



**THE WALLERAWANG COLLIERIES LIMITED**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
MONITORING SUMMARY  
April – June 2012**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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In accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 9 of Project Approval 09\_0178 this report provides a summary of environmental monitoring results for Baal Bone Colliery, for the period 1 April to 30 June 2012. Baal Bone's licensed discharge and monitoring locations are identified in **Drawing 1** and **Drawing 2**. Noise monitoring locations are identified in **Drawing 3**. Results included in this summary include – air quality, surface water quality and dewatering bore flow rates.

## 2. AIR QUALITY

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In accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 12 of Project Approval 09\_0178 Baal Bone Colliery has developed an Air Quality Monitoring Program (AQMP). The Department of Planning approved the AQMP in correspondence dated 6 July 2011.

Monthly dust fall-out monitoring is carried out in accordance with Australian Standard AS3580.10.1, EPL requirements and Baal Bone's AQMP. Baal Bone has engaged ALS Group Environmental Division Mudgee, a NATA Accredited laboratory, to undertake monthly sampling, monitoring and analysis.

Baal Bone maintains a network of five dust deposition gauges to monitor dust levels around site and in the vicinity of the nearest neighbour, these are:

- Sample location DM1 (EPL monitoring point No. 7);
- Sample location DM2 (EPL monitoring point No. 13);
- Sample location DM3 (EPL monitoring point No. 14); and
- Sample location DM4 (EPL monitoring point No. 15).
- Sample location DM5 – installed 8 September 2011 (EPL monitoring point No. 16).

Particulate matter less than 10 µm in size (PM<sub>10</sub>) and high volume air sampler total suspended particulate (TSP) monitors were installed 23 October 2011 and 29 October 2011 respectively in accordance with a revised Air Quality Monitoring Program which was approved by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in accordance with Project Approval 09\_0178. The location of the TSP and PM<sub>10</sub> monitors are situated at the same location as DM2.

In accordance with the Air Quality Monitoring Program, monitoring for PM<sub>10</sub> and TSP was discontinued in June 2012. The monitoring was discontinued following Baal Bone mining operations entering care and maintenance in September 2011, and the completion of washing and transporting of coal off-site in December 2011 and April 2012 respectively.

Locations of all air quality monitoring gauges are shown in **Drawing 1**.

## 2.1 Air Quality Impact Assessment Criteria

Schedule 3, Condition 10 of Project Approval 09\_0178 includes air quality impact assessment criteria for the project which are summarised in **Table 2.1** below. The pollutants to be monitored include deposited dust, TSP and PM<sub>10</sub>.

**Table 2.1: Baal Bone Air Quality Impact Assessment Criteria**

Pollutant	Averaging period	Criterion	
		Maximum increase	Maximum total
Deposited dust	Annual	2 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month	4 g/m <sup>2</sup> /month
		90 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
TSP	Annual	90 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
PM <sup>10</sup>	24 hour	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	Annual	30 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	

## 2.2 Depositional Rust Monitoring Results

Levels of deposited dust at Baal Bone's five gauges were below 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month during the reporting period (refer to **Table 2.2**), with the exception of DM1 where a level of 6.1g/m<sup>2</sup> was recorded for June 2012. The annual average for deposited dust at DM1 for the 12 month period ending June 2012 was 0.8g/m<sup>2</sup>/month. Dust levels at all five gauges satisfied the criterion outlined in Project Approval 09\_0178.

Note: the June 2012 sample for DM1 was noted to be contaminated with bird droppings and insects.

**Figures 2.1 to 2.5** provide monthly results for each depositional dust gauge for 2012.

**Table 2.2: Deposited dust monitoring results for 2012 (g/m<sup>2</sup>/month)**

Month	DM1	DM2	DM3	DM4	DM5
January	1.5	0.2	2.3 <sup>c</sup>	0.6 <sup>c</sup>	0.3
February	0.1 <sup>b</sup>	0.1 <sup>b</sup>	0.1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.3 <sup>b</sup>
March	0.1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	See note 'a'
April	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3
May	0.6	0.2	1.9	0.2	0.6
June	6.1 <sup>d</sup>	0.1	1.0	0.1	0.1

- a) No results available, sample bottle broken in transit.  
 b) Gauge overflowing – depositional dust result may be underestimated.  
 c) Sample exposure period outside of AS/NZS 3580.1 specifications of 30 ± 2 days.  
 d) June 2012 sample at DM1 contaminated with bird droppings and insects.

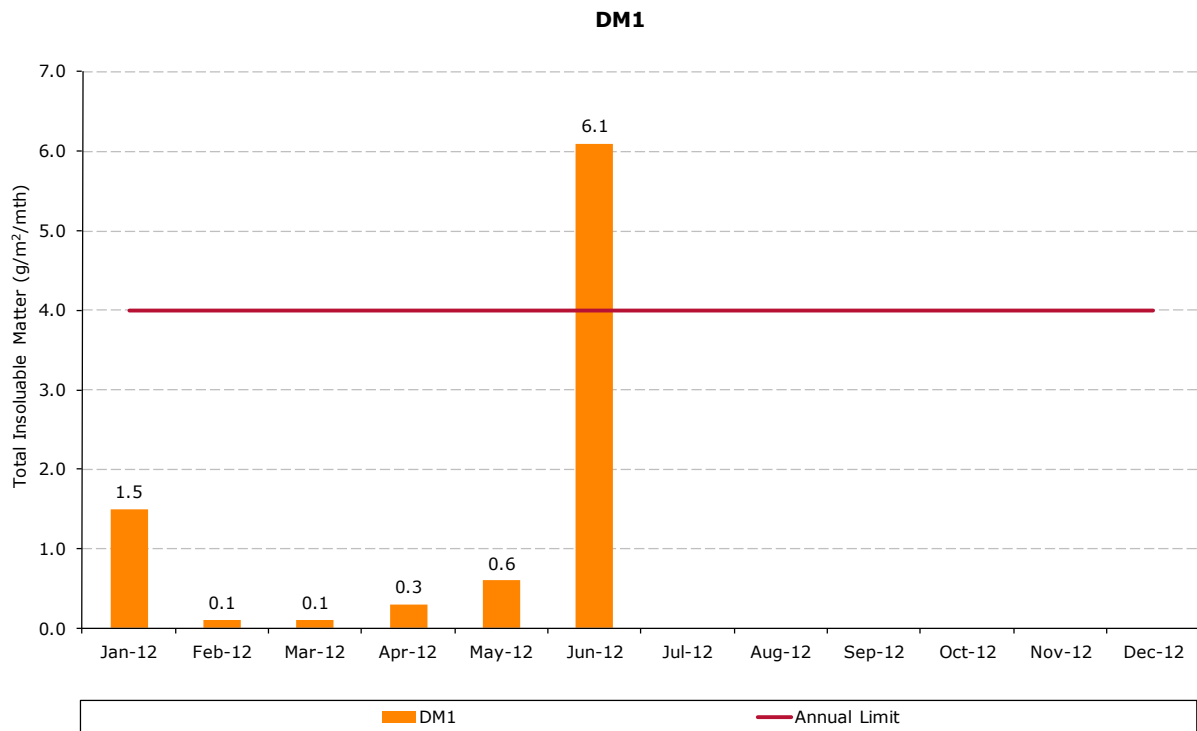


Figure 2.1: Dust monitoring gauge DM1 (EPL monitoring point No. 7)

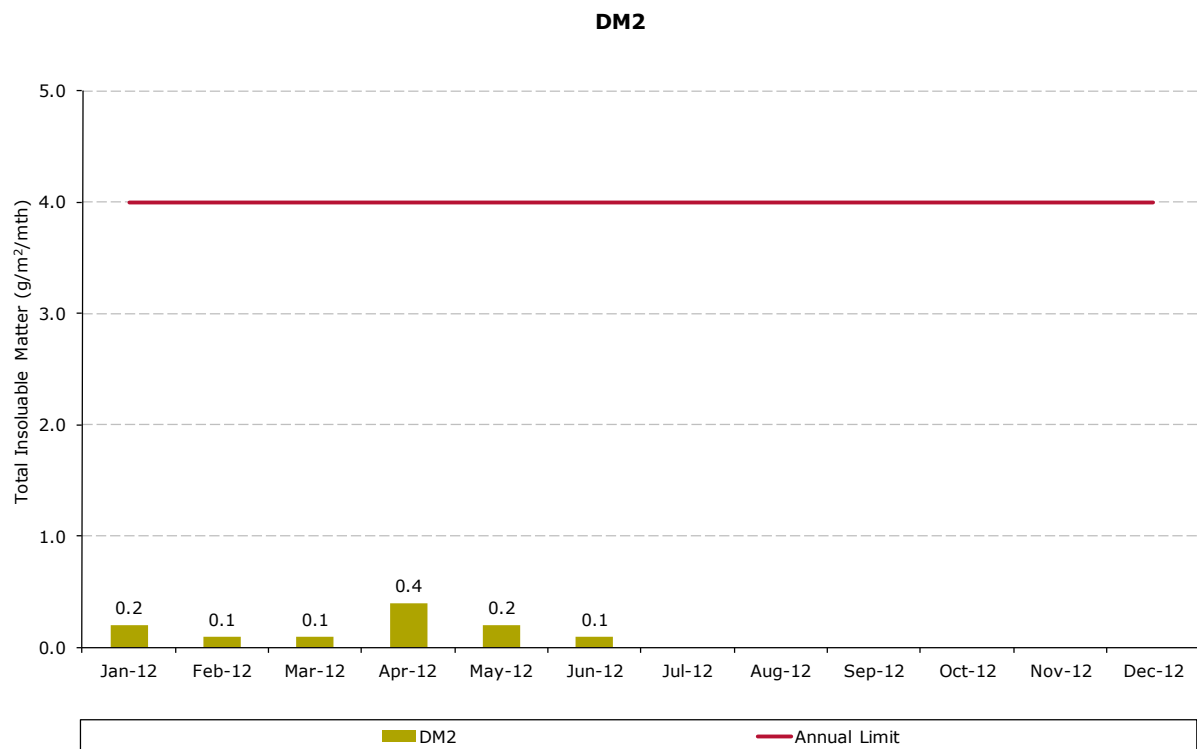


Figure 2.2: Dust monitoring gauge DM2 (EPL monitoring point No. 13)

**DM3**

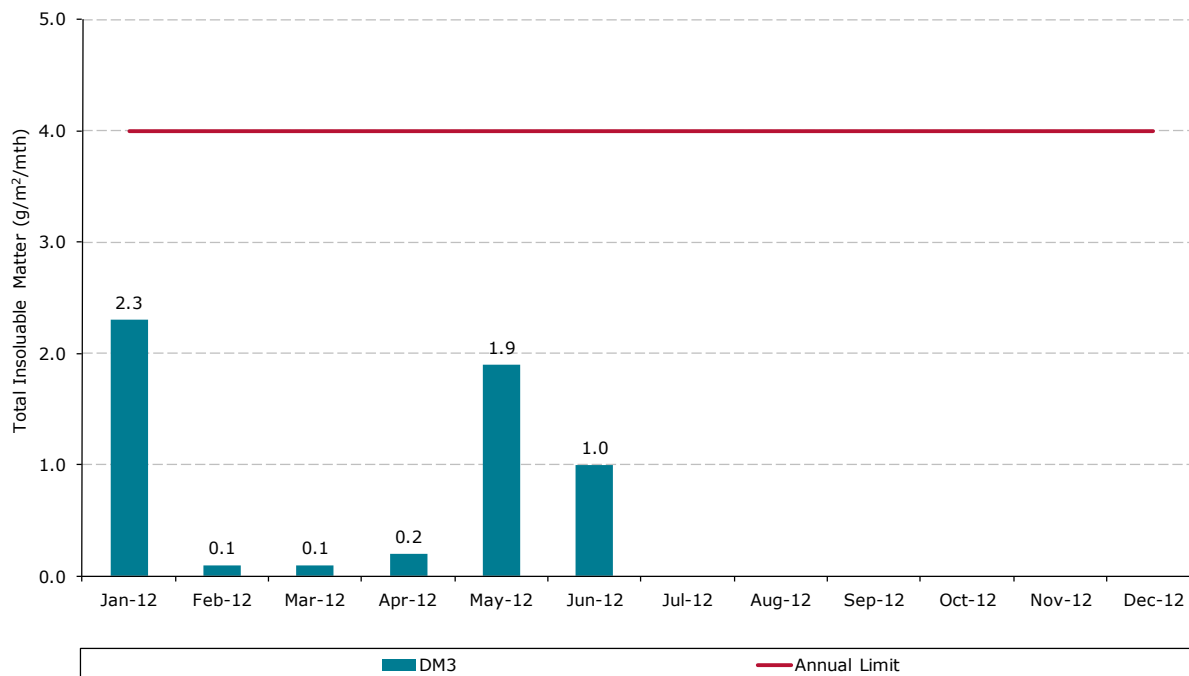


Figure 2.3: Dust monitoring gauge DM3 (EPL monitoring point No. 14)

**DM4**

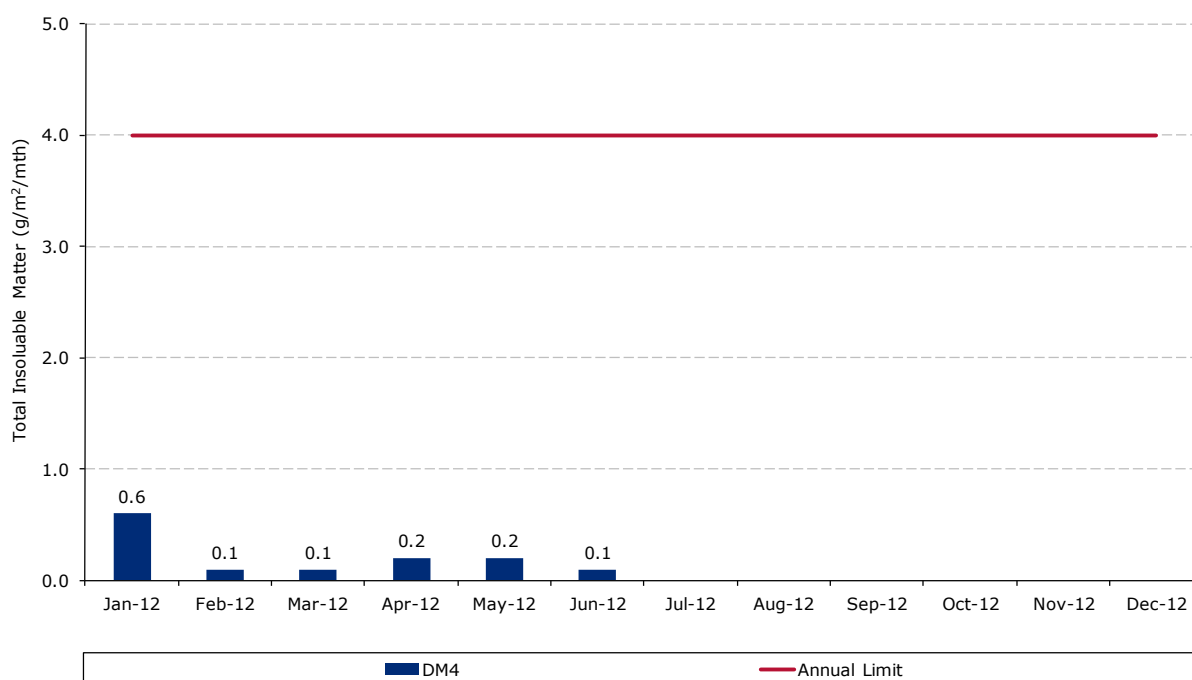


Figure 2.4: Dust monitoring gauge DM4 (EPL monitoring point No. 15)

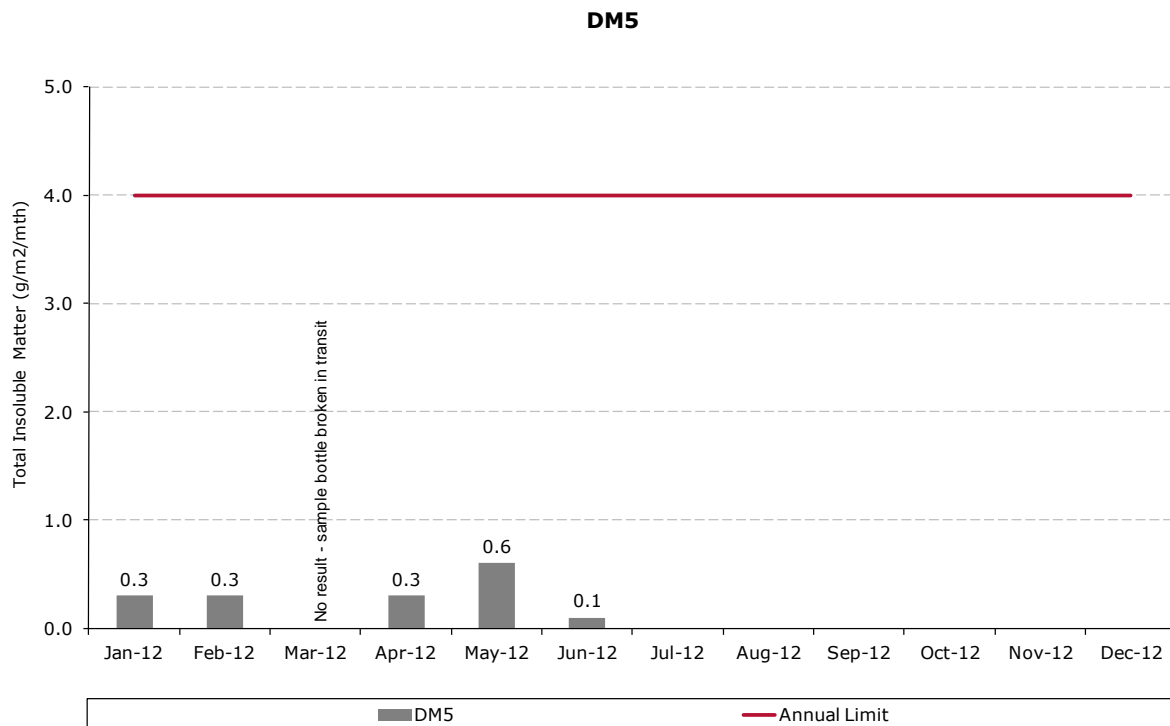


Figure 2.5: Dust monitoring gauge DM5 (EPL monitoring point No. 16)

### 2.3 Total Suspended Particulate Results

A high volume air sampler (HVAS) monitors total suspended particulates (TSP) at one location: DM2. HVAS run on a six-day cycle in accordance with EPA/OEH requirements.

**Figure 2.6** shows the TSP results for the reporting period.

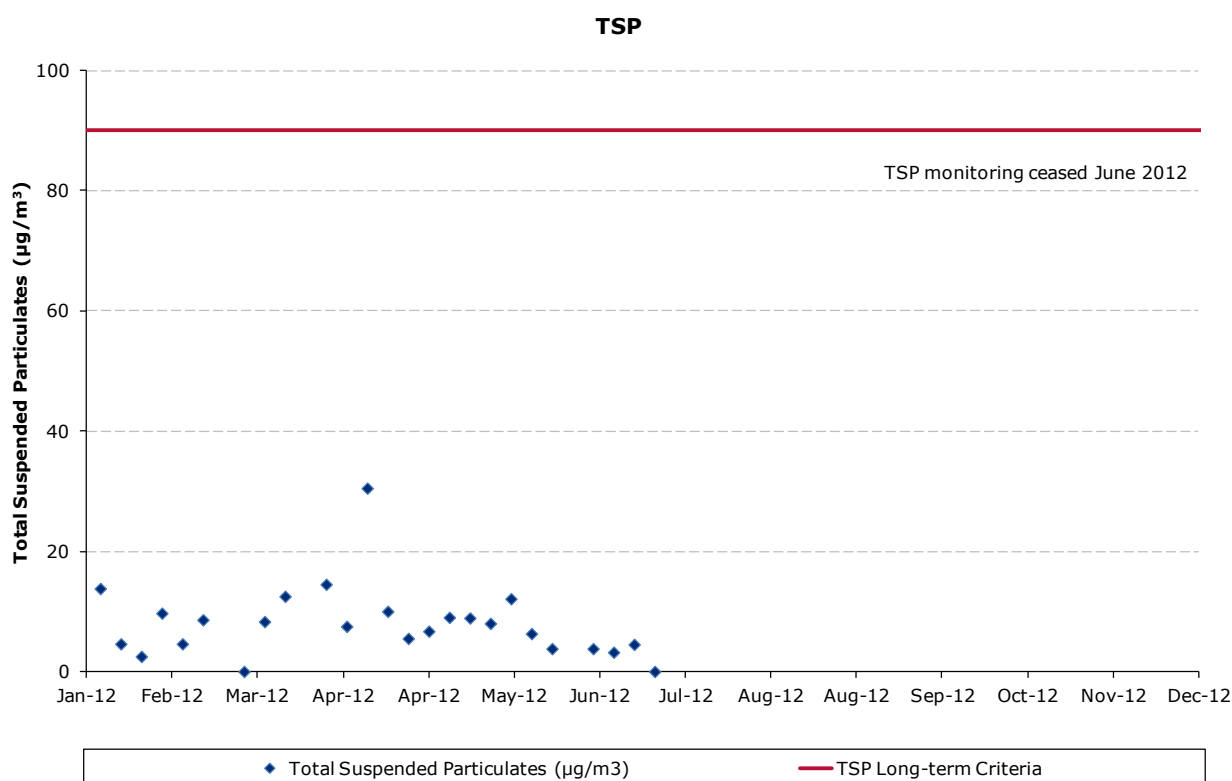


Figure 2.6: TSP Results

As the HVAS for monitoring TSP was installed in October 2011, the annual rolling average is not available for the current reporting period.

As illustrated at **Figure 2.6** the TSP levels during the reporting period were well below the long-term criteria, with the average TSP level for the six months until end June 2012 being 9.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

In accordance with the Air Quality Monitoring Program, monitoring for TSP was discontinued in June 2012. The monitoring was discontinued following Baal Bone mining operations entering care and maintenance in September 2011, and the completion of coal washing and transporting of coal off-site in December 2011 and April 2012 respectively.

## 2.4 PM<sub>10</sub> Results

A Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance Analyser (TEOM) measures particulate matter up to 10 microns in diameter (PM<sub>10</sub>) at one location: DM2.

**Figure 2.7** shows PM<sub>10</sub> 24 hour average results for the reporting period.



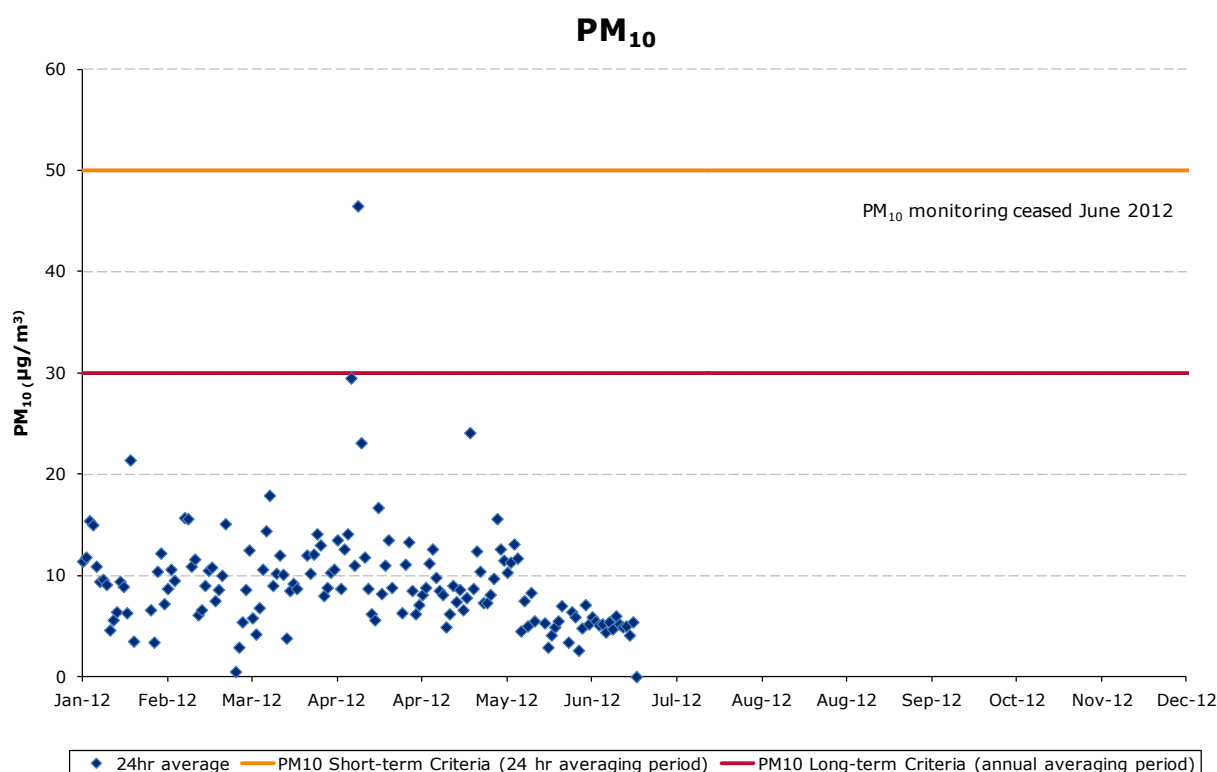


Figure 2.7: PM<sub>10</sub> 24 hour average results for the reporting period

As illustrated in **Figure 2.7** the PM<sub>10</sub> levels during the reporting period were below the short-term assessment criteria (50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

As the TEOM was installed in October 2011, the annual rolling average is not available. However the average 24hr PM<sub>10</sub> level for the six months until end June 2012 was 9.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, well below the long-term assessment criteria of 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

In accordance with the Air Quality Monitoring Program, monitoring for PM<sub>10</sub> was discontinued in June 2012. The monitoring was discontinued following Baal Bone mining operations entering care and maintenance in September 2011, and the completion of washing and transporting of coal off-site in December 2011 and April 2012 respectively.

### 3. SURFACE WATER

Baal Bone has engaged ALS Group Environmental Division Mudgee, a NATA Accredited laboratory, to undertake monthly sampling, monitoring and analysis of a range of surface and subsurface waters.

Baal Bone maintains a network of five licensed discharge and monitoring points in accordance with EPL 765 (viz. LD2, LD3, LD6, LDP1 and WMP1)(**Drawing 1 and Drawing 2**).

**Environmental Monitoring Summary**

A copy of EPL 765 can be accessed here:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/ViewPOEOLicence.aspx?DOCID=31065&SY SUID=1&LICID=765>.

### 3.1 Water Quality Concentration Limits

Condition L2 of EPL 765 outlines water concentration limits for oil and grease, pH, total suspended solids and total iron. These limits are presented below in **Table 3.1**.

**Table 3.1: EPL concentration limits**

	LD2	LD3	LD6	LDP1	WMP1
Oil and grease (mg/L)	-	10	10	10	-
pH	-	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	-
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	-	50	50	50	-
Total Iron (mg/L)	-	-	1.0	1.0	-

### 3.2 Water Quality Results

Monitoring results for Baal Bone's five licensed discharge and monitoring points as required by EPL 765 are presented below in **Table 3.2**.

**Table 3.2: Water quality results for the reporting period**

EPL Point <sup>1</sup>	Month	EC uS/cm	Oil & Grease mg/L	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mg/L	Fe mg/L	TSS mg/L	pH	BOD mg/L	Faecal Coliforms cos/100m ls	N mg/L	P mg/L
LD2	Jan <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Feb	-	<2	-	-	87	8.1	37	320	8.8	4.19
	Mar	-	<2	-	-	78	7.2	35	<10	6.5	1.87
	Apr	-	<2	-	-	188	7.5	49	40	6.6	2.01
	May	-	5	-	-	130	8.3	56	40	6.7	1.03
	June	-	<2	-	-	59	7.7	16	9	8	1.08
LD3	Jan	1450	<2	350	3.0	6	6.7	-	-	-	-
	Feb	1430	<2	298	2.8	7	7.0	-	-	-	-
	Mar	1350	<2	170	0.4	3	7.0	-	-	-	-
	Apr	1190	<2	177	5.02	5	7.1	-	-	-	-
	May	1330	<2	176	3.6	5	7.4	-	-	-	-
	June	1340	<2	266	4.14	2	6.8	-	-	-	-

**Environmental Monitoring Summary**

EPL Point 1	Month	EC uS/cm	Oil & Grease mg/L	SO <sup>2-</sup> <sub>4</sub> mg/L	Fe mg/L	TSS mg/L	pH	BOD mg/L	Faecal Coliforms	N mg/L	P mg/L
LD6	Jan	1280	<2	271	0.37	2	6.7	-	-	-	-
	Feb	1310	<2	239	0.2	<2	7.4	-	-	-	-
	Mar	1440	<2	354	0.16	<2	7.6	-	-	-	-
	Apr	1610	<2	537	0.14	<2	7.4	-	-	-	-
	May	1700	<2	446	0.17	<2	7.9	-	-	-	-
	June	1660	<2	430	0.45	<2	7.3	-	-	-	-
LDP 1	Jan	1160	<2	408	0.26	<2	7.8	-	-	8.6	0.02
	Feb	1180	<2	393	0.17	2	7.9	-	-	0.1	0.09
	Mar	880	<2	213	0.2	2	7.3	-	-	0.3	<0.01
	Apr	1240	<2	436	0.12	<2	8.1	-	-	0.4	<0.01
	May	1390	<2	451	0.16	3	8.4	-	-	0.3	<0.01
	June	1160	<2	378	0.2	2	7.9	-	-	0.3	<0.01

1. No samples taken at WMP1 during the period January – June 2012 as sample location was dry.
2. No sample taken in January, as LD2 was dry.

**Legend**

EC = Electrical conductivity

Fe = Iron

BOD = Biological oxygen demand

P = Phosphorus

SO<sup>2-</sup><sub>4</sub> = Sulfate

TSS = Total suspended solids

N = Nitrogen

**Figures 3.1 to 3.4** provide monthly water quality results compared to EPL concentration limits.

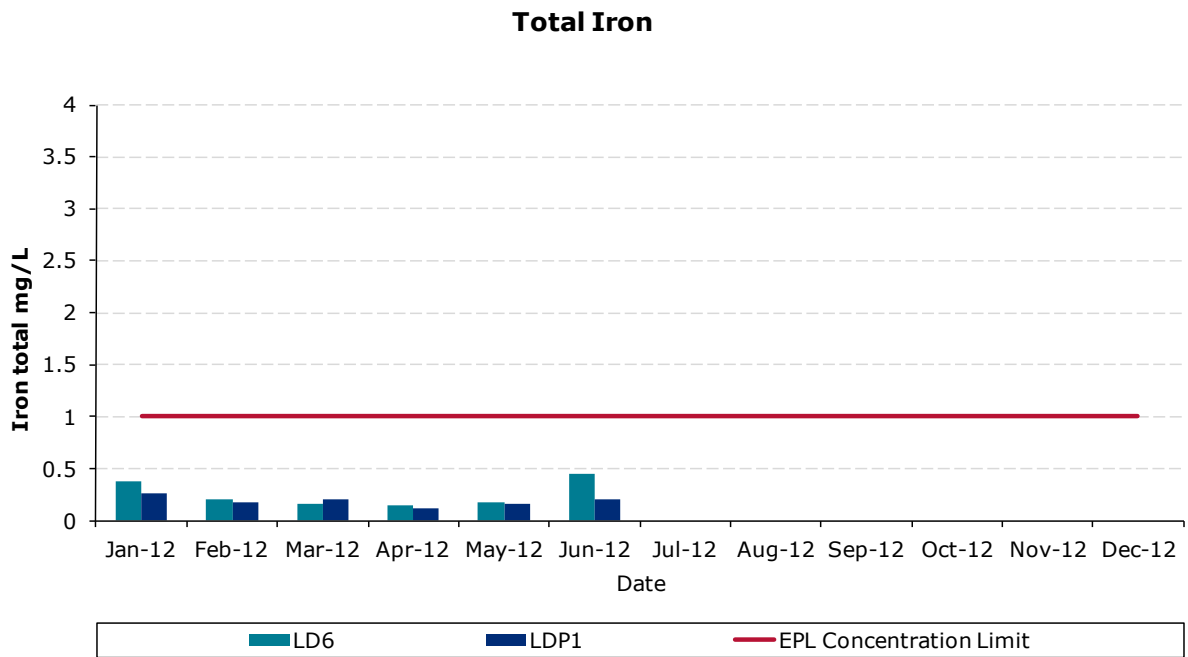
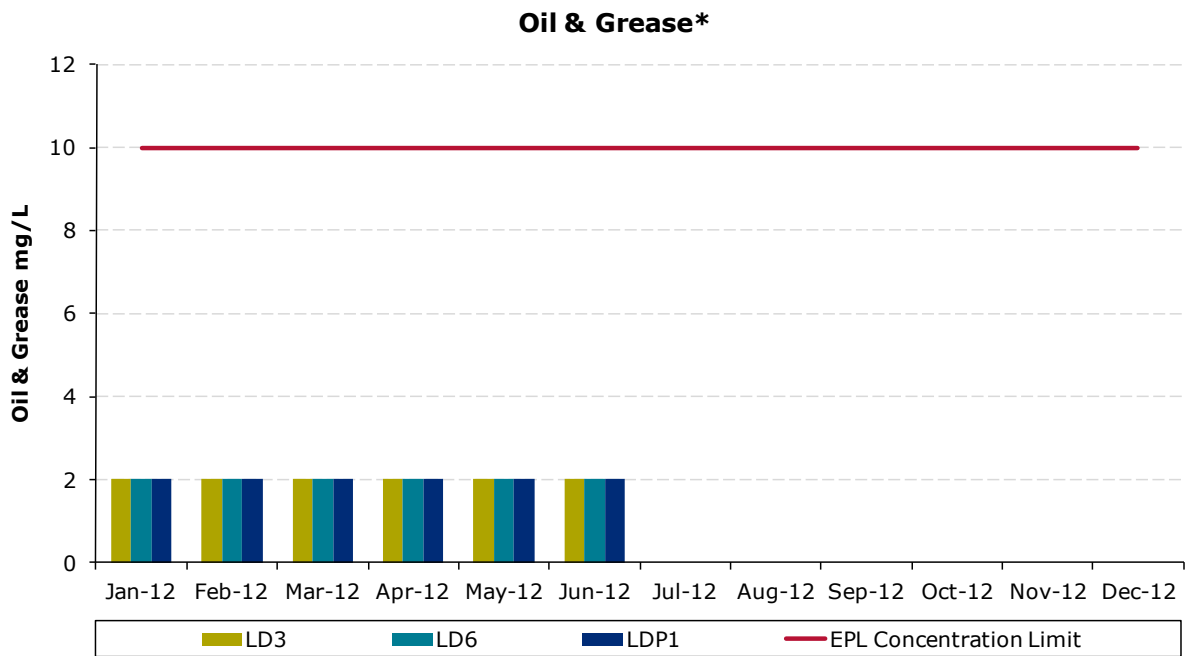


Figure 3.1: Total iron levels



Notes:  
 \* Some values shown as 2 were reported as being <2.

Figure 3.2: Oil and grease levels

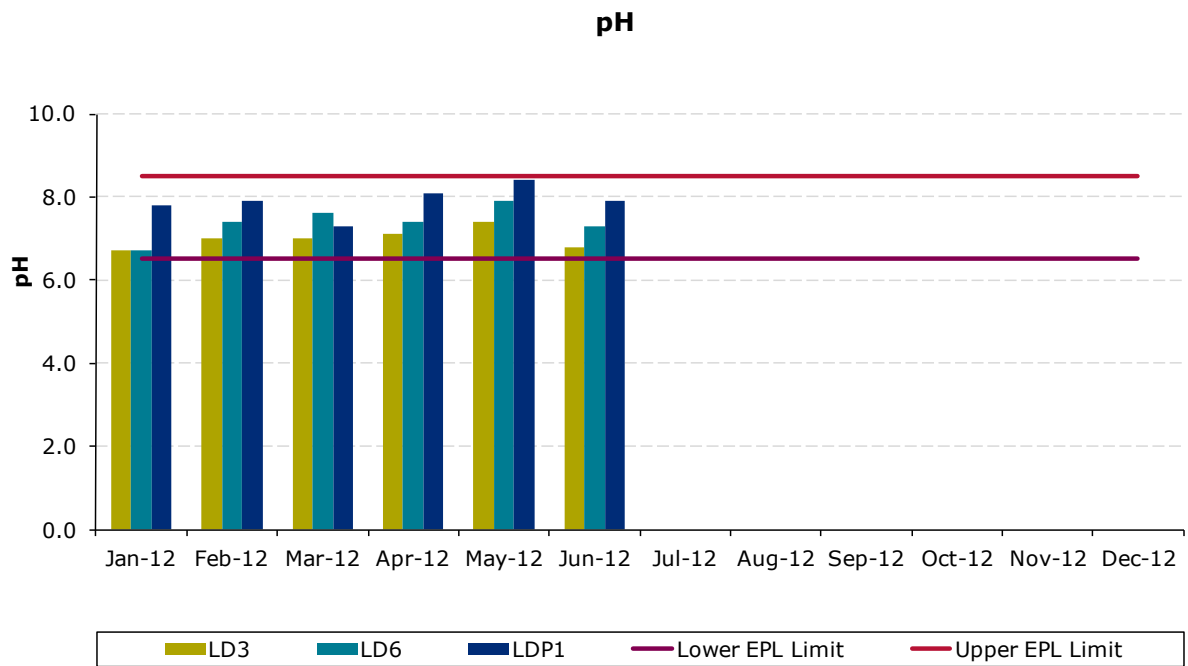


Figure 3.3: pH levels

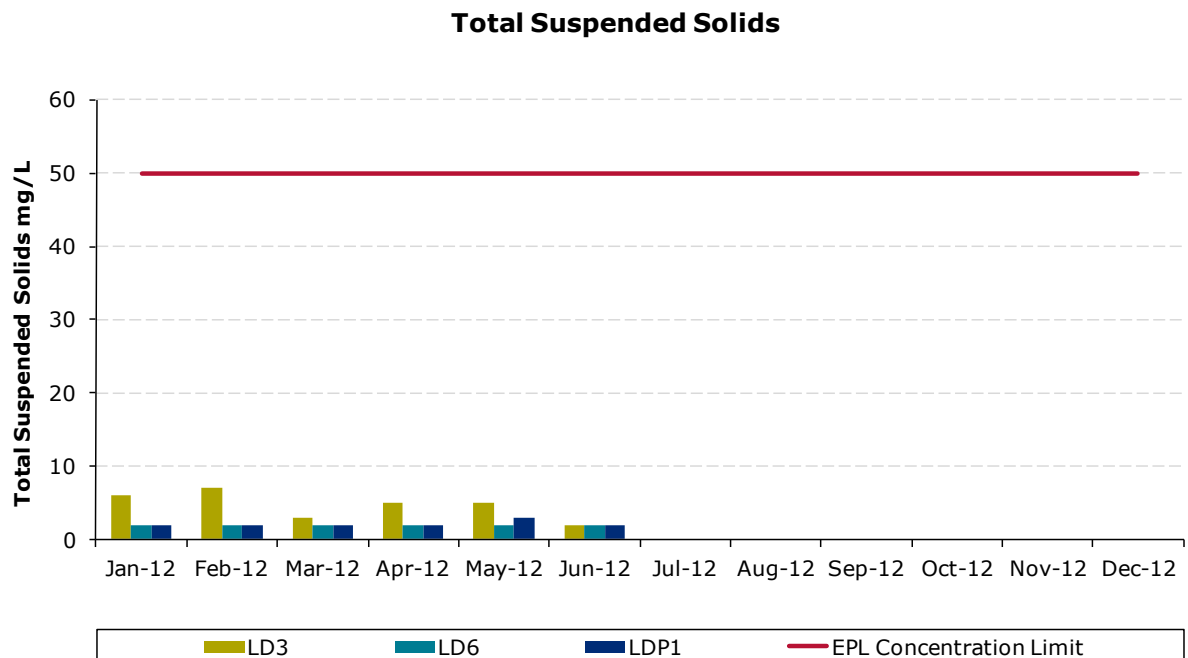


Figure 3.4: Total suspended solids levels

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**Environmental Monitoring Summary**

All samples recorded were within EPL concentration limits during the reporting period.

A summary of monitoring results for EPL discharge and monitoring points (those with specified concentration limits) during the April - June 2012 period can be found below:

- All samples for iron returned levels of 0.45 mg/L or less, below the concentration limit of 1.0 mg/L.
- All samples for oil and grease at returned levels of 2 mg/L or less, well below the EPL concentration limit of 10 mg/L.
- All samples returned pH results that were within the upper and lower EPL limits (8.5 and 6.5 respectively).
- The highest TSS result for the period was 5 mg/L (recorded at LD3), well below the concentration limit of 50 mg/L.

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## 4. GROUNDWATER

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Condition L3.1 of EPL 765 specifies a discharge volume limit of 12 ML per day at LD6.

During the April - June 2012 period, discharges from LD6 did not exceed the daily limit, with an average daily discharge at LD6 of 4.0 ML per day, and a maximum daily discharge of 4.2 ML.

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## 5. NOISE

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Baal Bone Colliery has developed a Noise Management Plan (NMP) in accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 6 of Project Approval 09\_0178. The NMP was approved by the Department of Planning in correspondence dated 11 November 2012.

As per the NMP Baal Bone Colliery operates a real time noise monitor at location R2. In addition to real time noise monitoring (which is supplementary to regulatory measurements), attended monitoring is undertaken on a quarterly basis at receptors R1 and R2/R3 (**refer to Drawing 3**).

### 5.1 Noise Impact Assessment Criteria

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Schedule 3, Condition 4 of Project Approval 09\_0178 includes long term noise impact assessment criteria. Table 5.1 outlines the assessment criteria.

**Table 5.1: Long term noise impact assessment criteria**

Location	All periods dB(a) $L_{Aeq}(15 \text{ min})$	Night dB(a) $L_{A1}(1 \text{ min})$
R1	46	47
R2	41	48
R3	41	48
All other privately-owned land	35	45

## 5.2 Noise Audit Results

During the reporting period an environmental compliance noise audit was conducted by Atkins Acoustics & Associates on Wednesday 11 May 2012 between 3.30pm and 12.00 midnight. Table 5.2 summarises the results from the audit.

**Table 5.2: Attended noise measurement results**

Location (Start time)	Measured Predicted Colliery Noise	Limit	Unit	Comments
	$L_{Aeq}$			
Daytime Audit (3.00pm to 6.00pm, Wednesday 11 May 2012 )				
R1 (1630 hours)	<35	46	dBA	Coal Pac Cullen Bullen Dozer, trucks; Highway traffic; Cows; Insects; Birds.
R1 (1645 hours)	<35	46	dBA	Coal Pac Cullen Bullen Dozer, trucks; Highway traffic; Cows; Insects; Birds.
R2/R3 (1545 hours)	<35	41	dBA	Coal Pac Cullen Bullen Dozer, trucks; Highway traffic; Cows; Insects; Birds, Radio in shed.
R2/R3 (1600 hours)	<35	41	dBA	Coal Pac Cullen Bullen Dozer, trucks; Highway traffic; Cows; Insects; Birds, Radio in shed.

Location (Start time)	Measured Predicted Colliery Noise	Limit	Unit	Comments
	$L_{Aeq}$			
Evening Audit (6.00pm to 10.00pm, Wednesday 11 May 2012)				
R1 (1800 hours)	<40	46	dBA	Truck/loader onsite 35/37dBA; impact 41/2 dBA; Cows 60/65 dBA; Vent fan, highway traffic.
R1 (1815 hours)	<42	46	dBA	Truck/loader onsite 35/37dBA;Vent fan, highway traffic.
R2/R3 (1840 hours)	<39	41	dBA	Insects; Highway traffic; Vent fan/generator.
R2/R3 (1865 hours)	<35	41	dBA	Insects; Highway traffic; Vent fan/generator.

**Environmental Monitoring Summary**

Location (Start time)	Measured Predicted Colliery Noise		Limit		Unit	Comments
	L <sub>Aeq</sub>	L <sub>Amax</sub>	L <sub>Aeq</sub>	L <sub>Amax</sub>		
Night Audit (10.00pm to midnight, Wednesday 11 May 2012)						
R1 (2232 hours)	<35	<38	46	47	dBA	Cows; Ventilation Fan 33/4 dBA; Intermittent Highway Traffic 48/49dBA.
R1 (2247 hours)	<35	<30	46	47	dBA	Ventilation Fan 33/4 dBA; Intermittent Highway Traffic 48/49dBA.
R2/R3 (2200 hours)	<35	<38	41	48	dBA	Cows; Ventilation Fan 33/4 dBA; Insects; Intermittent Highway Traffic 48/50dBA.
R2/R3 (2215 hours)	<35	<39	41	48	dBA	Cows; Ventilation Fan; Intermittent Highway Traffic 48/50dBA.

The audit report concluded that:

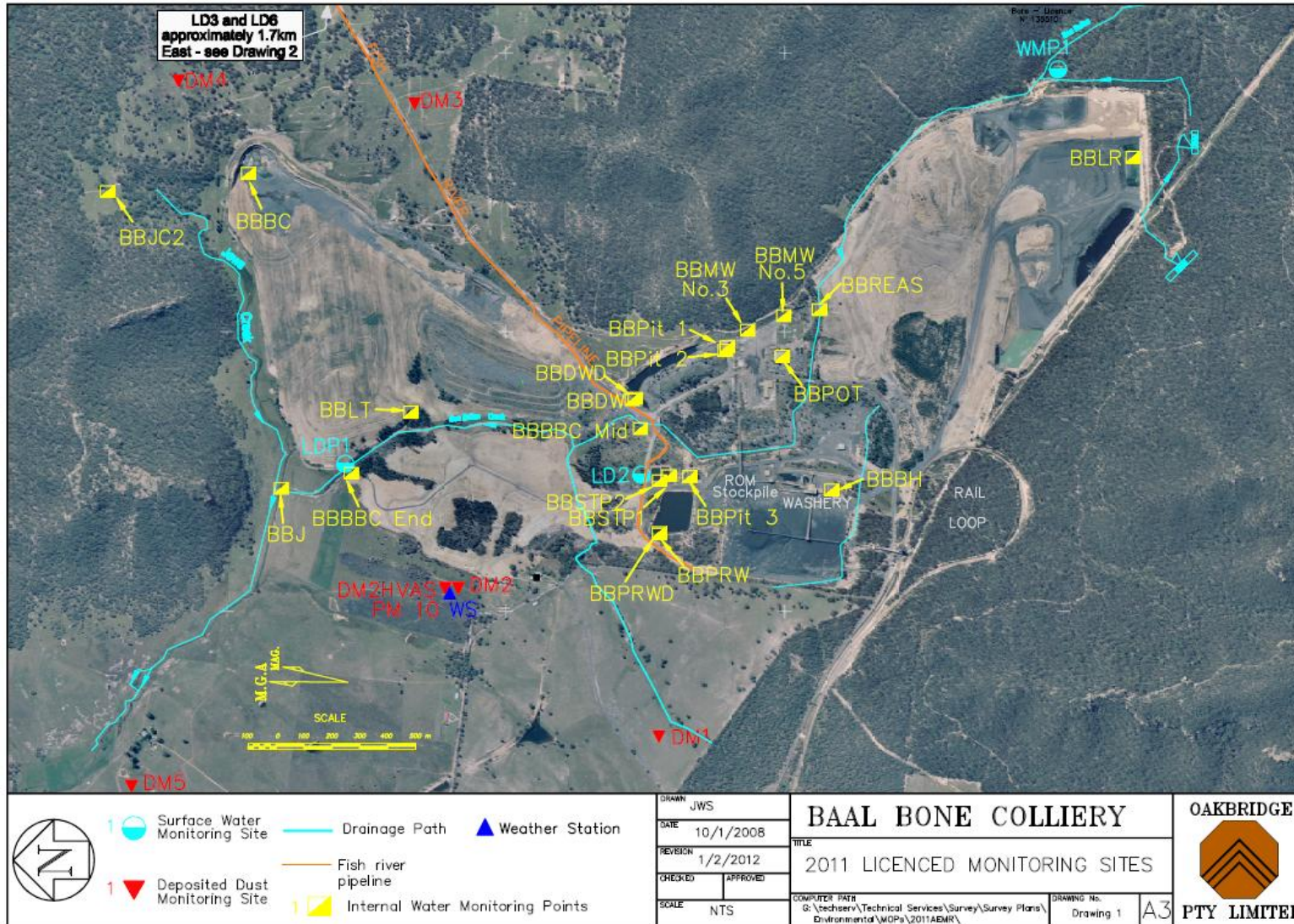
"The LA<sub>eq</sub>, 15 min noise levels from Baal Bone Colliery during the day, evening and night assessment periods satisfied the licence long-term noise limits.

Baal Bone Colliery related LA<sub>max</sub> noise levels were not observed to cause exceedances of the licence noise limits at measurement locations for the duration of the attended measurements."

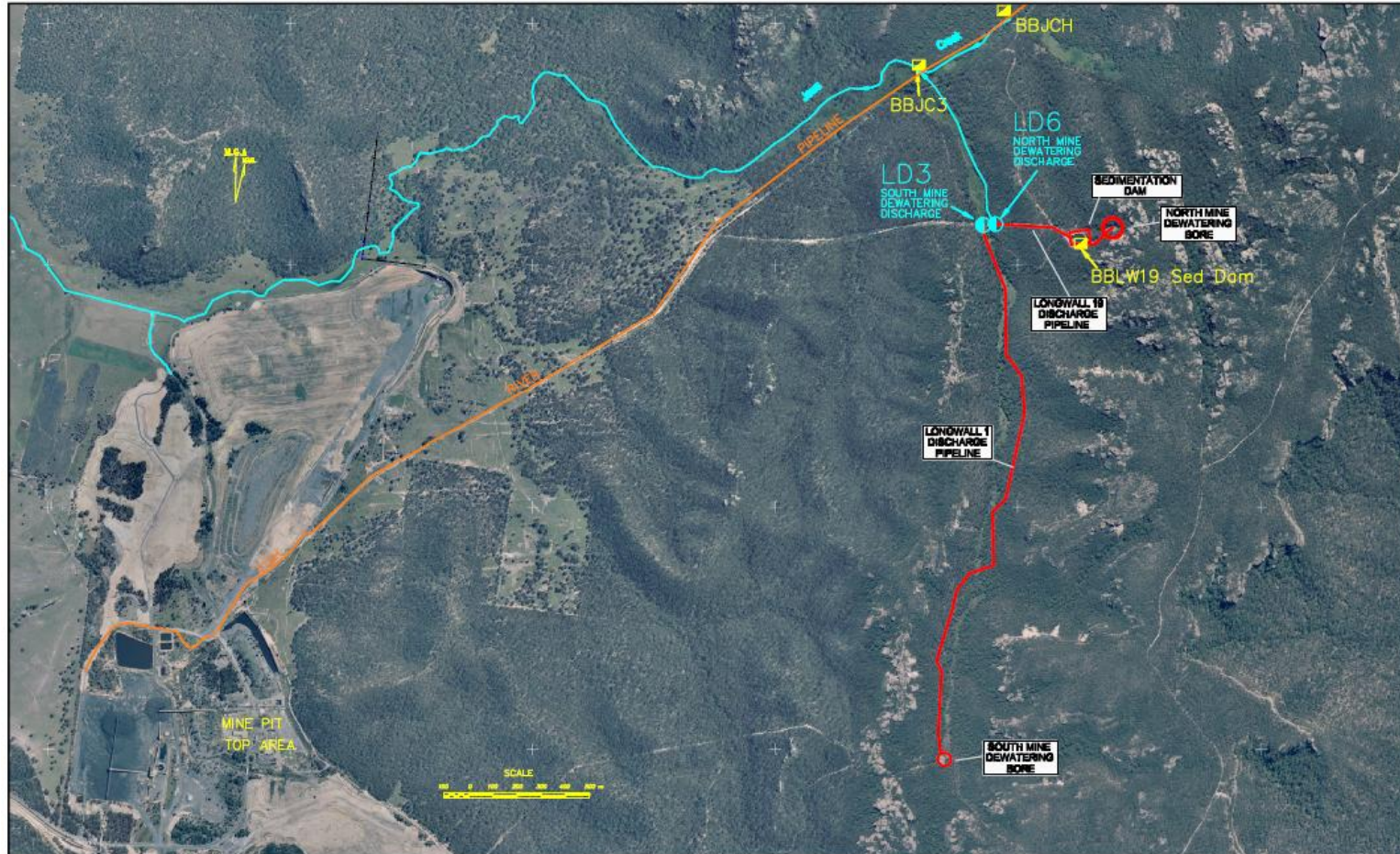
The full noise audit report can be accessed from the Baal Bone publications page at:  
<http://www.xstratacoal.com/EN/Operations/Pages/BaalBonePublicationsArchive.aspx>.









Drawing 1



Drawing 2



	 Surface Water Monitoring Site	 Drainage Path	<b>BAAL BONE COLLIERY</b> TITLE 2011 LICENCED MONITORING SITES	
	 Internal Water Monitoring Points	 Fish River Pipeline		
DRAWN JWS DATE 10/1/2008 REVISION 1/3/2012 CHECKED APPROVED SCALE NTS		COMPUTER PATH G:\Techserv\Technical Services\Survey\Survey Plans\Environmental\WCPs\2011\EMR\		DRAWING No. - Drawing 2

**Drawing 3**

