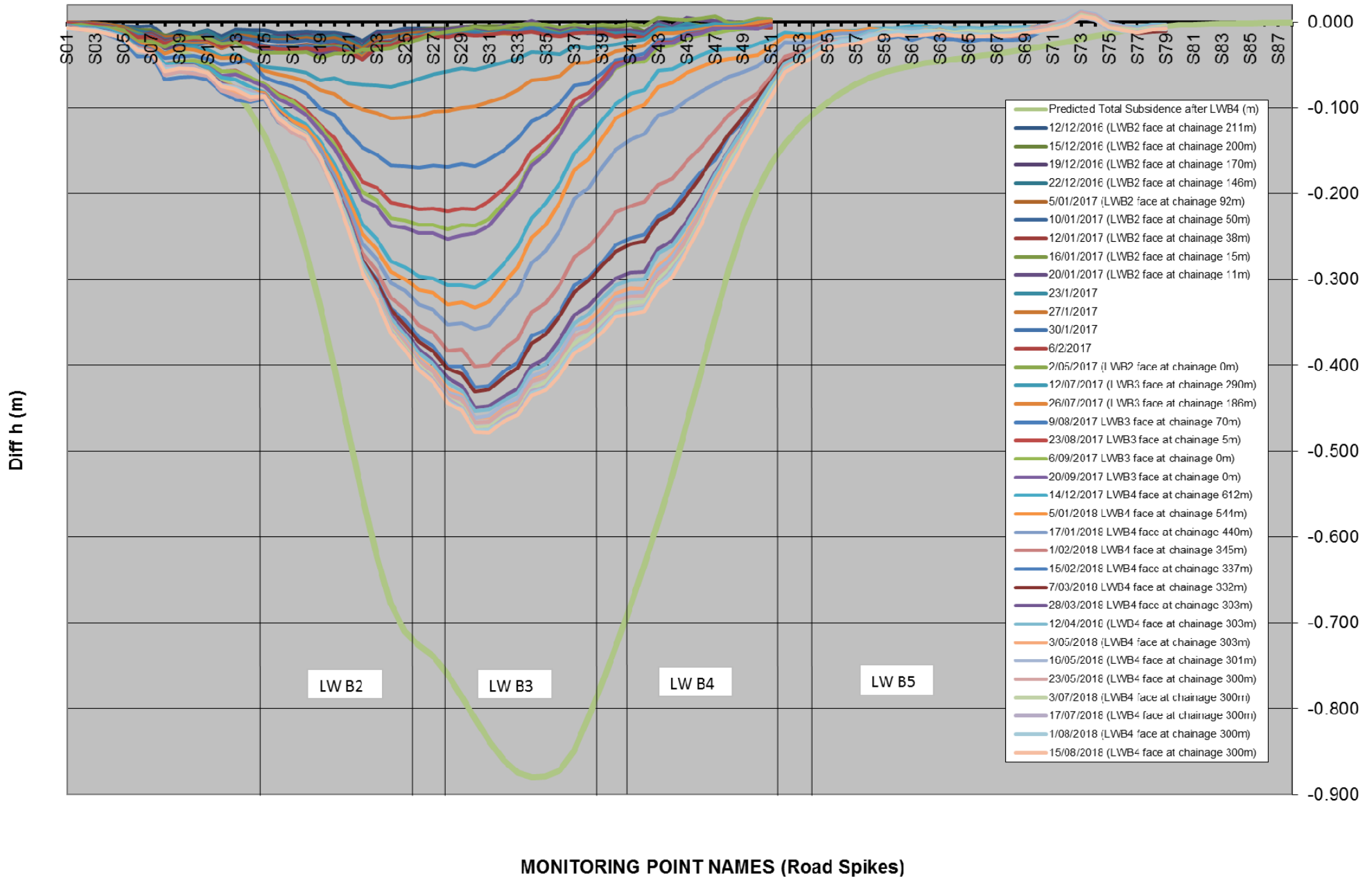
- Subsidence surveys are ongoing along Sandy Creek Road monitoring line.
- Maximum recorded surface level movement is approx. 479 mm on Sandy Creek Road.

Subsidence

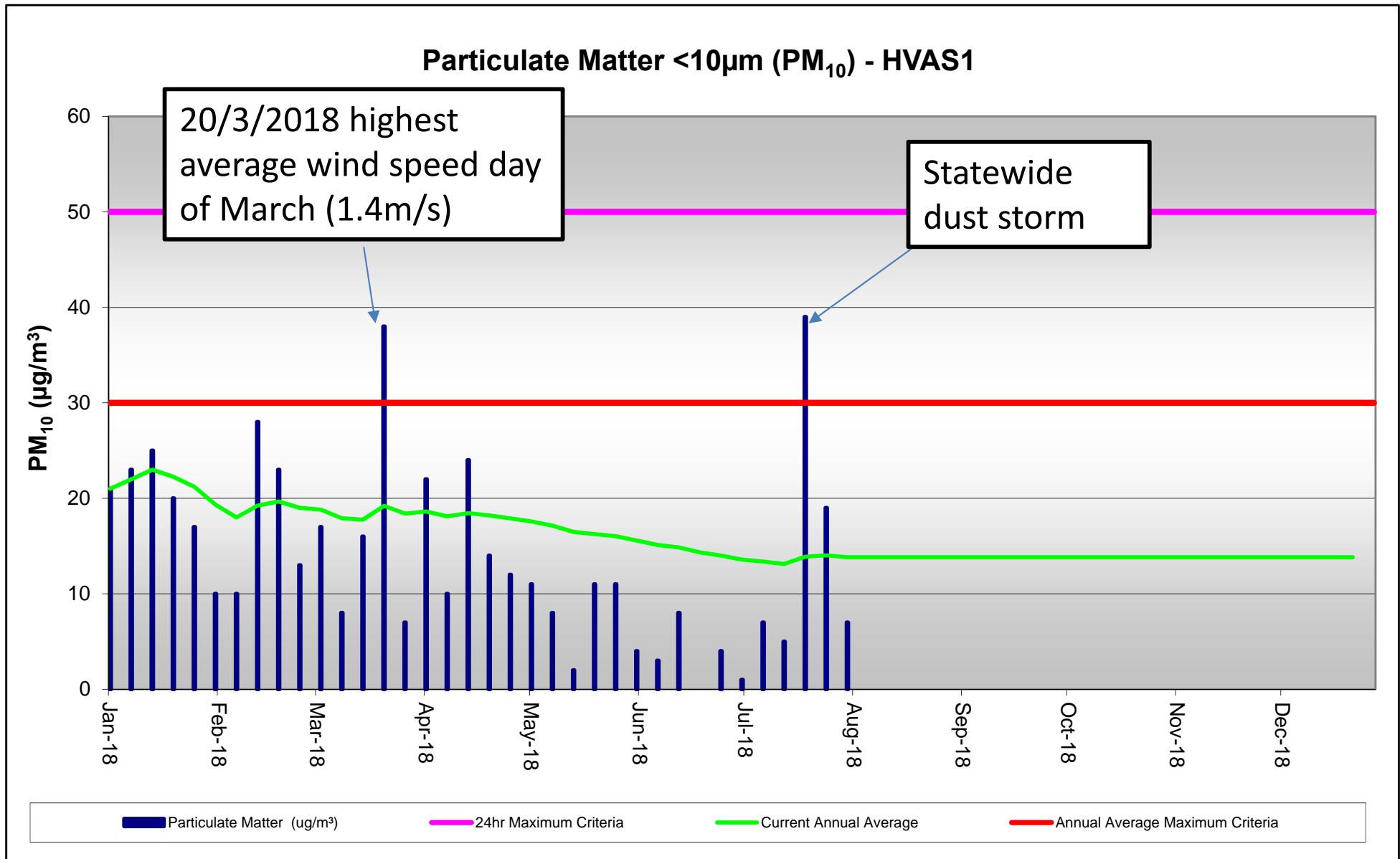


Subsidence

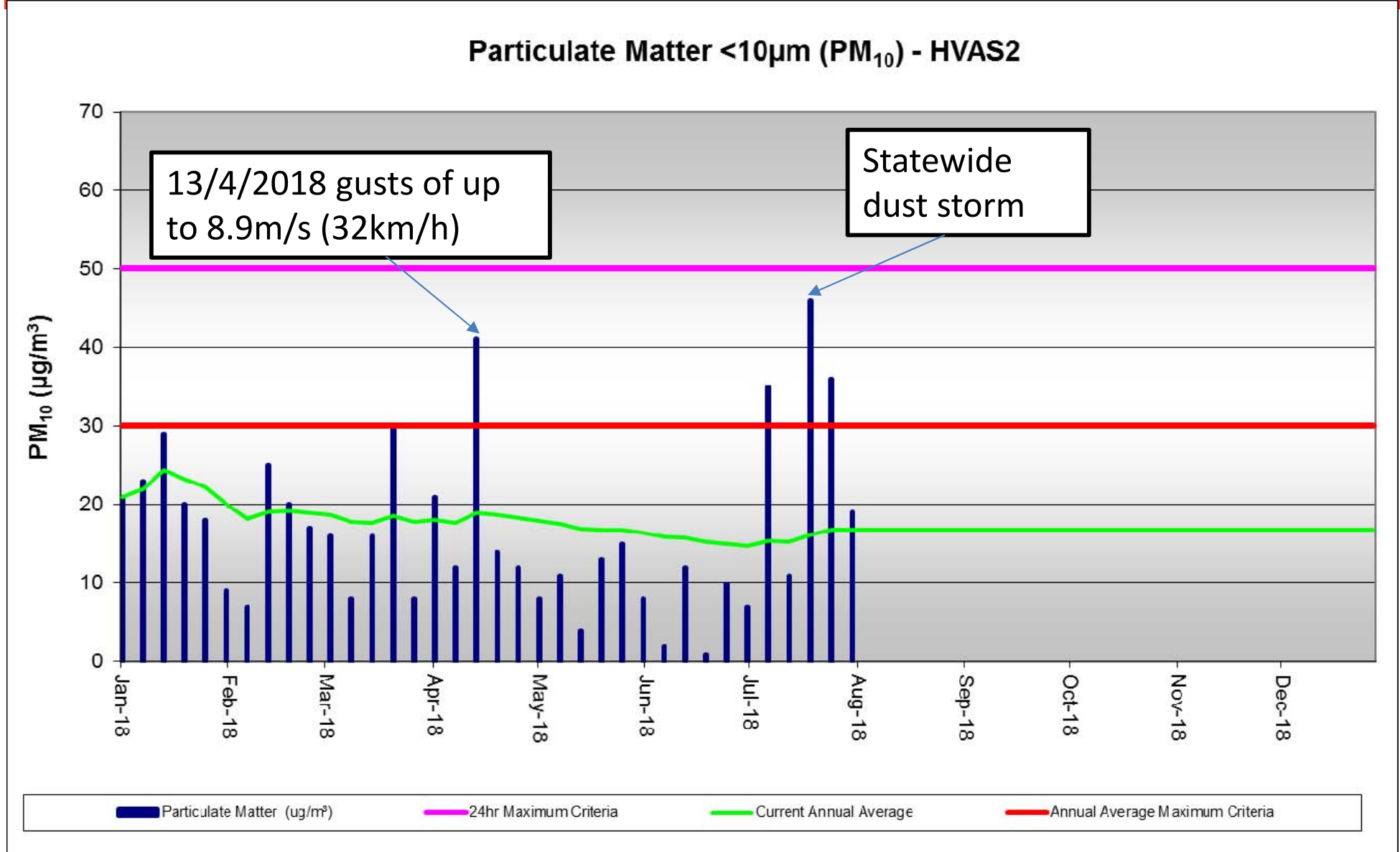
Subsidence- LINE "SCR1"



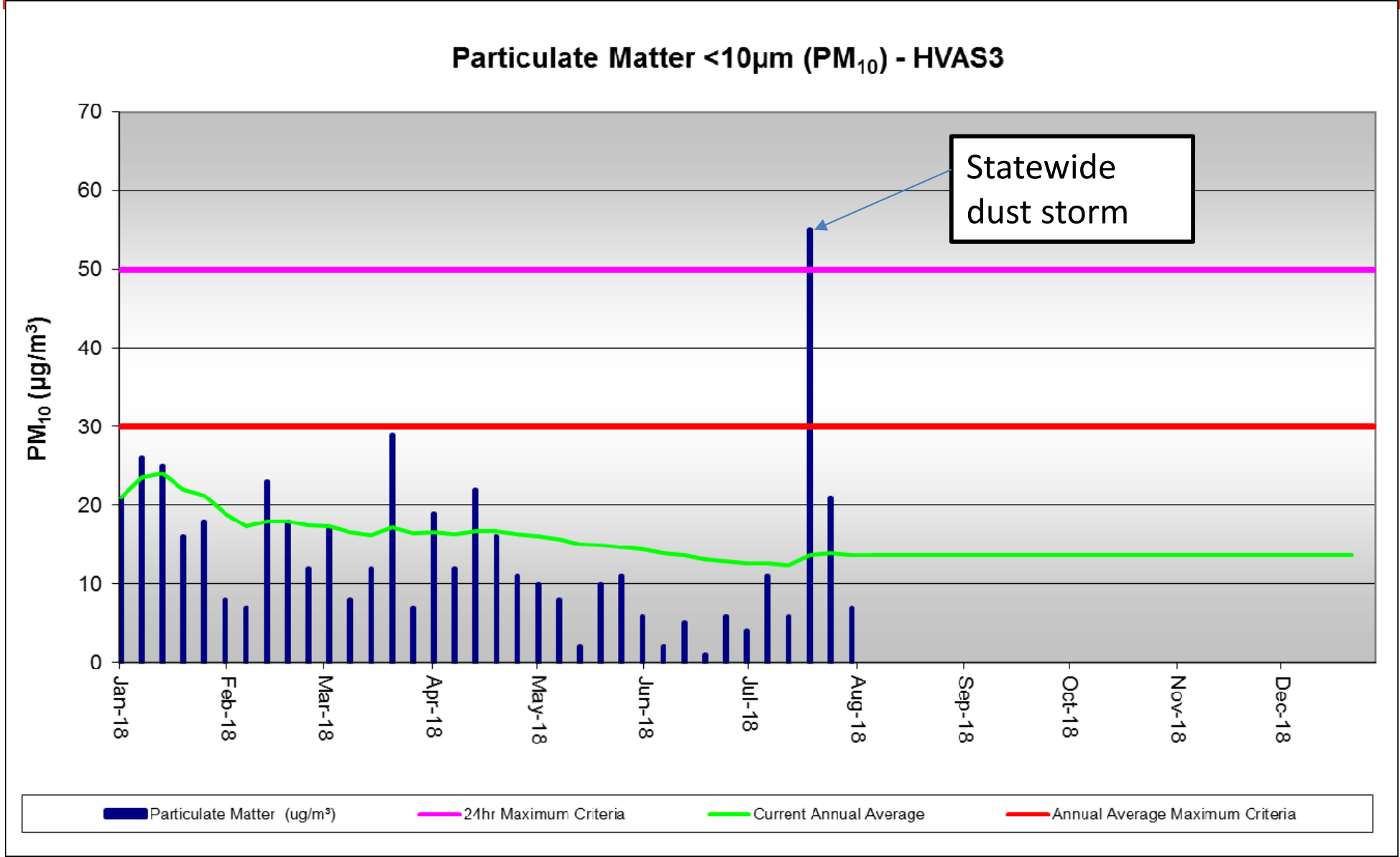
Air Quality



Air Quality

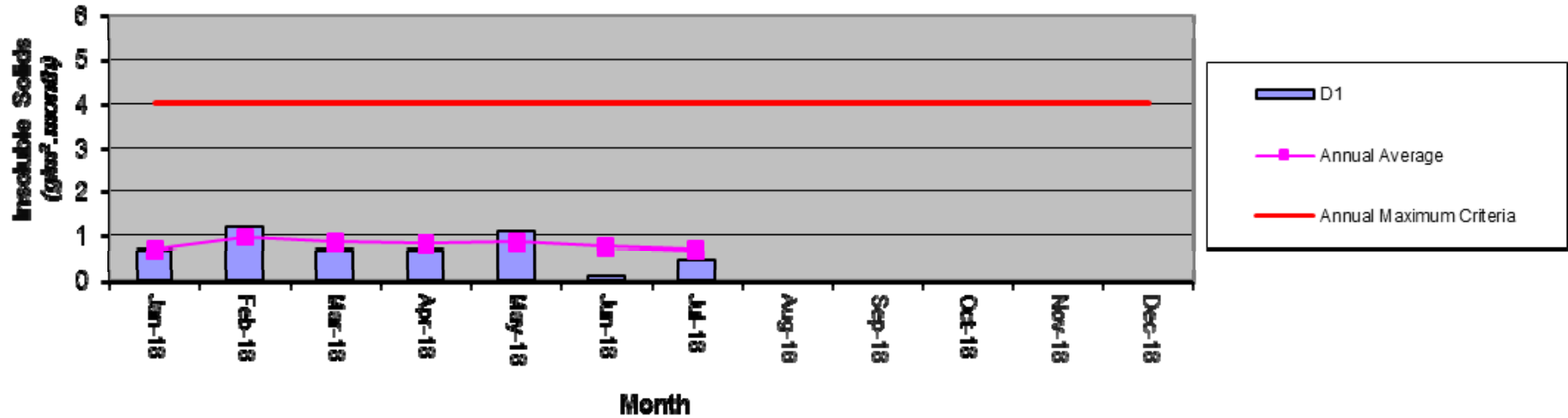


Air Quality

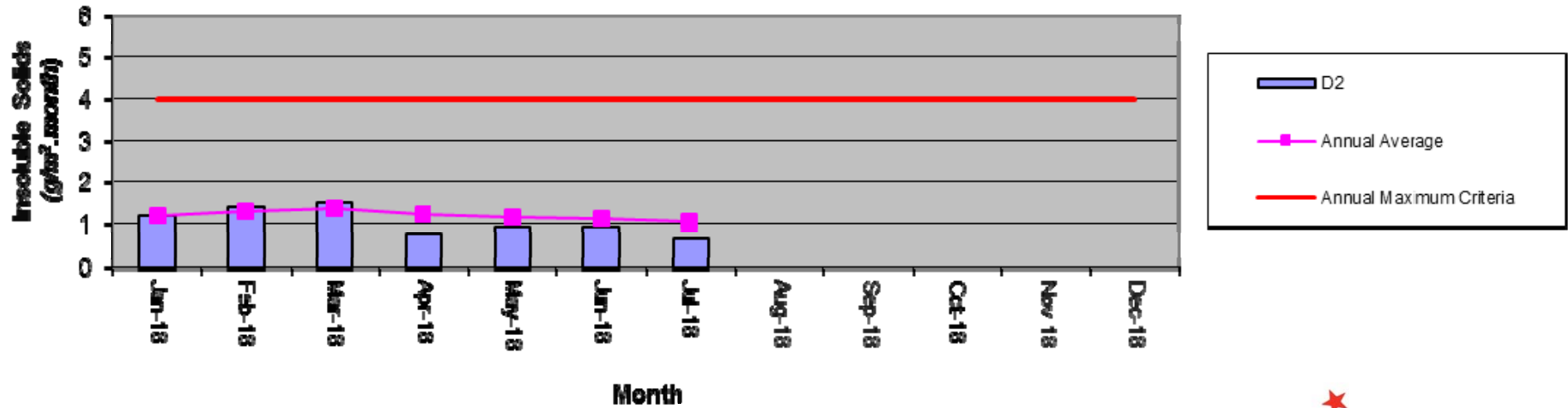


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D1 - Insoluble Solids

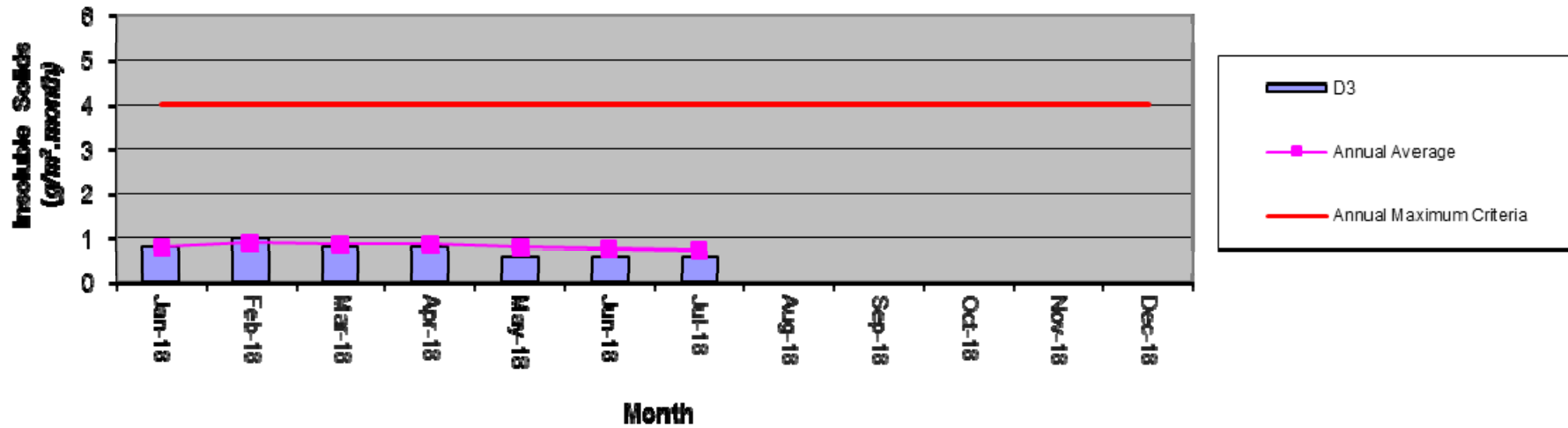


Dust Deposition Gauge D2 - Insoluble Solids

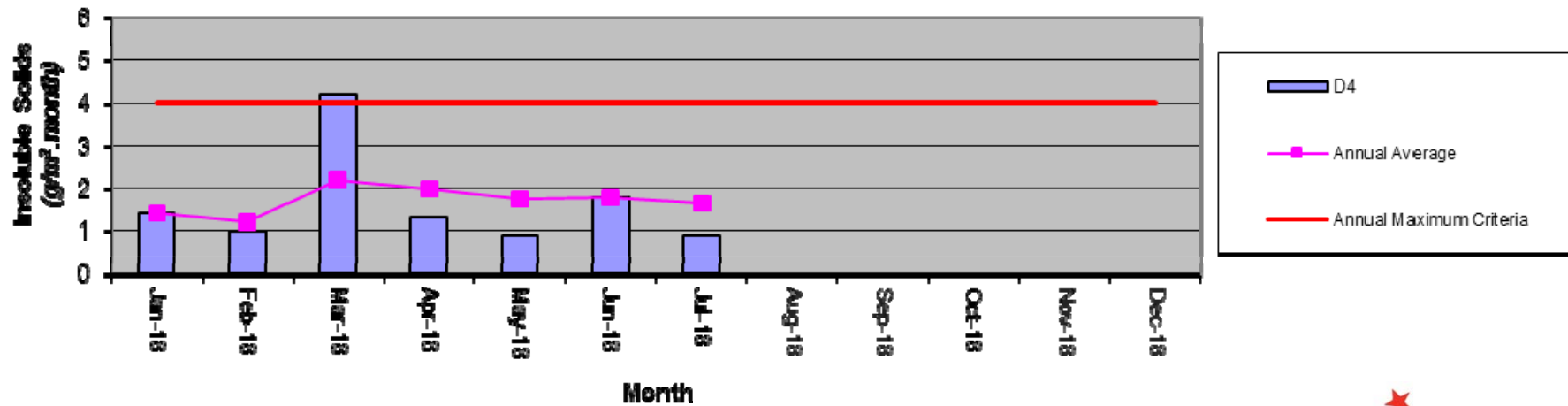


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D3 - Insoluble Solids

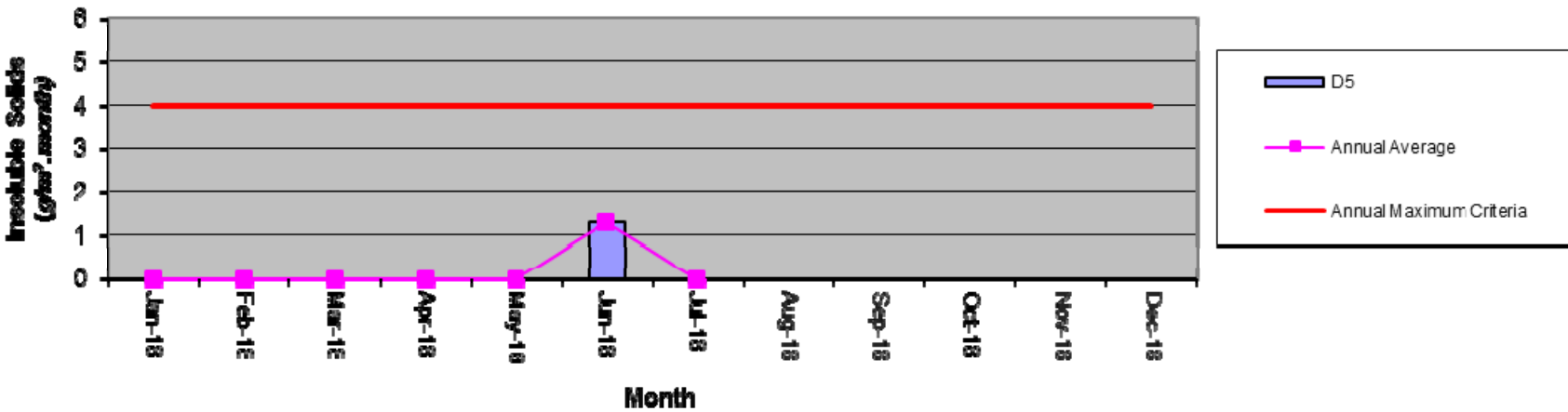


Dust Deposition Gauge D4 - Insoluble Solids

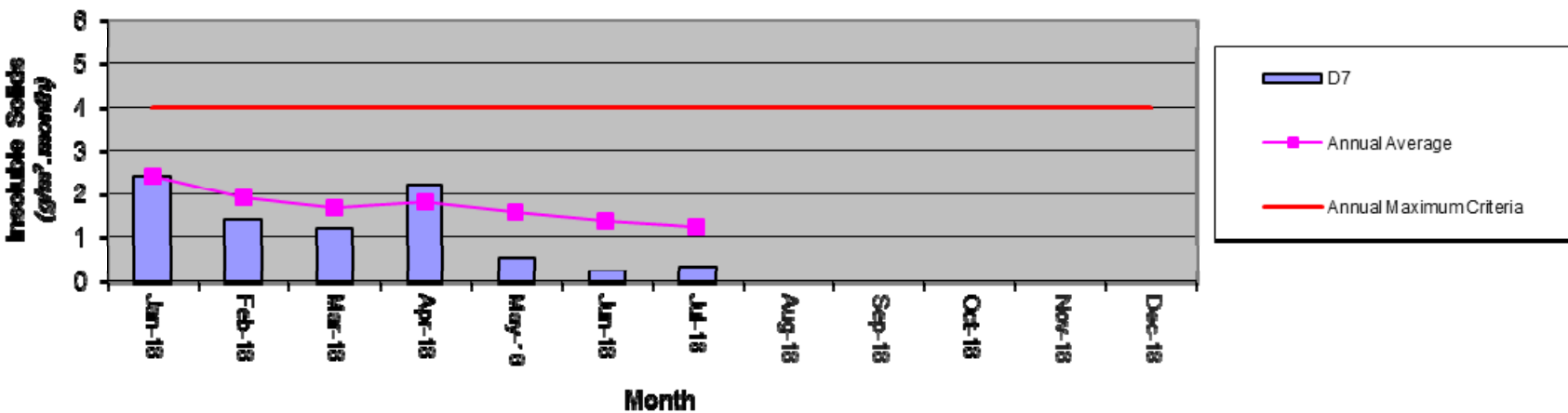


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D5 - Insoluble Solids



Dust Deposition Gauge D7 - Insoluble Solids

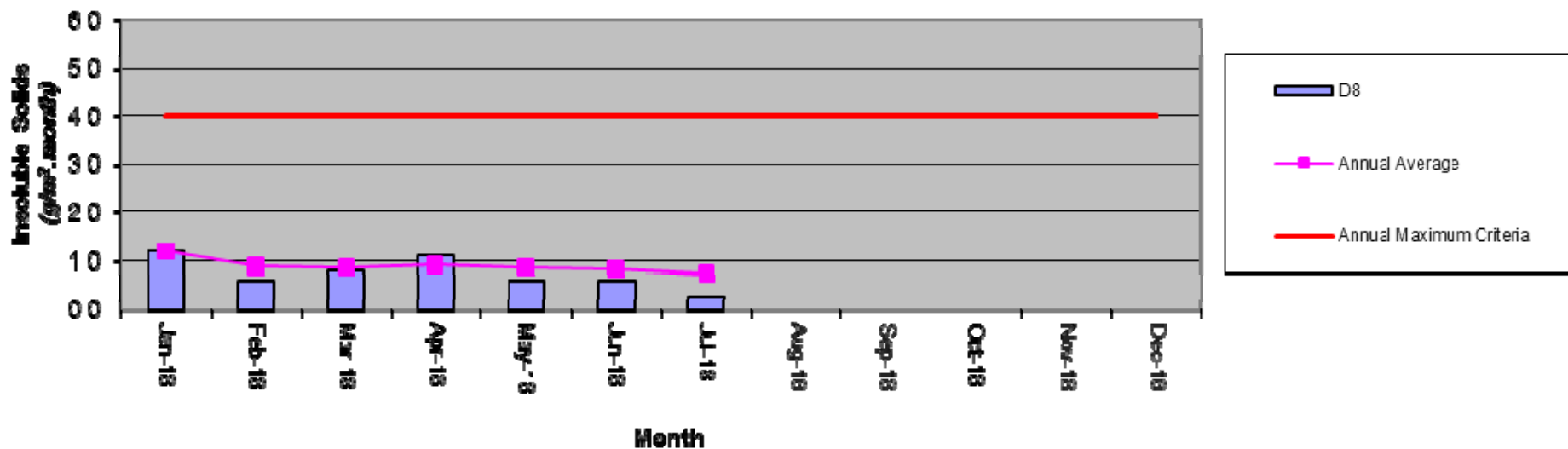


D5 bird perch

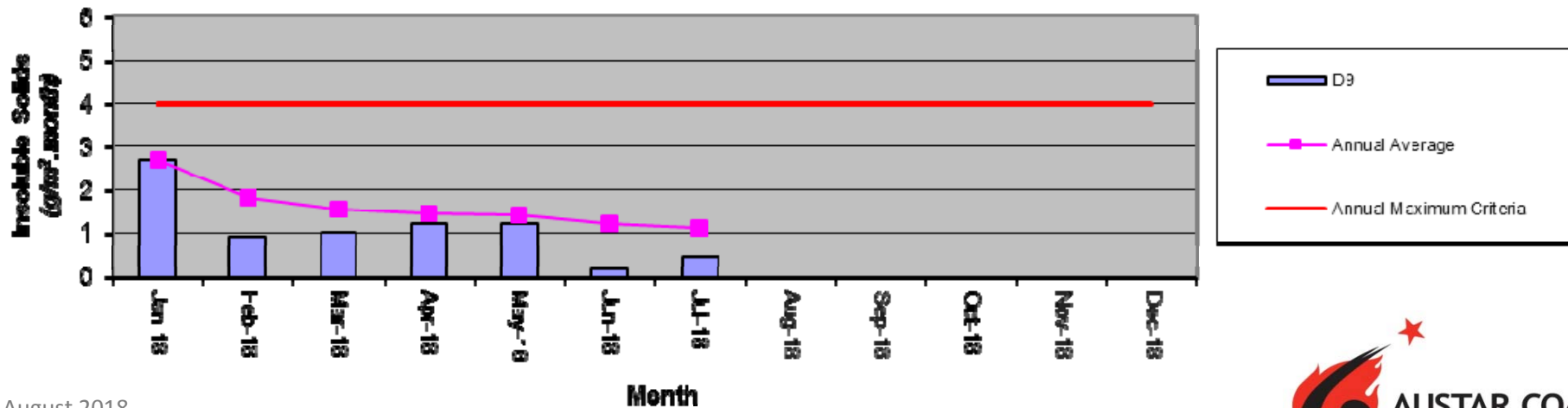


Air Quality

Dust Deposition Gauge D8 - Insoluble Solids

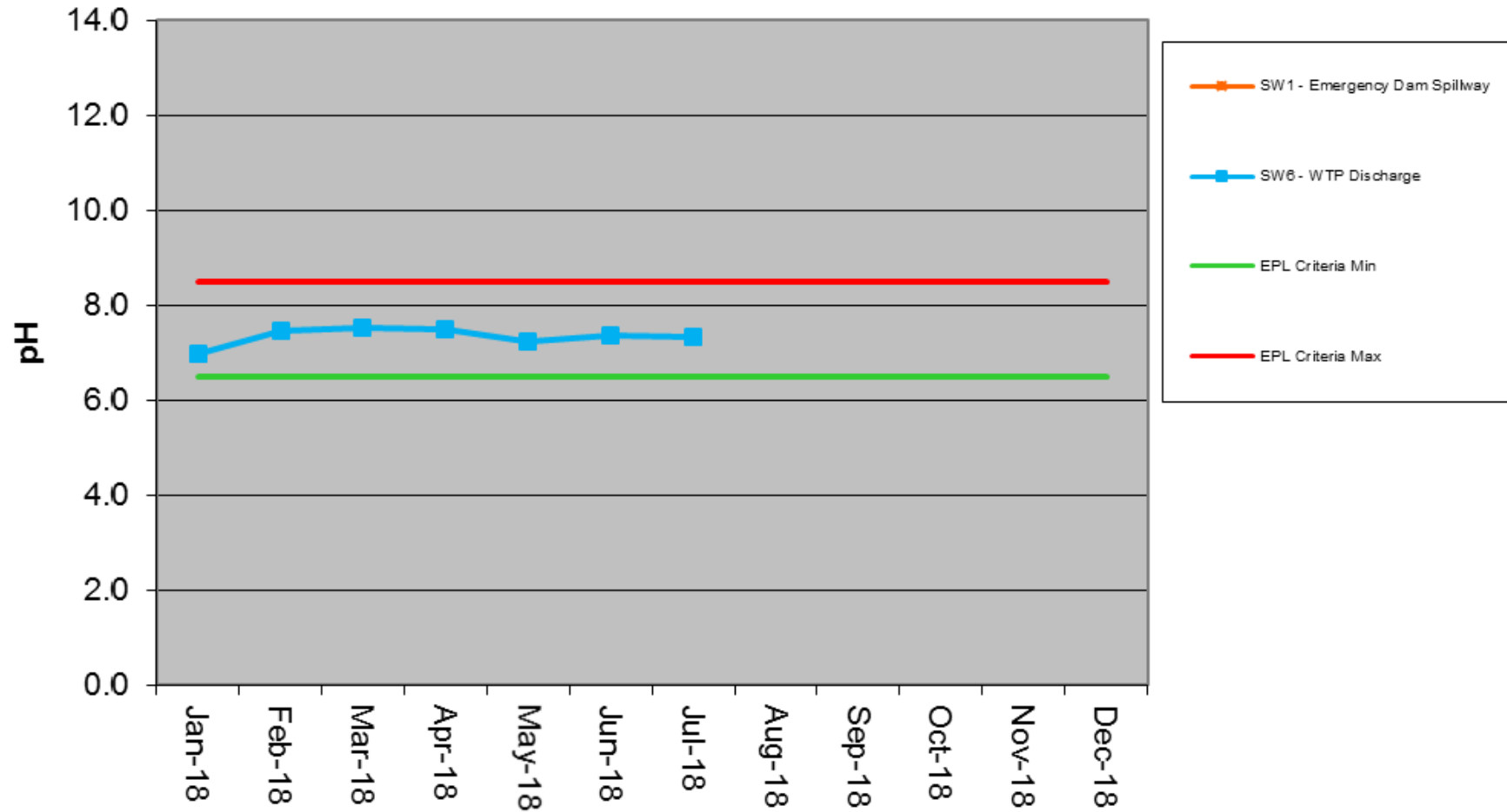


Dust Deposition Gauge D9 - Insoluble Solids



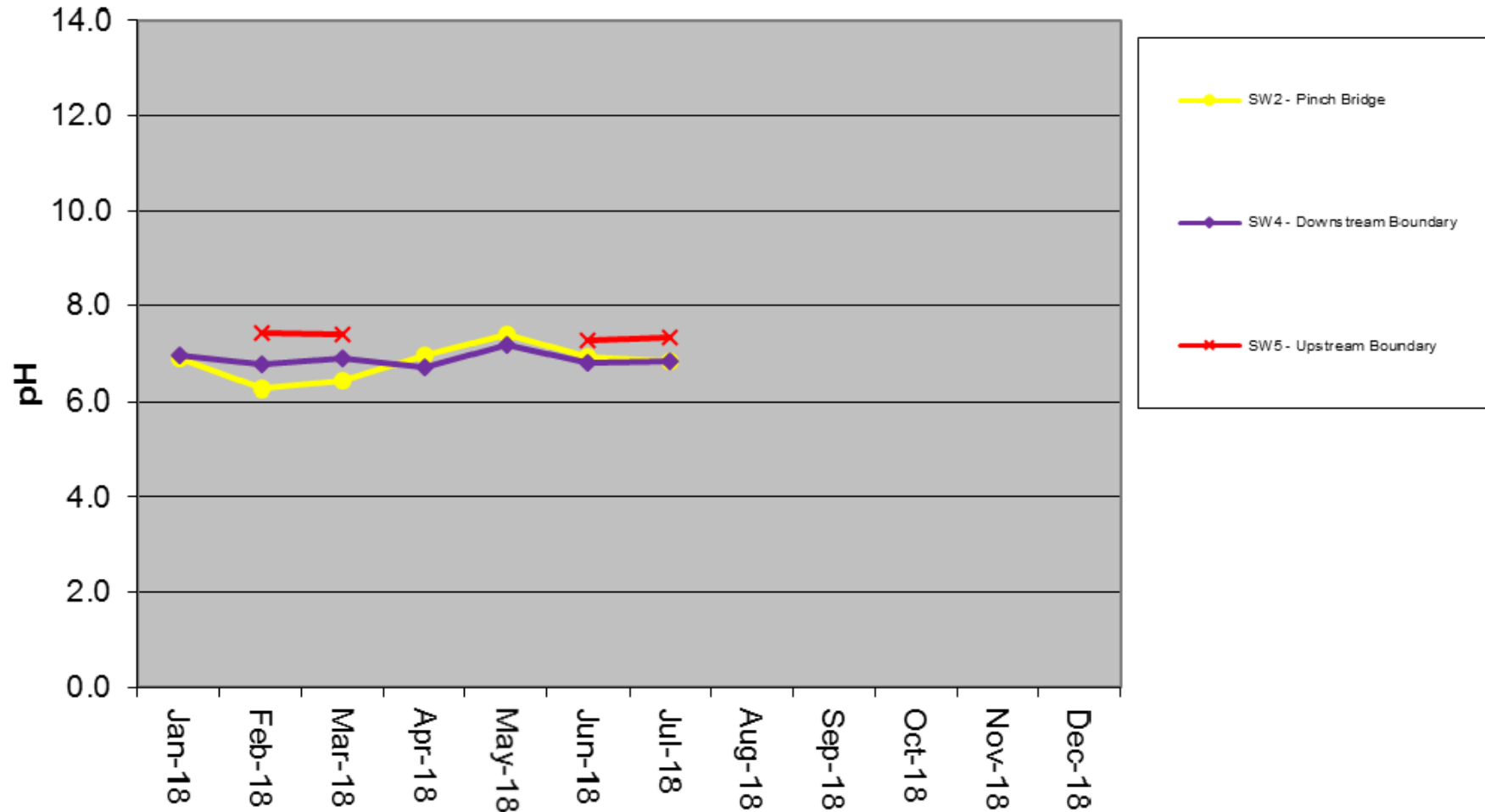
Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites CHPP and Bellbird Creek



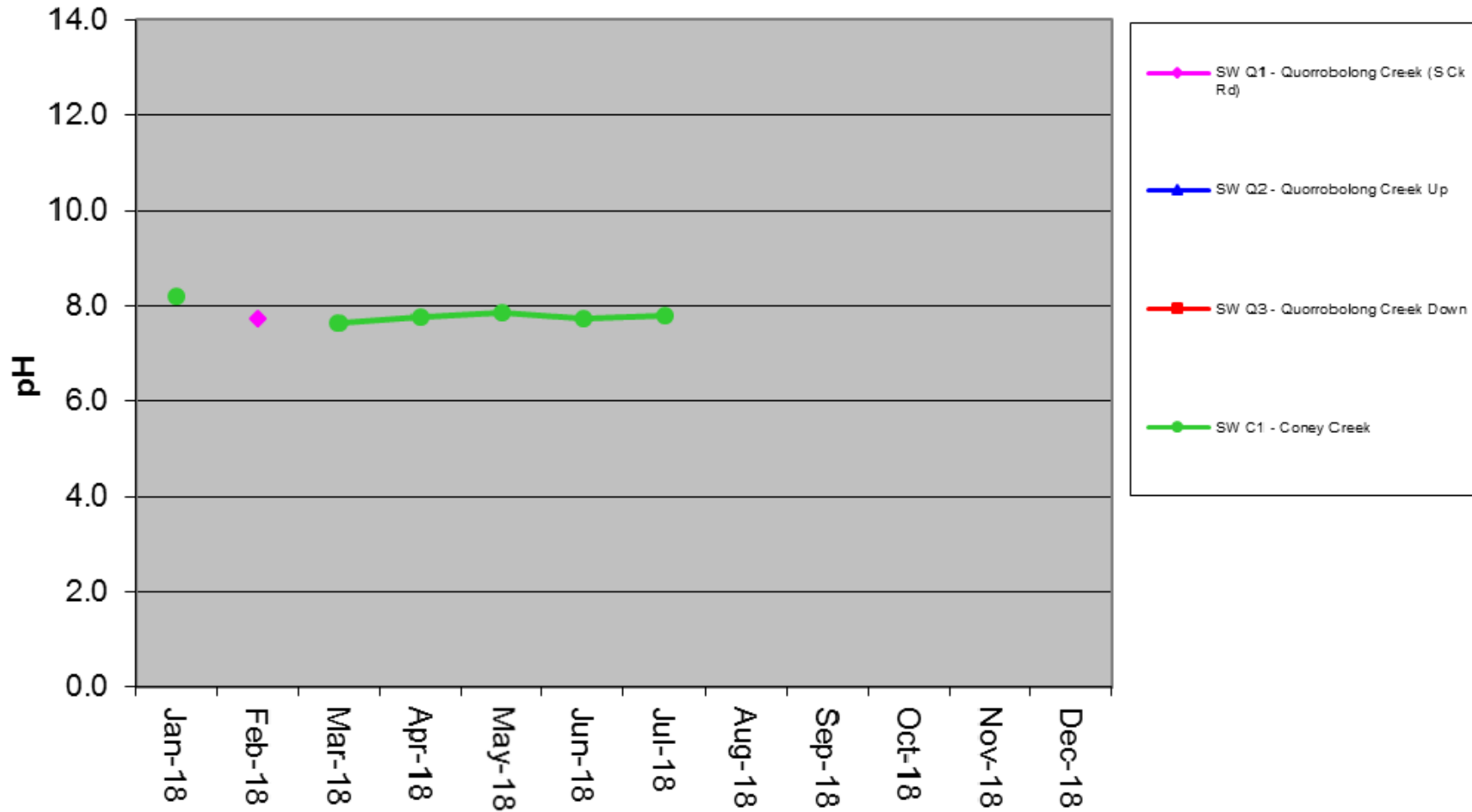
Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites CHPP and Bellbird Creek



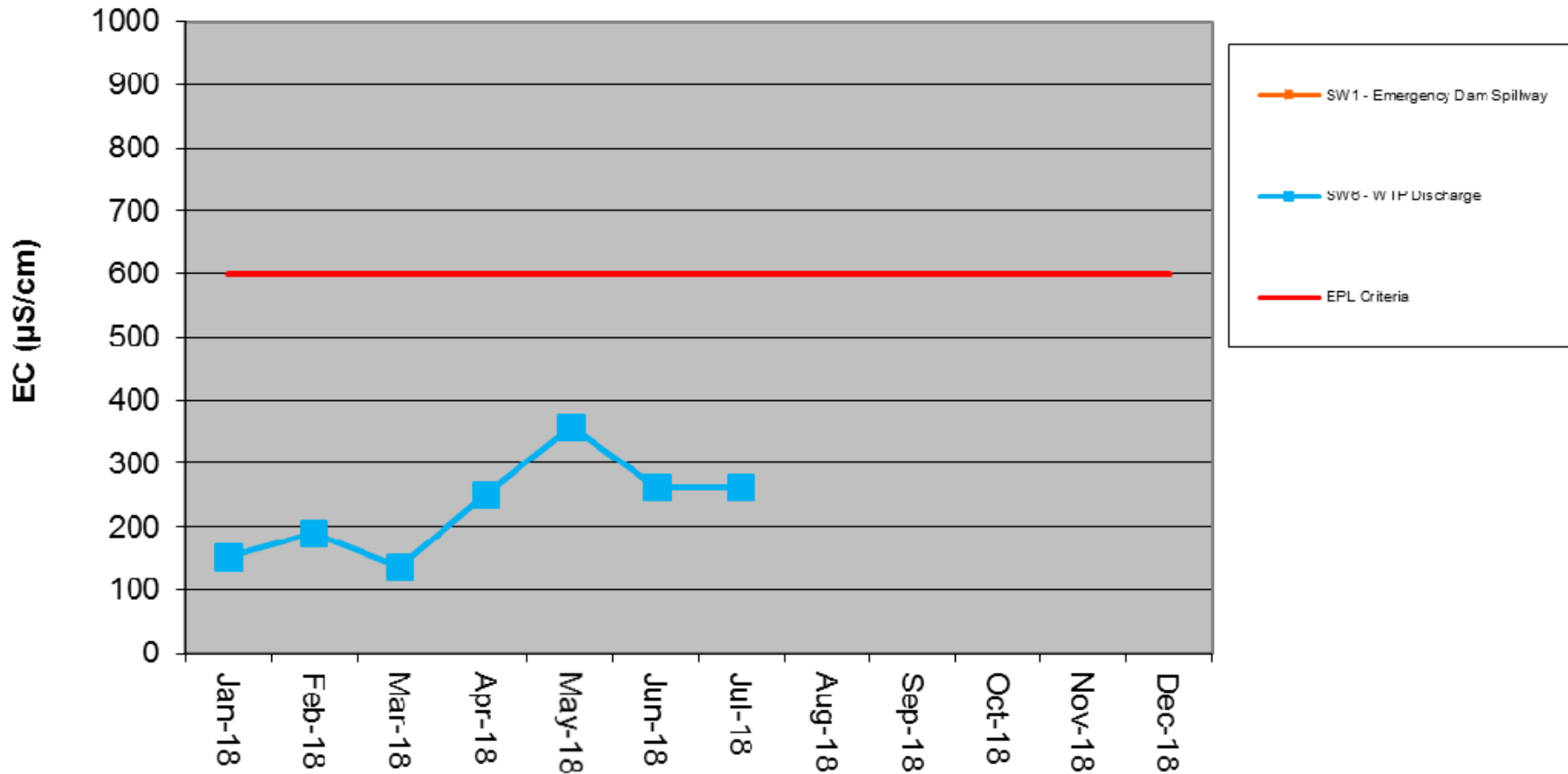
Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites
Quorrobolong Creek and Coney Creek



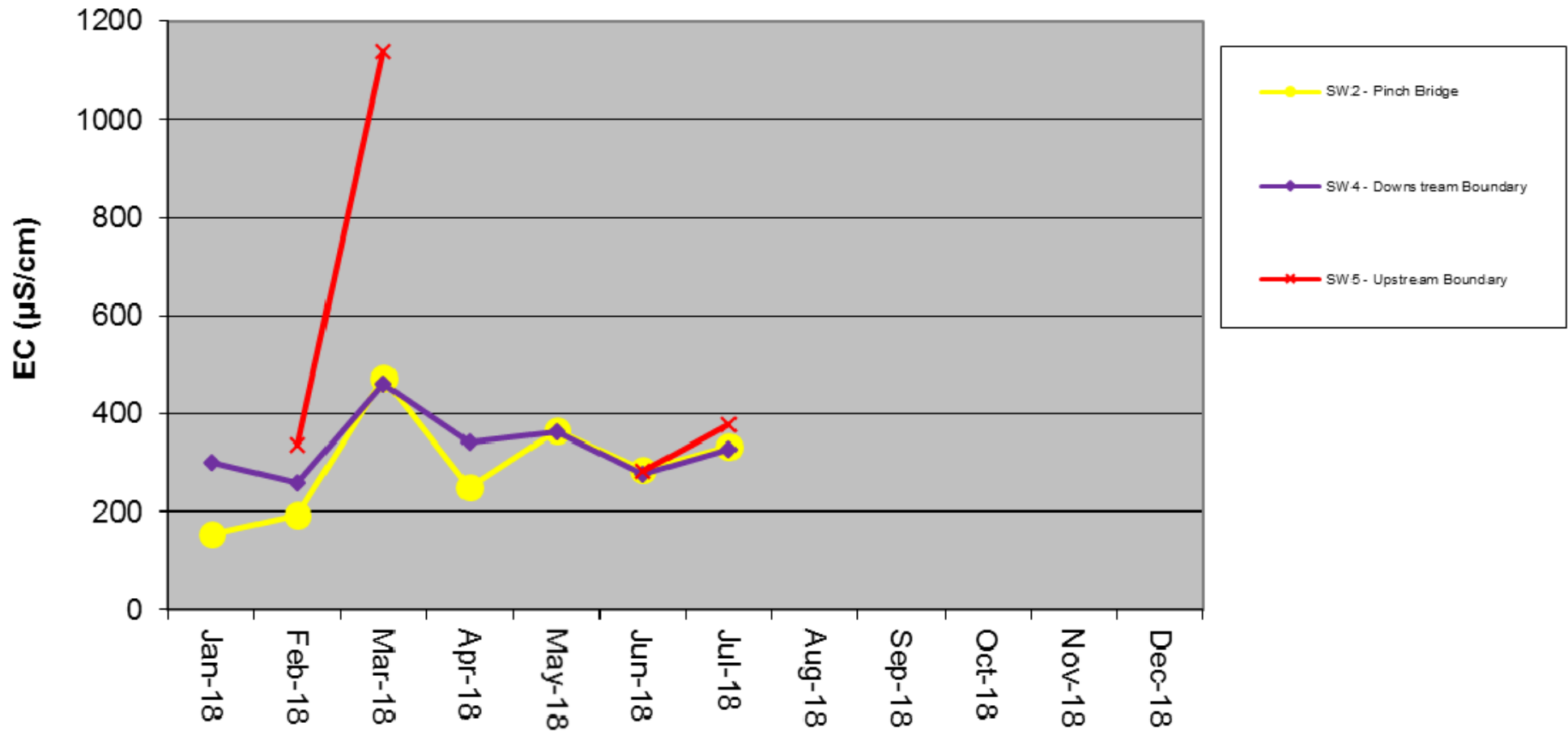
Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites
CHPP and Bellbird Creek



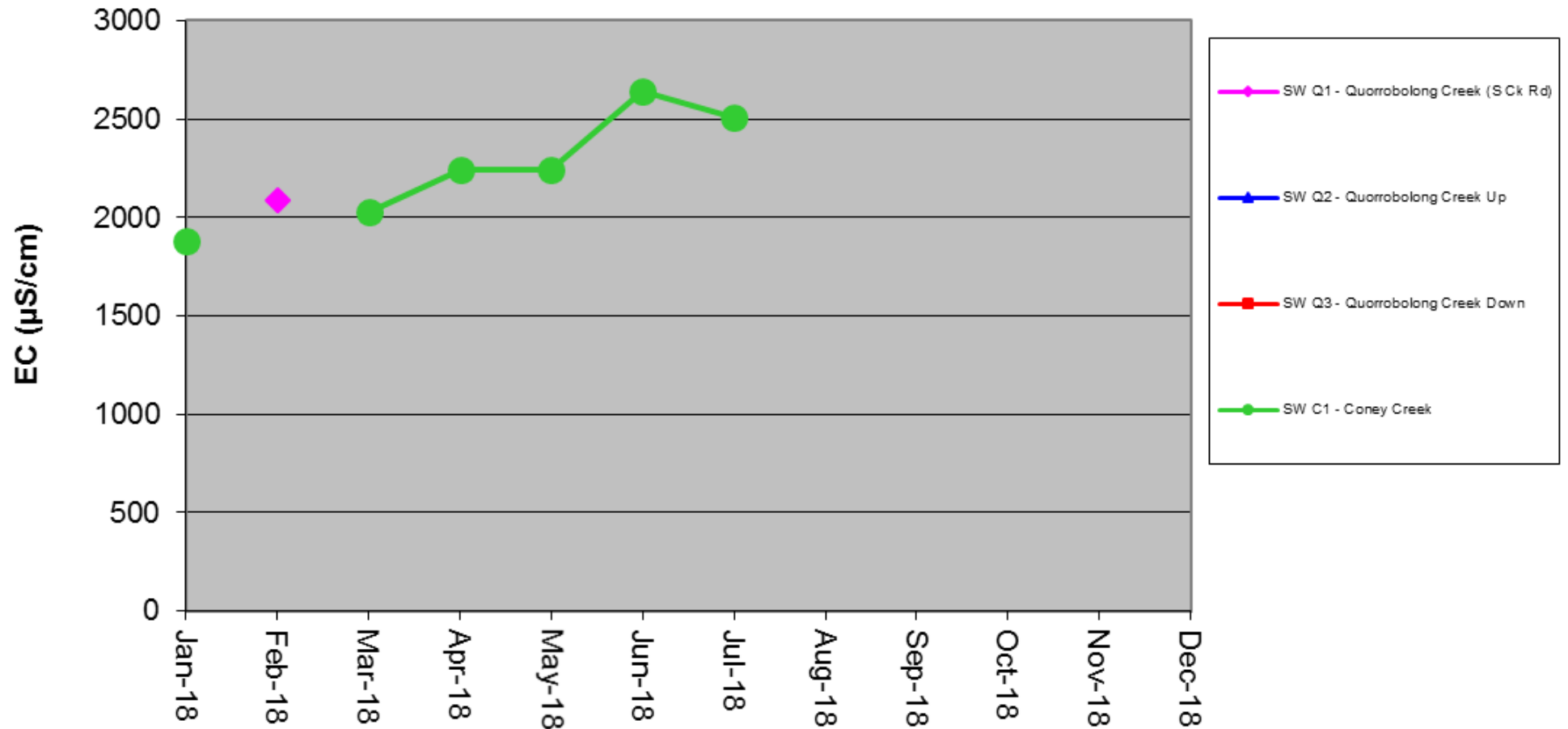
Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites CHPP and Bellbird Creek

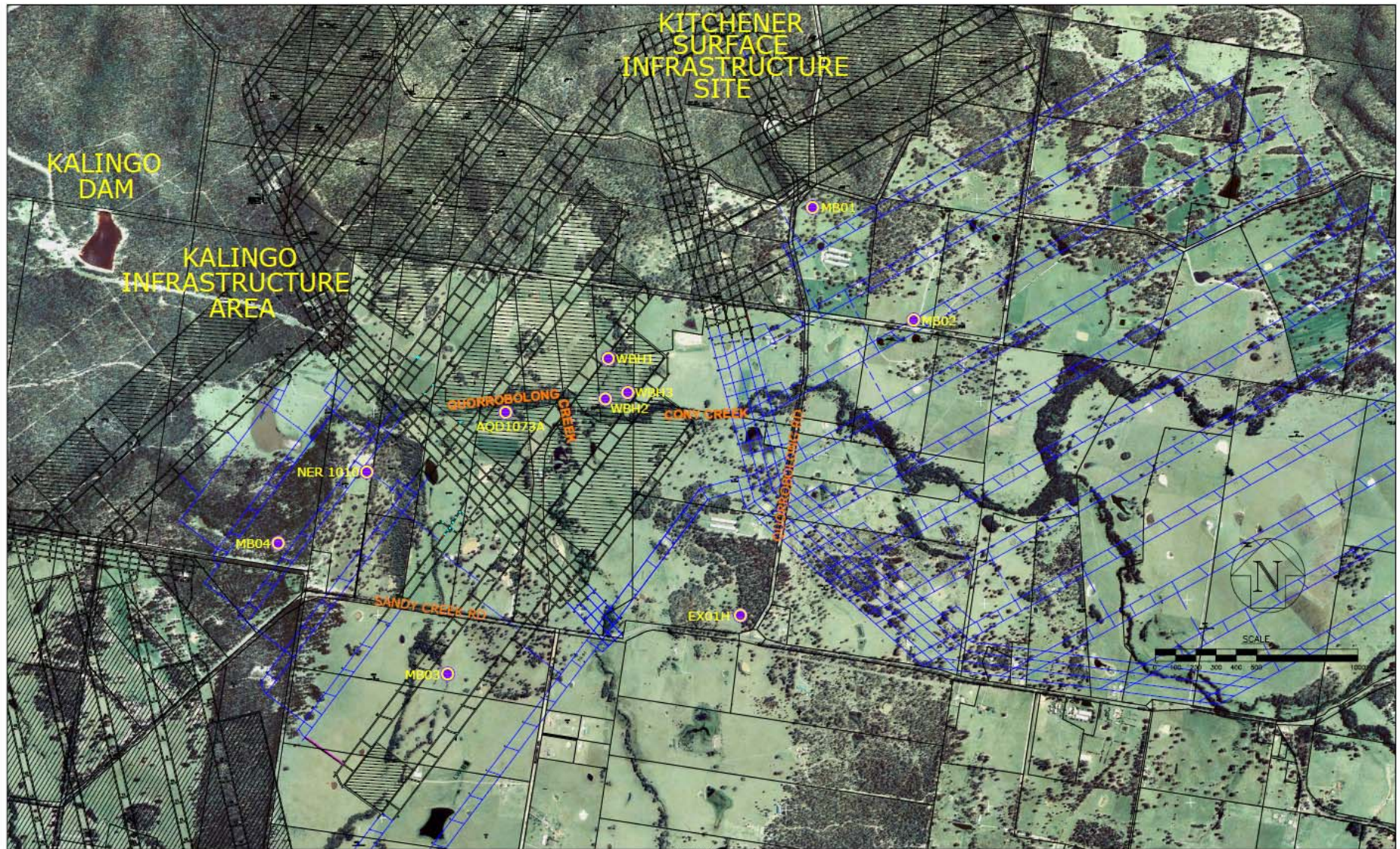


Water Monitoring

Surface Water Sites
Quorrobolong Creek and Coney Creek

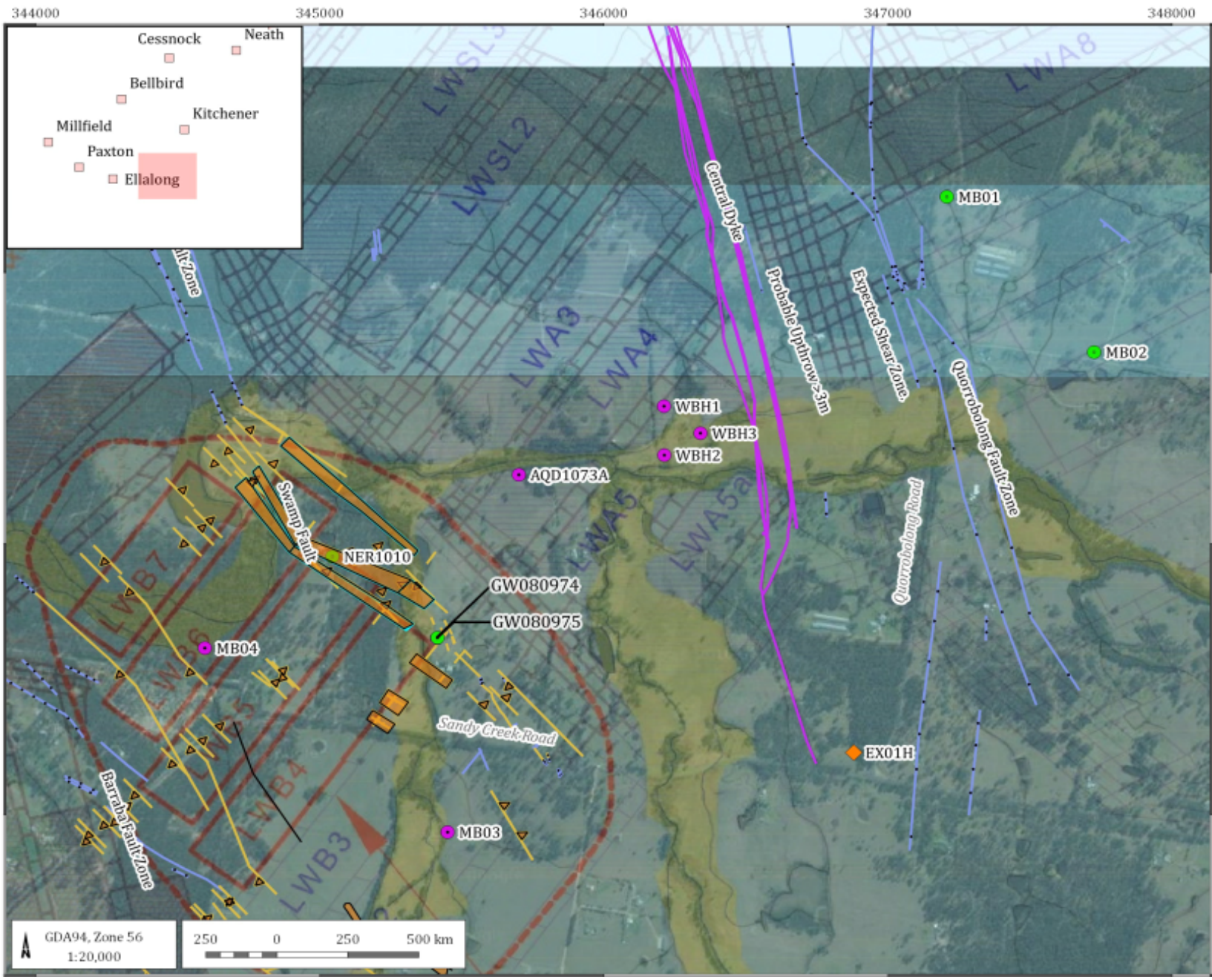


Groundwater Monitoring



NER 1010 Ground Water Monitor Austar Owned Land	DRAWN J. Chadwick	AUSTAR COAL MINE TITLE Austar Groundwater Monitoring Bores		
	DATE 15/11/17			
	CHECKED G. Mulhearn	DRAWING No. Environmental/ Monitoring Plan	A3	
	APPROVED	Environmental/ Monitoring Plan		

Groundwater Monitoring



- LEGEND**
- Populated place
 - Monitoring locations**
 - Alluvium
 - Branxton Formation
 - VWP, Branxton Formation and Greta Coal Measures
 - Geological structures**
 - Dyke
 - Fault
 - Fault zone
 - Structures
 - Geological symbol / areas

Historical Groundwater Review and Assessment, Austar Coal Mine (G1828G)

Austar monitoring bore and VWP locations

DATE
20/02/2018

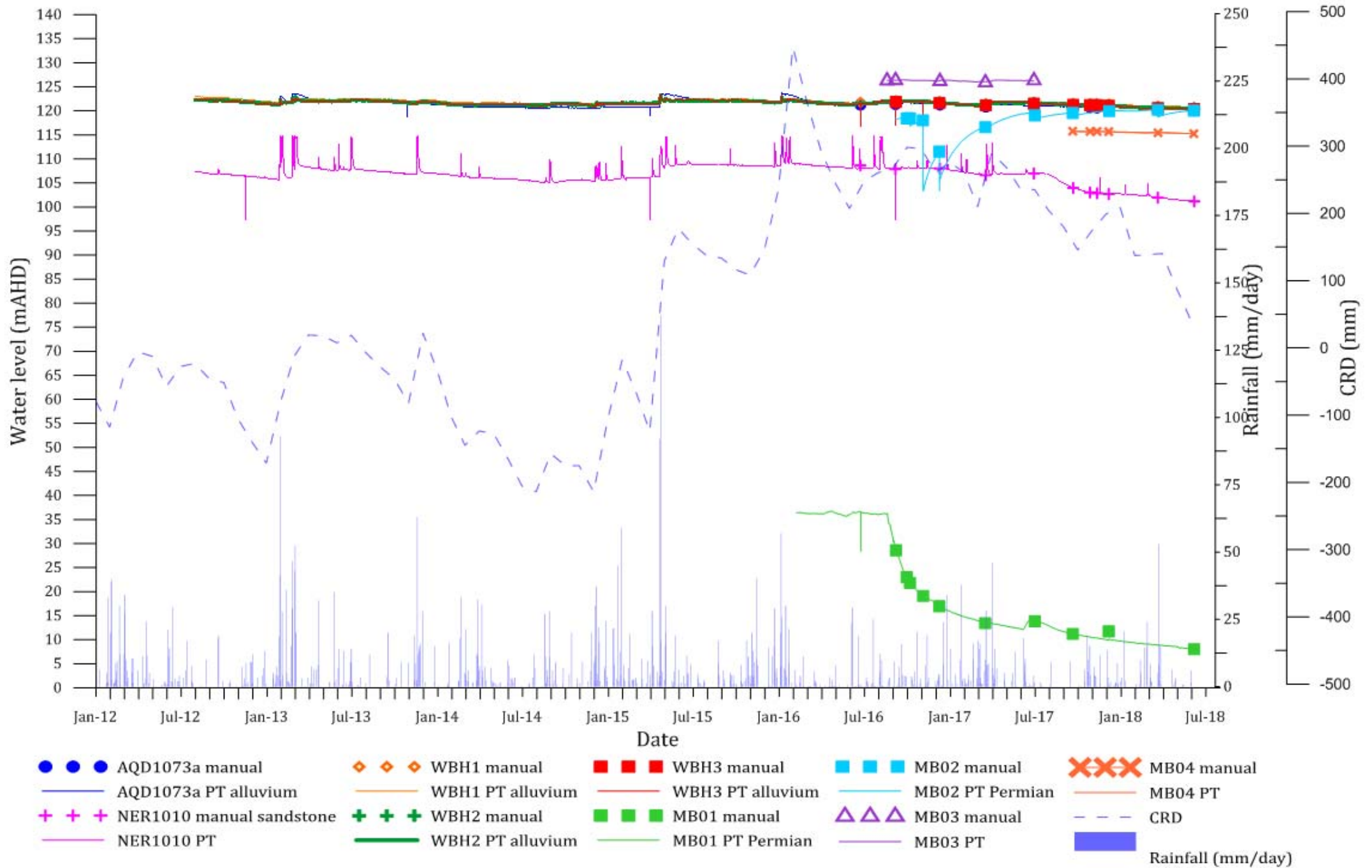
FIGURE No:

4.1

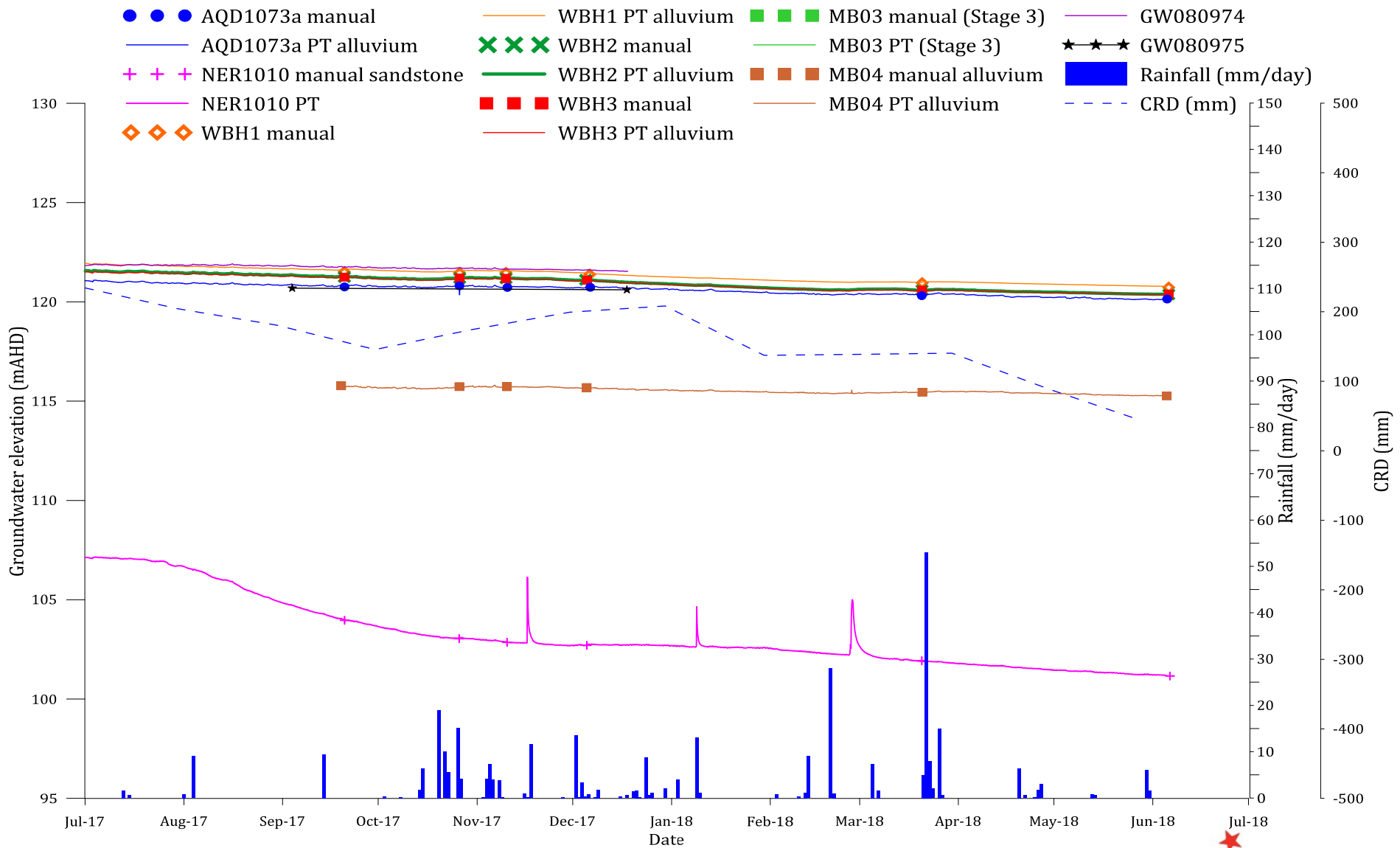


GDA94, Zone 56
1:20,000

250 0 250 500 km



Groundwater Monitoring



Groundwater Monitoring

Monitoring Bore 01 (MB01)

- Quarterly monitoring completed during July 2018 shows a continued downward trend of the water level in MB01. This bore monitors a shallow porous rock aquifer located over longwall panel A9.
- No decrease due to mining has been observed in other nearby monitoring bores (MB02).

Monitoring Bore NER1010

- Quarterly monitoring completed during July 2018 shows a continued downward trend of the water level in NER1010. This bore monitors a shallow porous rock aquifer located over longwall panel B5.
- The rate of decline could be attributed to drier than average conditions, aligning to declines for dry periods prior to undermining.
- No decrease due to mining has been observed in other nearby monitoring wells (MB03, MB04).

Noise Monitoring

Since last CCC meeting (22 May to 28 August 2018)

- No noise exceedances were recorded from 22 May to 28 August 2018.

Vibration

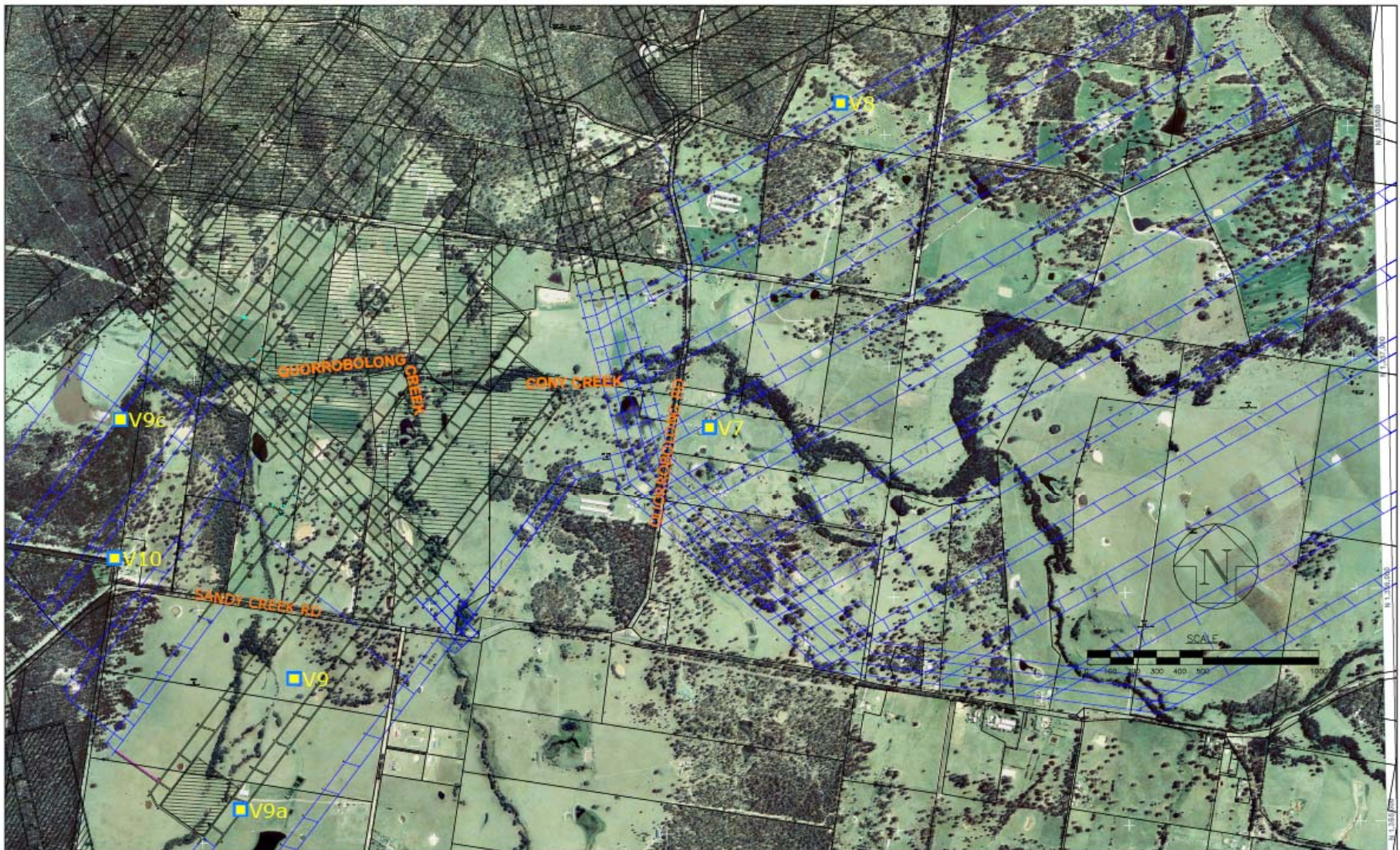
Since last CCC meeting (22 May to 28 August 2018)

- **Monitor V7 – 345 Quorrobolong Road**
 - No new events greater than 1mm/s

- **Monitor V9c – Sandy Creek Road - Austar**
 - Monitoring commenced 19 July 2017
 - No new events greater than 1mm/s

- **Monitor V10 – Sandy Creek Road - Austar**
 - Monitoring commenced 28 August 2017
 - No new events greater than 1mm/s

Vibration



LEGEND:

■ V7 Vibration Monitors

DRAWN
J. Chadwick
DATE
22/8/2017
CHECKED
APPROVED

AUSTAR COAL MINE

Vibration Monitoring Locations

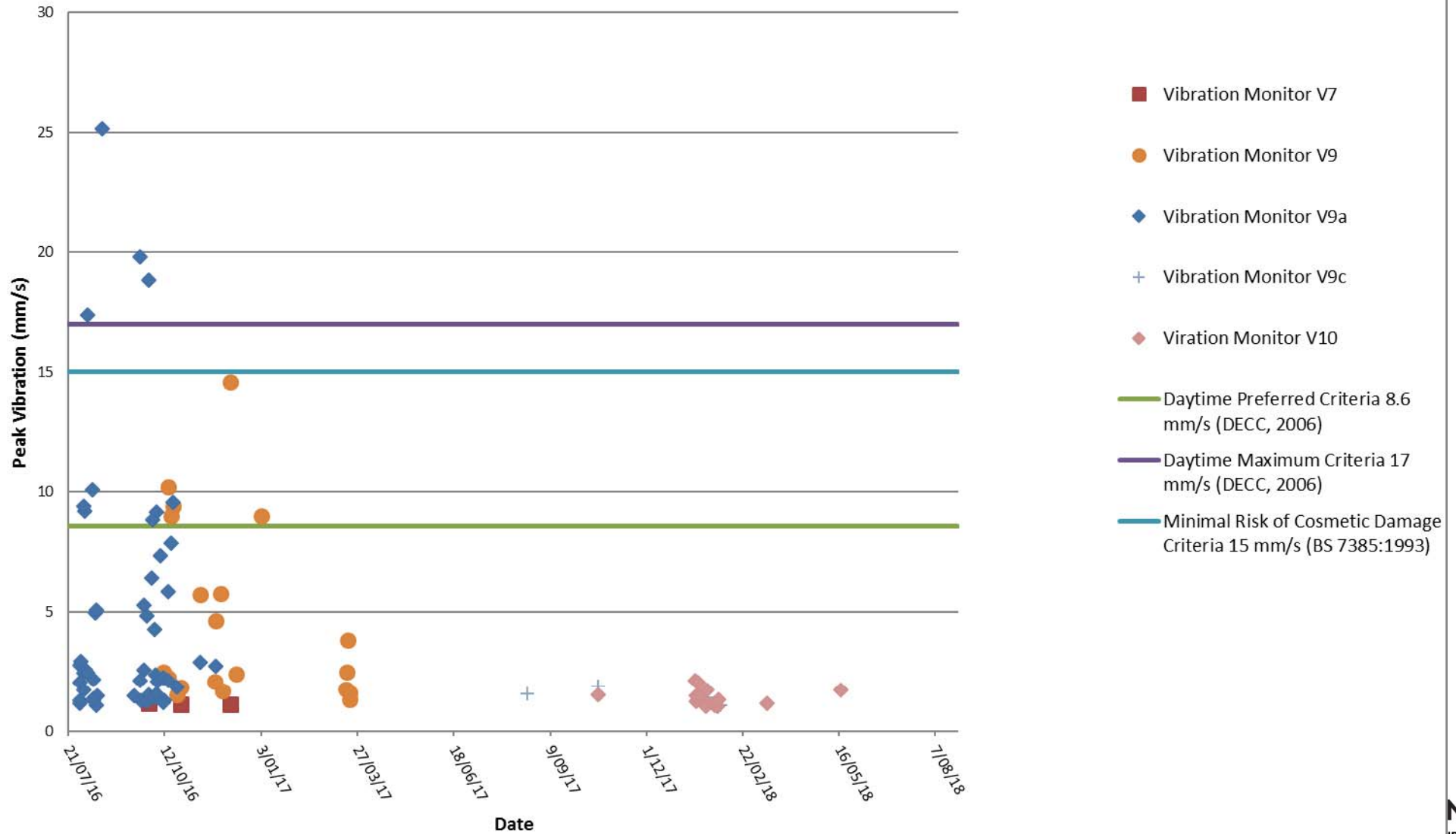
TITLE
SCALE
Not to scale
DRAWING No.
P:\Austar\Environmental\MonitoringPlan
Vibration tab

A3



Vibration

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



Community Complaints

Since last CCC meeting (22 May to 28 August 2018)

- 4 community complaints.
- **Noise complaint 12 June 2018** - Control Room received a call 12 June 2018 from a resident on Glennie Street, Ellalong reporting a loud noise from 3 Shaft site approximately 5.35pm. A mechanic went to the area and was unable to identify any unusual sounds coming from the Austar site.
- **Noise complaint 14 June 2018** - The complainant above called the Control Room again 7.25pm 14 June reporting the same sound and also mentioned hearing the noise approximately 3am the same day. The Control Room Operator sent Security to listen from the complainant's house at Glennie Street, Ellalong and a mechanic to 3 Shaft. Security heard a squealing noise which he thought was coming from Kalingo pump. He contacted CHPP to turn Kalingo pump off which in turn stopped the noise straight away so he asked CHPP to leave it off until further notice. The pump was replaced.

Community Complaints

- **Noise complaint 31 July 2018** – A resident of Glennie Street, Ellalong called on 31 July 2018 to report the 3 Shaft compressors had been making more noise than usual for the past 4 nights. E&C attended Glennie Street, 3 Shaft and Kalingo Dam areas, and observed unusual noise at 3 shaft area. Engineering and maintenance inspected Kalingo Dam/3 Shaft area later in the day and thought the elevated noise was caused by a relief bypass line valve on the nitrogen plant. The valve was closed until the nitrogen plant was checked by the service provider. Attended noise monitoring was undertaken that evening and mine noise was inaudible at Glennie Street.
- **Traffic complaint 3 August 2018** - Call received on the Community Complaints Line 3 August 2018 reporting a lady driving too quickly in a mine vehicle on Coney Creek Lane about 3:40pm. Complainant was concerned that school children walk home along the lane at that time. The vehicle was identified to be one of Austar's contractors who was collecting monitoring samples. The contractor was informed of the complaint and stated that they would drive more slowly in future.

General Business



Community Sponsorships –

- The latest round of the Community Support Program has been advertised with applications closing 11 May 2018. Applications have been assessed and community groups will be notified shortly.
- Yancoal supported the Ellalong Woodchop which was held last weekend 25 August

Other –

Next Meeting / Close