



HASTINGS
Technology Metals Limited

APPENDIX 6-3
Air Quality Assessment

Final Report

Yangibana Rare Earths Project – Air Quality Assessment

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Executive summary

Project description

Hastings Technology Metals Limited (Hastings) is seeking environmental approvals for the Yangibana Rare Earths Project (YREP). The project is located approximately 270 kilometres (km) east-northeast of Carnarvon, in the Gascoyne region of Western Australia. The YREP will include open pit mining and processing of mineralised monazite ore, including transport of product to port.

Mining is anticipated to occur over an eight-year period. The on-site beneficiation plant will treat up to 1 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of mineralised monazite, producing approximately 30,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of mineral concentrate. The concentrate will pass through a hydrometallurgical process, producing an estimated average of 12,000 (tpa) of final product. Power for the plant will be supplied from an onsite diesel generation plant.

The objective of this study is to assess the potential air quality impact from the operation of the YREP as currently defined.

Overview of assessment

For the purpose of the air quality assessment, the YREP comprises the mine and processing facilities, including power supply, the road network, buildings and support facilities.

Air quality assessment criteria provide the framework to assess effects of predicted (modelled) emissions on the environment (ie. human health and the natural environment).

Modelled ground level concentrations for key pollutants of interest have been compared to ambient air quality assessment criteria in order to determine the potential impact. The assessment has considered the potential impact associated with the YREP, as well as the cumulative impact (ie in conjunction with the existing air quality of the project area). The assessment has been made generally across the model domain, as well as at key sensitive receptor locations identified as being representative of protected environmental values.

Key findings of the assessment

YREP impact in isolation of other emission sources

The YREP was modelled to estimate the contribution of emissions from the project under a single operating design scenario; mining and processing associated with handling approximately 15 Mtpa of material.

Particles as TSP, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, dust deposition as well as nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) were modelled to represent the potential impact of the operations on the environment (ie, human health and the natural environment).

The modelling results for YREP in isolation of other emission sources in the region indicates that the predicted ground level concentrations of TSP, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, dust deposition and NO₂ are not significant, by comparison to the relevant criterion at receptor locations.

Cumulative impact with other emission sources

The YREP was modeled in conjunction with an estimate of background emissions, to estimate the potential cumulative impact on the environment following the introduction of the project. The YREP included emissions from the project under a single design scenario.

In the absence of site specific background monitoring information, conservative background levels have been adopted for pollutants and the cumulative impact should be read in conjunction with background levels adopted. Given the remoteness of the YREP operations, background levels for NO₂ are assumed negligible.

Both short term impacts (24-hour timeframe) and longer term impacts (1-year) were considered. The modelling results for the YREP project indicate that the maximum predicted ground level concentrations for:

- Cumulative 24-hour TSP can be expected to be around 36.4µg/m³ (44% of the criteria)
- Cumulative 24-hour PM₁₀ can be expected to be around 20.3µg/m³ (44% of the criteria)
- Cumulative annual average PM₁₀ can be expected to be around 19.2µg/m³ (70% of the criteria) – of which the majority is accounted for in the background data used
- Cumulative 24-hour PM_{2.5} can be expected to be around 3.1µg/m³ (14% of the criteria)
- Cumulative annual average PM_{2.5} can be expected to be around 2.9µg/m³ (41% of the criteria) – of which the majority is accounted for in the background data used
- Project only dust deposition levels can be expected to be less than 0.7% of the criteria.
- Cumulative 1-hour NO₂ can be expected to be less than 2% of the criteria
- Cumulative annual average NO₂ can be expected to be around 13% of the criteria

In summary, no significant air quality impact is expected during the operational phase of the YREP project.

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1 Introduction

Hastings Technology Metals Limited (Hastings) is seeking environmental approvals for the Yangibana Rare Earths Project (YREP).

Hastings commissioned Pacific Environment Limited (PEL) to undertake an air quality assessment as part of the process to obtain environmental approval. The purpose of the air quality assessment is to predict the potential impact on air quality from the YREP (as it is currently defined) in areas surrounding the project (as determined at selected sensitive receptors).

1.1 Project description

The YREP is located approximately 270 kilometres (km) east-northeast of Carnarvon, in the Gascoyne region of Western Australia. The YREP will include open pit mining and processing of mineralised monazite ore, including transport of product to port. The site location, in a regional context, is shown in Figure 1-1.

Mining is anticipated to occur over an eight-year period. The on-site beneficiation plant will treat up to 1 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of mineralised monazite, producing approximately 30,000 tpa of mineral concentrate. The concentrate will pass through a hydrometallurgical process, producing an estimated average of 12,000 tpa of final product. Power for the plant will be supplied from an onsite diesel generation plant.

Infrastructure and support facilities for the YREP include the administration and site office, maintenance workshop, and power supply. The workforce for the site will be accommodated on site.

For the purpose of the air quality assessment, the YREP comprises the:

- Mines –open pits.
- Processing plant
- Tailings facility – secure storage of residue from the processing facility
- Associated infrastructure – includes –
 - Power supply (initially diesel fuel power plant)
 - Road network from the mine pits to the processing plant
 - Buildings and support facilities including administration, waste water treatment and worker accommodation.

Ambient air quality and potential impacts are assessed in terms of the following pollutants:

- Particles, as PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, TSP and dust deposition
- Oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) as nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

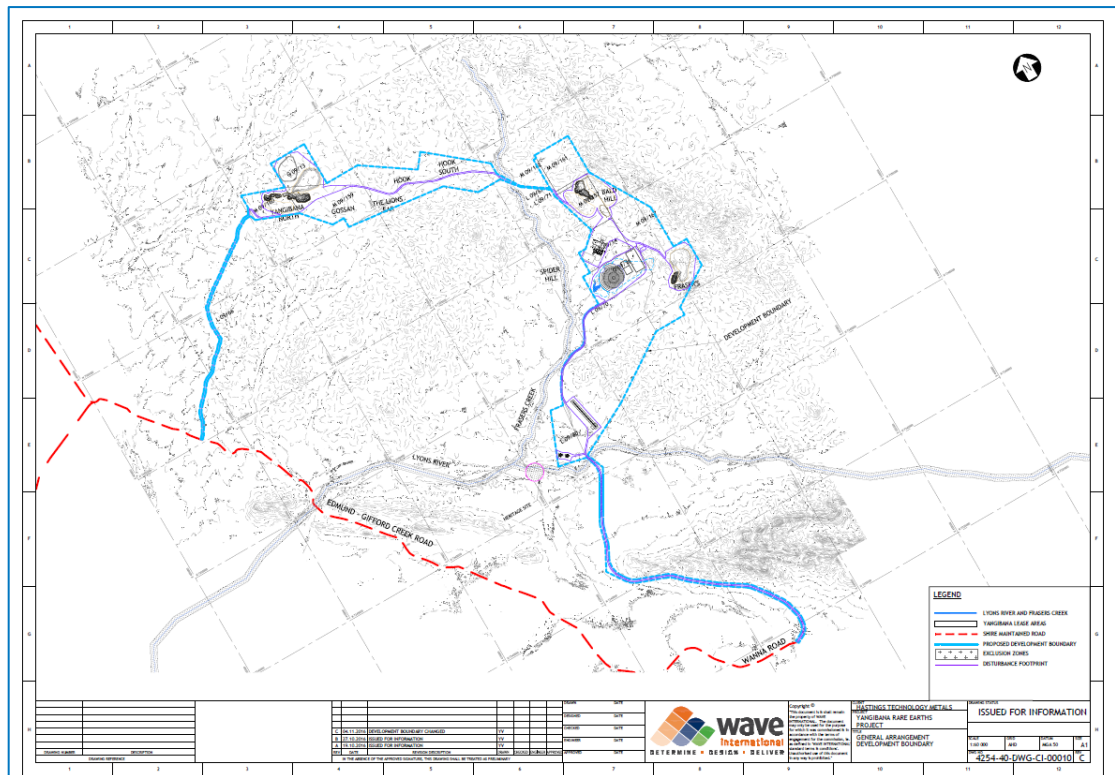


Figure 1-1: Site location in regional context (Hastings, 2016)

1.2 Report structure

This report describes the methods and findings of an assessment of the potential impact to air quality arising from the YREP, as currently proposed. The assessment includes:

- Study methodology (Section 2)
- Emission estimation (Section 3)
- Atmospheric dispersion modelling results (Section 4)
- Conclusions (Section 6)

Supporting information is contained in the Appendices.

2 Assessment Approach

This section outlines the approach applied to the assessment of ambient air quality. It includes the methodology used to define the important meteorological characteristics of the project area, the emission estimation techniques, the dispersion model of choice, and the ambient assessment criteria selected for the purpose of determining the significance of the dispersion model results, and therefore the potential impact.

2.1 Climate Assessment Methodology

The climate and meteorological characteristics of the region control the dispersion, transformation and removal (or deposition) of pollutants from the atmosphere (i.e. ambient air quality). Hastings operates an onsite meteorological station with this station recording wind speed and wind direction data close to a year. Further investigation identified that this station was not subject to regular maintenance and the data was invalidated.

Reference was made to the closed BoM station at Paraburdoo Airport (180km from YREP) that records hourly wind speed and wind direction amongst other parameters. Analysis of 10-year of historical surface observations at the BoM Paraburdoo Airport identified 2011 as the most representative meteorological year.

2.2 Emission Estimation

An emissions inventory has been developed for the Project. Emissions from all key sources associated with the YREP have been identified according to accepted methods. Emissions of particles from the proposed operations have been estimated for one year of operations, and are based on proposed operational activities associated with 15 Mtpa of material moved from quarter 10 to 13. A detailed analysis of the emission estimation process is presented in Section 3.

2.3 Dispersion Modelling

Air dispersion modelling requires both upper air data and surface air data (or assumptions).

2.3.1 Meteorological model

The meteorology applied within a dispersion model is a key factor for the effectiveness or representativeness of the dispersion model outputs. Both upper air and surface information are needed for modelling (or assumptions). For the purposes of this assessment, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) designed prognostic model TAPM (The Air Pollution Model) was used to obtain the required meteorological data at the project location for inclusion in the assessment (in a format suitable for AERMET). The setup of this meteorological modelling is outlined in Section 4.1.

2.3.2 Dispersion model

For this assessment, air dispersion modelling has been conducted using the USEPA approved model AERMOD (and AERMET, for the associated meteorological component). The model has been used to predict ground level concentrations across the model domain and at nominated sensitive receptor locations. In the absence of site-specific monitoring data,

background PM₁₀ concentration is based on available air quality information in the Shire of Kalgoorlie. This approach is considered extremely conservative for reasons stated in Section 4.2.1.5.

2.3.3 Modelled operating scenarios and assumptions

The air quality assessment has taken into account only the operational phase impacts of the YREP. Emissions associated with the construction phase of the project are not considered or assessed.

For this study, the emissions and impacts from a single operational scenario has been presented. The assessment takes into account the emission sources associated with:

- Open pit mining
- Ore extraction and processing
- On site power generation

2.4 Ambient Assessment Criteria and Sensitive Receptors

Comparison of the modelled results to the assessment criteria is intended to provide an objective evaluation of the potential impact of the operations at the nearest sensitive receptor. This assessment has considered the potential impact attributable to the YREP, as well as the cumulative impact (ie. in conjunction with the existing emission sources in the study area). The assessment has been made generally across the model domain, as well as at key sensitive receptor locations identified as being representative of the protected values.

2.4.1 Assessment criteria

Assessment criteria selected for the study are based on:

- Local guidelines, criteria or standards adopted by the Western Australian Department of Environment Regulation (DER) or Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and
- National standards adopted by the WA State Government.

The National Environmental Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure 2016 (NEPM) defines ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants, including (but not limited to) NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (NEPC, 2016).

The set of NEPM ambient air standards are intended to be protective of human health and wellbeing. In Western Australia, this criterion is applied to sensitive receptors, defined as residences, hospitals, school and other places where people may congregate including sporting and recreational venues.

In December 2015, the DER released Ambient Air Quality criteria (Draft WA DER) as part of its Environmental Risk Assessment Framework (DER 2015). Precedence will be given to the Draft WA DER criteria. The concentrations presented in these tables have been adjusted to a standard temperature of 25°C as the model (AERMOD) uses this parameter (as opposed to 0°C which is used in Australia).

Table 2: Assessment Criteria

Pollutant	Guideline Value	Unit	Averaging Period	Reference
NO ₂	0.12 (226) ^a	ppm (µg/m ³)	1-hour	Draft WA DER (2015)
	0.03 (56) ^a	ppm (µg/m ³)	1-year	Draft WA DER (2015)
TSP	82	µg/m ³	24-hour	Draft WA DER (2015)
PM ₁₀	46 ^a	µg/m ³	24-hour	Draft WA DER (2015)
	27.5 ^a	µg/m ³	1-year	Draft WA DER (2015)
PM _{2.5}	23	µg/m ³	24-hour	Draft WA DER (2015)
	7	µg/m ³	1-year	Draft WA DER (2015)

a. Concentrations at 25°C

2.4.1.1 Dust Deposition Criteria

There is no formal dust deposition criterion available in WA. As such reference has been made to the New South Wales (NSW) criteria (DEC, 2001) for deposited dust and they are normally applied for assessments in WA. The NSW criteria set a maximum increase of 2g/m²/month in dust levels with a maximum total deposited dust level of 4g/m²/month. Deposited dust is assessed as insoluble solids as defined by AS 3580.10.1-1991. It is noted that the above criterion were set to address nuisance dust and not as an indicator for assessing impact on vegetation.

2.4.2 Sensitive receptors

The key sensitive receptor located closest to the operations was identified as the accommodation facility. Modelled ambient air quality concentrations were determined at this location. The key sensitive receptor is listed in Table 2.1 and shown in Figure 2-1.

Table 2.1: Sensitive receptor locations

Receptor ID	Easting (m)	Northing (m)
Accommodation facility	421700.31	7346593.39

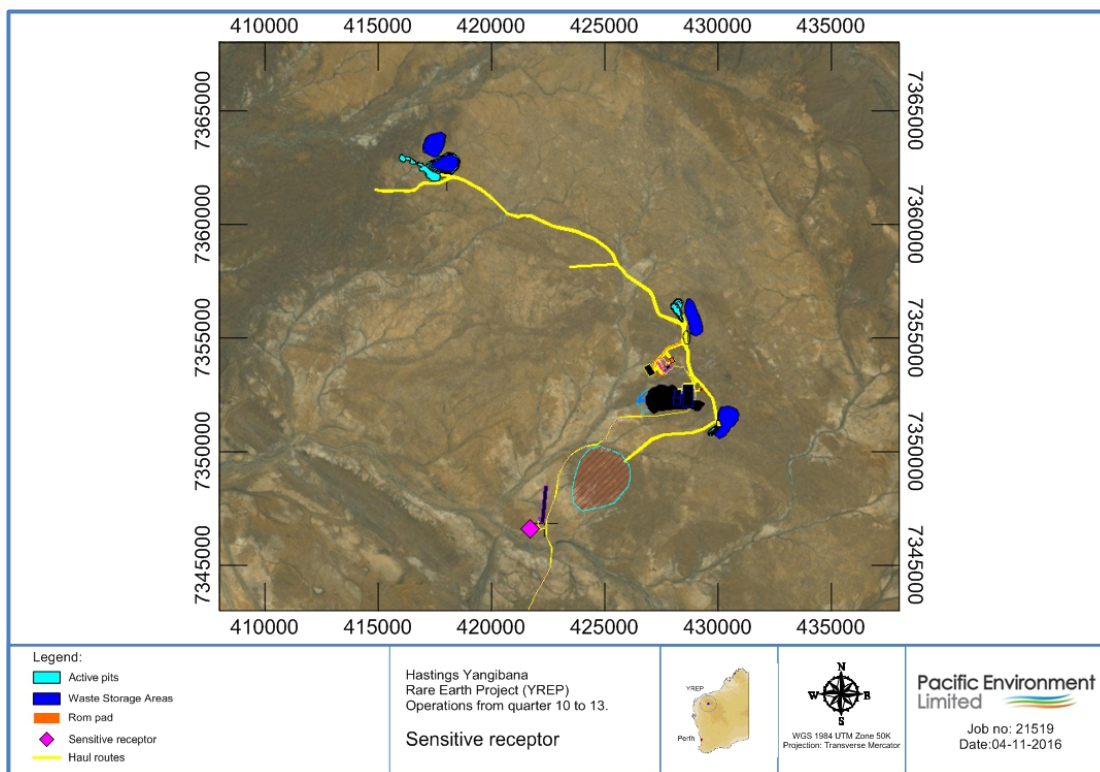


Figure 2-1: Sensitive receptor locations

3 Emission Estimation

This section outlines the emission estimation process used to develop the emission inventory for the YREP (operations phase only). Emission estimates are sourced from this project specific inventory for inclusion in the dispersion model. It includes the emissions from land disturbance, all mining and processing circuits, vehicles, plant and machinery.

It is noted that the construction phase activities are expected to contribute particle (dust) emissions as a result of earthworks, mainly:

- Preparation of the site for mining and support activities, including initial clearing / disturbance of vegetation
- Construction of mine pits and infrastructure, processing plant, roads, support facilities.

The emphasis of the emission estimation and modelling is on the potential impact from the operating phase of the project. Emission estimation of construction activities is excluded from the assessment.

3.1 Sources of Emission

The key emission sources for the operating phase of the YREP are considered to be associated with:

- Mining operations
 - Blasting
 - Drilling
 - Material loading by excavators
 - Material unloading from haul trucks
 - Wheel generated dust from haul roads
 - Bulldozers on ore and waste
 - Conveyors
 - Wind erosion from stockpiles and open areas
 - Material loading into crusher by front end loader
- Processing plant operations
- On site power generation

The emission estimation techniques used in this assessment have been primarily sourced from the National Pollution Inventory (NPI) literature. Where available, emission data supplied by Hastings has been used.

Mining will occur at a maximum rate of 15 Mtpa (ore and waste) with approximately 14 Mtpa of waste and 1Mtpa of ore.

The estimated annual emissions from the mining operations are presented in Table 3.1. The emission control factors applied are shown in Table 3.2. The annual estimated emissions from the processing facilities and power generation are shown in Table 3.3.

Table 3.1: *PM₁₀ emissions (mining) – operational phase*

Activity	PM ₁₀ (kg/year)	Controls
Drilling	25,439	In pit retention
Blasting	267	In pit retention
Loading	195,302	In pit retention
Unloading	68,872	In pit retention
Bulldozers	34,797	In pit retention (Ore)
Conveying	4,035	No control
Wheel generated emission	462,040	Water sprays
Primary Crusher	4,035	No control
Wind Erosion	1,039	Water sprays
Power generation	10,899	No control
Carbon Regeneration kiln	0.22	No control

Table 3.2: *Emission control factors*

Activity	Control	Reference
Water sprays	50%	NPI (2012)
In pit retention TSP	50%	NPI (2012)
In pit retention PM ₁₀	5%	NPI (2012)

Table 3.3: *Gaseous emissions – operational phase*

Activity	Pollutant	Emission Rate (kg/year)
Power generation	NO _x	166,987
Carbon regeneration kiln	NO _x	3

The top 20 estimated emission sources (by the 99th percentile) operations are presented in Figure 3-1. Emissions from wheel generated dust contribute to the largest emission rates of sources from operations at the facility.



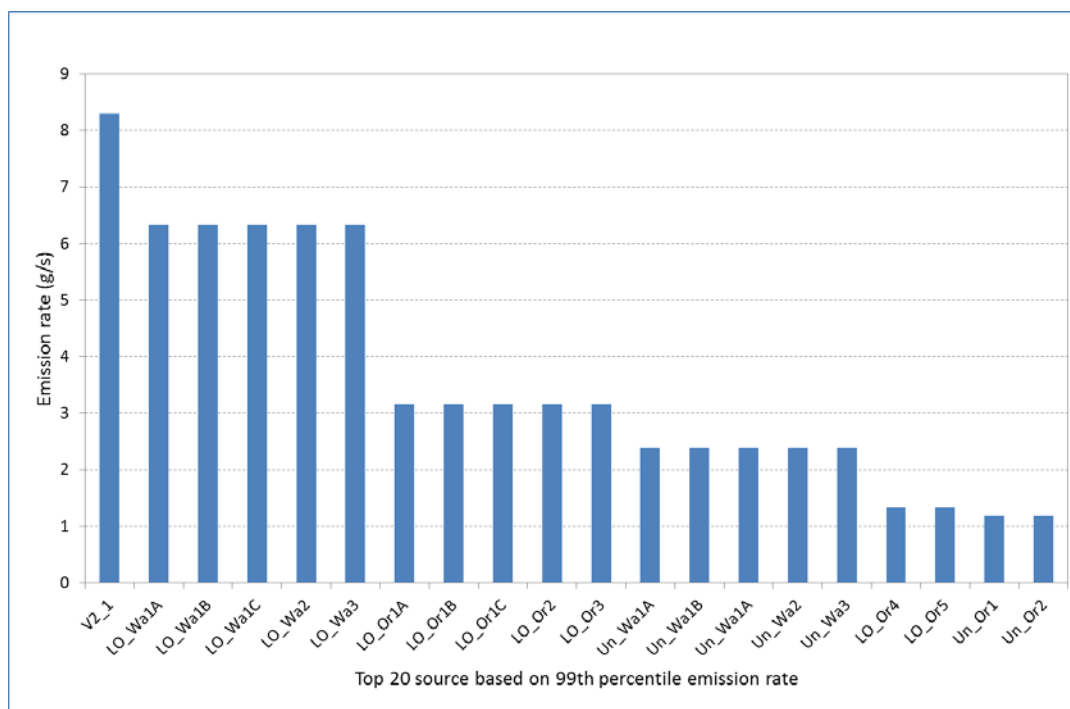


Figure 3-1: Top 20 calculated PM₁₀ emission rates with emission controls

Further details including the emission equations used, stack parameters and resultant emission rates are discussed in the Appendix C.

4 Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling

This assessment used a suite of modelling tools to estimate air quality impacts. TAPM and AERMET were used to generate three-dimensional meteorological fields for a representative year, 2011. AERMOD was used for dispersion modelling. Below is a short description of these models and their set-up for this study.

4.1 Meteorological Modelling

4.1.1 TAPM

The Air Pollution Model (TAPM) was used to generate the meteorological data needed for AERMET, the meteorological pre-processor for AERMOD.

TAPM, is a three dimensional meteorological and air pollution model produced by the CSIRO Division of Atmospheric Research (Hurley, 2002a, 2002b; Hurley et al., 2002a, 2002b; Hibberd et al., 2003; Luhar & Hurley, 2003). TAPM solves the fundamental fluid dynamics and scalar transport equations to predict meteorology and pollutant concentrations. It consists of coupled prognostic meteorological and air pollution concentration components, eliminating the need to have site-specific meteorological observations. The model predicts airflow important to local scale air pollution, such as sea breezes and terrain induced flows, against a background of larger scale meteorology provided by synoptic analyses.

All surface and upper air meteorological data were generated using TAPM (v4.0.4). TAPM was run for a full year (2011) with four nested domains (30 km, 10 km, 3 km and 1 km) centred at 23.96S and 116.030E. The output from TAPM was extracted to create an onsite met file and an upper air file in FSL format for input into AERMET.

4.1.2 AERMET

To drive AERMET, meteorological data were required to be prepared in certain formats. Two meteorological data files are required: surface met file and upper air file. In the absence of surface and upper air meteorological data in the model domain, extracted data from TAPM were used as input for AERMET.

The following parameters were extracted from TAPM for input as surface file into AERMET:

- Net radiation
- Cloud cover
- Ceiling height
- Mixing height.

The upper air file for AERMET provides information on the vertical structure of the atmosphere and requires minimum two soundings per day: around sunrise and sunset. These data were also extracted from TAPM and formatted into a FSL file. In applying the AERMET meteorological processor to prepare the meteorological data for the AERMOD model appropriate values for three surface characteristics needed to be determined:

- Surface roughness length
- Albedo
- Bowen ratio.

The surface roughness length is related to the height of obstacles to the wind flow and is, in principle, the height at which the mean horizontal wind speed is zero based on a logarithmic profile. The surface roughness length influences the surface shear stress and is an important factor in determining the magnitude of mechanical turbulence and the stability of the boundary layer.

The albedo is the fraction of total incident solar radiation reflected by the surface back to space without absorption. The daytime Bowen ratio, an indicator of surface moisture, is the ratio of sensible heat flux to latent heat flux and is used for determining planetary boundary layer parameters for convective conditions driven by the surface sensible heat flux. Average land use characteristics were derived from TAPM and are based on USGS Land Use Category Number 51. These land use parameters were input into AERMET across all sectors (Table 4.1).

Table 4.1: Land-use characteristics input for AERMET

Surface roughness length (m)	Albedo	Bowen Ratio
0.15	0.25	3

Data for AERMOD was generated using Lakes Environment’s AERMET View v9.1.0 software (US EPA AERMET executable AERMET_15181.exe). The main AERMET options and assumptions used are listed below:

- Threshold wind speed of 0.5m/s was used.
- Adjust surface friction velocity (ADJ_U*) option was used for low winds.
- Adjust horizontal meander using LOWWIND2 was used for low winds.

A plot of the wind roses generated based on AERMET output meteorological data is presented in Figure 4-1. Quality assurance was undertaken on the AERMET output meteorological data and is detailed in the Appendices.

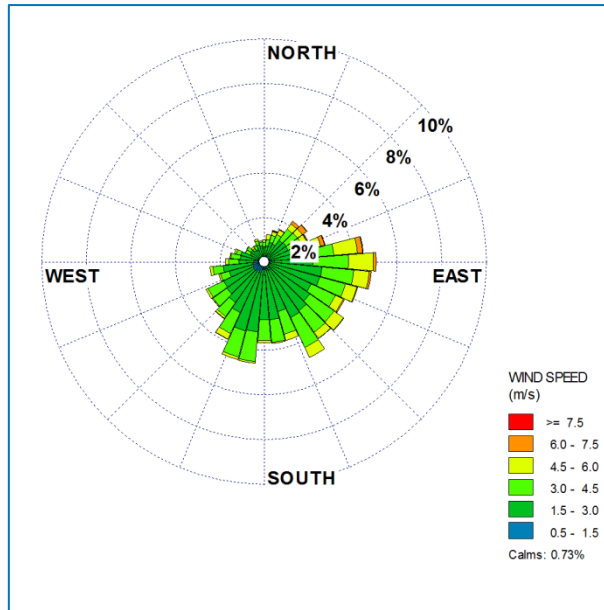


Figure 4-1: Annual windrose generated by AERMET (2011)

4.2 Dispersion Modelling

4.2.1 AERMOD

AERMOD is the acronym or common name for the AERMIC Dispersion Model. It was designed by the AERMIC Committee (the American Meteorological Society/Environmental Protection Agency Regulatory Model Improvement Committee) to treat elevated and surface emission sources in terrain that is simple or complex (Perry, Cimorelli et al, 2005). AERMET, a USEPA approved meteorological processor is the processor used to generate the meteorological file in an appropriate format for use in AERMOD.

In November 2006 AERMOD replaced the ISCST3 model as the USEPA’s regulatory model for near-field applications (less than 50 km) for simple and complex terrain (USEPA, 2008a). In October 2013, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) of Victoria adopted AERMOD as the replacement for AUSPLUME for regulatory air impact assessment in Victoria.

AERMOD is a steady state model and assumes that over time, the average concentrations distribution within a plume is Gaussian. AERMOD was used to predict the dispersion of PM₁₀ and NO₂ at one receptor within the region.

A sample AERMOD input file typical of those used in this assessment is presented in the Appendix D. The main model options and assumptions used are listed below:

- all sources were modelled as volume sources
- building wake effects were excluded
- surface and upper air meteorological data generated by AERMET (Section 4.1.2)

- terrain information was obtained from Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) at 3 arc, 90m resolution
- PM₁₀ were modelled as gas accounting for dry depletion. Depositional parameters are provided in Section 4.2.1.1
- pollutant concentrations were modelled across one discrete receptor (Section 2.4.2) and uniform gridded receptors (Section 4.2.1.3).

The emission source parameters for all modelled sources are presented in the Appendices.

4.2.1.1 Deposition Modelling

Dry deposition occurs from gravitational sedimentation, impaction, and diffusion to surfaces. In this assessment, gravitational settling is the only form of dry deposition evaluated.

Gravitational deposition of the particles depends on the corresponding settling velocity and airborne concentrations. The settling velocity of a particle depends on the particle size, density and properties of the atmosphere including density and viscosity. Reference was made to the NSW SPCC (1988) report and USEPA 2006 to estimate size distribution for particles less than 30µm in diameter (Table 4.2). The mean diameter and geometric mean mass adopted for this study are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Particle Size Distribution input into AERMOD

Particle size	Mean Diameter	% by weight
PM ₃₀ to PM ₁₅	22.5	36
PM ₁₅ to PM ₁₀	12.5	17
PM ₁₀ to PM ₅	7.5	23
PM ₅ to PM _{2.5}	3.75	17
<PM _{2.5}	1.25	7

An emission file was generated for TSP, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} with their corresponding particle size distributions; pollutant concentrations were modelled accounting for dry depletion.

4.2.1.2 Source Characteristics

A total of 73 volume sources were used to represent emissions: 45 sources to represent operational emissions from mining including wind erosion and 28 sources to represent emissions of wheel generated dust.

Details of the sources including source identification, type, location and characteristics (height, horizontal and vertical spreads) are also presented in the Appendices. The source parameters listed are identical to those used in the modelling input files and are included in this report for transparency.

4.2.1.3 Grid System

AERMOD can calculate concentrations both on a set grid (gridded receptors) and at specified locations (discrete receptors). The model was configured to predict the ground-level concentrations on a rectangular grid. The model domain was defined as 25 km in the north-south direction and 30 km in the east-west direction and has its southwest corner at 408000, 7343000 m (50K UTM). This grid approach was chosen to restrict the duration of model runs while using the particle deposition algorithms. An additional one discrete receptor was included to give an indication of ambient concentrations at specific locations (Section 2.4.2).

4.2.1.4 Model outputs

The model outputs the ambient concentrations at a temperature of 25°C and pressure of 1 atmosphere (101.3kPa). This section details the model results for 'Project only' scenario and 'Cumulative' scenario that includes existing background concentrations (Section 5). The emissions used in the modelling are presented in Section 3, and the assessment criteria are discussed in Section 2.4.1.

4.2.1.5 Background pollutant levels

The Gascoyne Mid-West region is bushfire prone with these generally occurring between October and February. Background dust levels will be elevated during this time (AIC, 2008).

No information is available on PM₁₀ monitoring undertaken in the region. As such reference was made to the available air quality information within Newman as used by BHP Billiton Iron Ore (BHPBIO) in their Pilbara Strategic Environmental Assessment – Cumulative Air Quality Assessment (PEL, 2015). This assessment details the statistics of both PM₁₀ and TSP from 2009 to 2012 from their background station. These statistics are reproduced in this report with TSP in Table 4.3 and PM₁₀ in Table 4.4.

It is noted in the PEL report that 2009 recorded concentrations, especially TSP, that were extremely high with a possible causes being wildfires. It is further noted that 2009 and 2012 had only moderate data recovery and that these two years were not considered representative of background concentrations.

For this assessment the background concentrations will be chosen based on the 70th percentile of either 2010 or 2011 from the BHPBIO BG2 monitoring station. Based on the information contained in Table 4.3 and Table 4.4 this equates to:

- A TSP background of 35 µg/m³
- A PM₁₀ background of 19 µg/m³

Table 4.3: Statistics for TSP at BHPBIO BG2 Monitoring Station (µg/m³)

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Maximum	722	288	119	146
99 th percentile	448	163	95	97
95 th percentile	236	82	68	68
90 th percentile	168	59	54	55
70 th percentile	93	33	35	35
Average	90.1	31.7	29.8	29.9

Table 4.4: Statistics for PM₁₀ at BHPBIO BG2 Monitoring Station (µg/m³)

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Maximum	153	590	92	194
99 th percentile	99	63	70	77
95 th percentile	67	37	34	55
90 th percentile	54	30	28	35
70 th percentile	31	18	19	21
Average	28.5	18.3	16.5	20.4

As there is no publically available PM_{2.5} monitoring data the background levels are assumed to be 15% of the PM₁₀ used for the assessment, which equates to 2.9 µg/m³.

There is no publicly available information on the dust deposition levels in the region; therefore this report will assess the YREP project only increments against the NSW DER incremental criteria of 2g/m²/month.

Considering the very remote nature of the project, background NO₂ levels are assumed negligible.

4.2.1.6 Conversion of NO_x to NO₂

At the exhaust from combustion sources, NO_x is primarily released as NO with 5 to 40% of NO_x released as NO₂. After release, NO is converted to NO₂ primarily due to chemical reactions involving the presence of ozone and sunlight.

There are a number of models and empirical relationships for estimating the conversion of NO to NO₂ for plumes from stacks. The most commonly used is the Ozone Limiting Method and is also the approved method for use in NSW (NSW EPA, 2005). This method requires an estimate of NO₂/NO_x ratio and background NO₂ and ozone concentrations.

Given the remote location of the site and presence of negligible background sources, a simple method was used for estimating NO₂; a conversion of 30% was assumed as was used by Air Assessment (2014). The Browns Range Rare Earths Project is also in a relatively remote locality (Carnarvon region) with no major industrial sources in its vicinity.

4.3 Model Uncertainty

Atmospheric dispersion models represent a simplification of the many complex processes involved in determining ground-level concentrations of substances.

Model uncertainty is composed of model chemistry/physics uncertainties, data uncertainties, and stochastic uncertainties. In addition, there is inherent uncertainty in the behaviour of the random turbulence. The generic sources of uncertainty in dispersion models and their potential effects on this assessment are summarised in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5: Summary of main sources of modelling uncertainty

Source	Effects
Oversimplification of physics in model code (varies with type of model)	A variety of effects that can lead to both under-prediction and over-prediction. Errors are greater in Gaussian plume models, which do not include the effects of non-steady-state meteorology (i.e., spatially- and temporally-varying meteorology).
Errors in emissions data	Ground-level concentrations are proportional to emission rate. Plume rise is affected by source dimensions, temperature and exit velocity.
Errors in wind data	Wind direction affects direction of plume travel. Wind speed affects plume rise and dilution of plume, resulting in potential errors in distance of plume impact from source, and magnitude of impact.
Errors in stability estimates	Gaussian plume models use estimates of stability class, and 3-D models use explicit vertical profiles of temperature and wind (which are used directly or indirectly to estimate stability class for Gaussian models). In either case, errors in these parameters can cause either under prediction or over prediction of ground-level concentrations.
Errors in temperature	Usually the effects are small, but temperature affects plume buoyancy, with potential errors in distance of plume impact from source, and magnitude of impact.
Inherent uncertainty	Models predict 'ensemble mean' concentrations for any specific set of input data (say on a 1-hour basis), i.e., they predict the mean concentrations that would result from a large set of observations under the specific conditions being modelled. However, for any specific hour with those exact mean hourly conditions, the predicted ground-level concentrations will never exactly match the actual pattern of ground-level concentrations, due to the effects of random turbulent motions and random fluctuations in other factors such as temperature.

5 Predicted Air Quality Impact

The maximum ground level concentrations of the key pollutants of concern have been predicted across the model domain and interpreted at the nominated sensitive receptor location. The cumulative results for the YREP are also presented. Modelled results are presented in tables (statistics) and as contour maps showing the cumulative ground level concentrations for each pollutant modelled.

5.1 Assessment of TSP

5.1.1 24-hour average

Modelled TSP concentrations have been compared to the Draft WA DER 24-hour average criteria of 82µg/m³ (Section 2.4.1). The model results indicate the following:

- Excluding background, the maximum 24-hour average TSP is expected to be significantly below the criteria (Table 5.1).
- Including background, the maximum 24-hour average TSP is predicted to be around 44% of the criteria with the YREP project contributing less than 2%. (Table 5.2).
- Contour plots of maximum 24-hour average TSP concentrations both excluding and including background are presented in Figure 5-1 and Figure 5-2 respectively.

Table 5.1: Predicted 24-hour TSP concentrations at the accommodation facility excluding background (µg/m³)

Statistics	Value
Maximum	1.4
99 th Percentile	1.0
95 th Percentile	0.7
90 th Percentile	0.6
70 th Percentile	0.4
Average	0.3

Table 5.2: Predicted 24-hour TSP concentrations at the accommodation facility including background (µg/m³)

Statistics	Value
Maximum	36.4
99 th Percentile	36.0
95 th Percentile	35.7
90 th Percentile	35.6
70 th Percentile	35.4
Average	35.3
Criteria	82

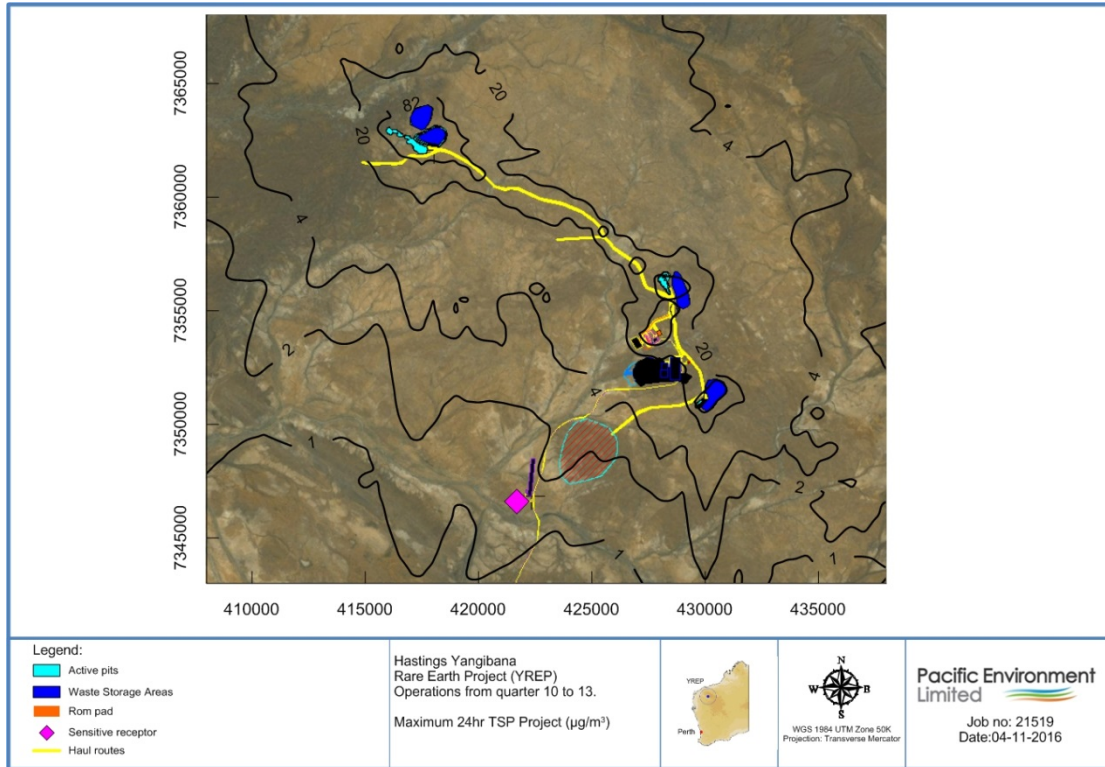


Figure 5-1: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour TSP concentrations (excluding background)

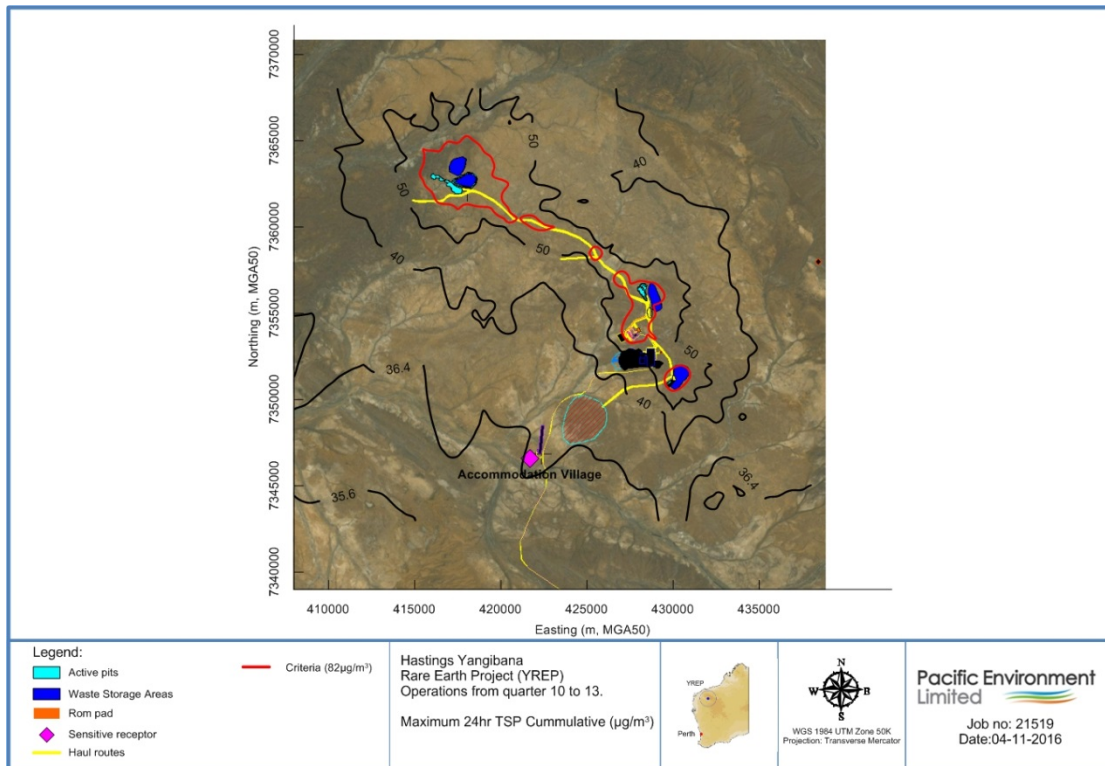


Figure 5-2: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour TSP concentrations (including background)

5.2 Assessment of PM₁₀

5.2.1 24-hour average

Modelled PM₁₀ concentrations have been compared to the Draft WA DER 24-hour average criteria of 46µg/m³ (Section 2.4.1). The model results indicate the following:

- Excluding background, the maximum 24-hour average PM₁₀ is expected to be significantly below the criteria (Table 5.3).
- Including background, the maximum 24-hour average PM₁₀ levels is predicted to be 20.3µg/m³ (44%) of the criteria (Table 5.4).
- Contour plots of maximum 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations both excluding and including background are presented in Figure 5-3 and Figure 5-4 respectively.

Table 5.3: Predicted 24-hour PM₁₀ concentrations at the accommodation facility excluding background (µg/m³)

Statistics	Value
Maximum	1.3
99 th Percentile	0.7
95 th Percentile	0.5
90 th Percentile	0.4
70 th Percentile	0.2
Average	0.2

Table 5.4: Predicted 24-hour PM₁₀ concentrations at the accommodation facility including background (µg/m³)

Statistics	Value
Maximum	20.3
99 th Percentile	19.7
95 th Percentile	19.5
90 th Percentile	19.4
70 th Percentile	19.2
Average	19.2
Criteria	46

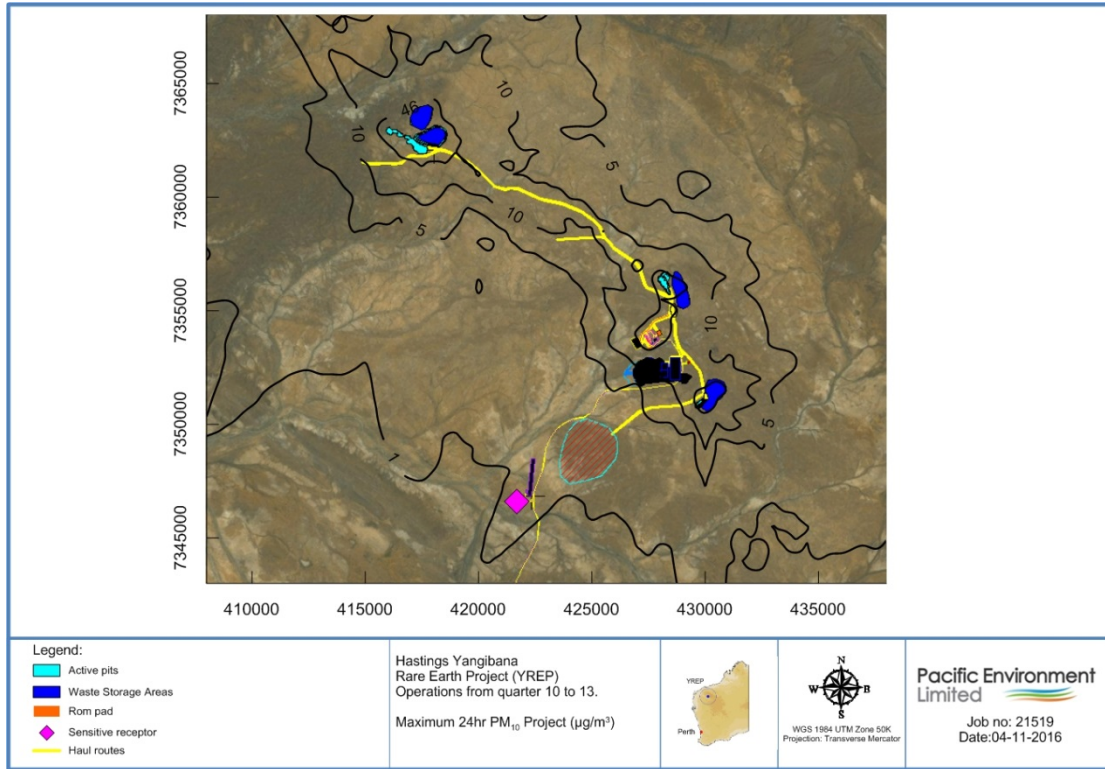


Figure 5-3: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour PM_{10} concentrations (excluding background)

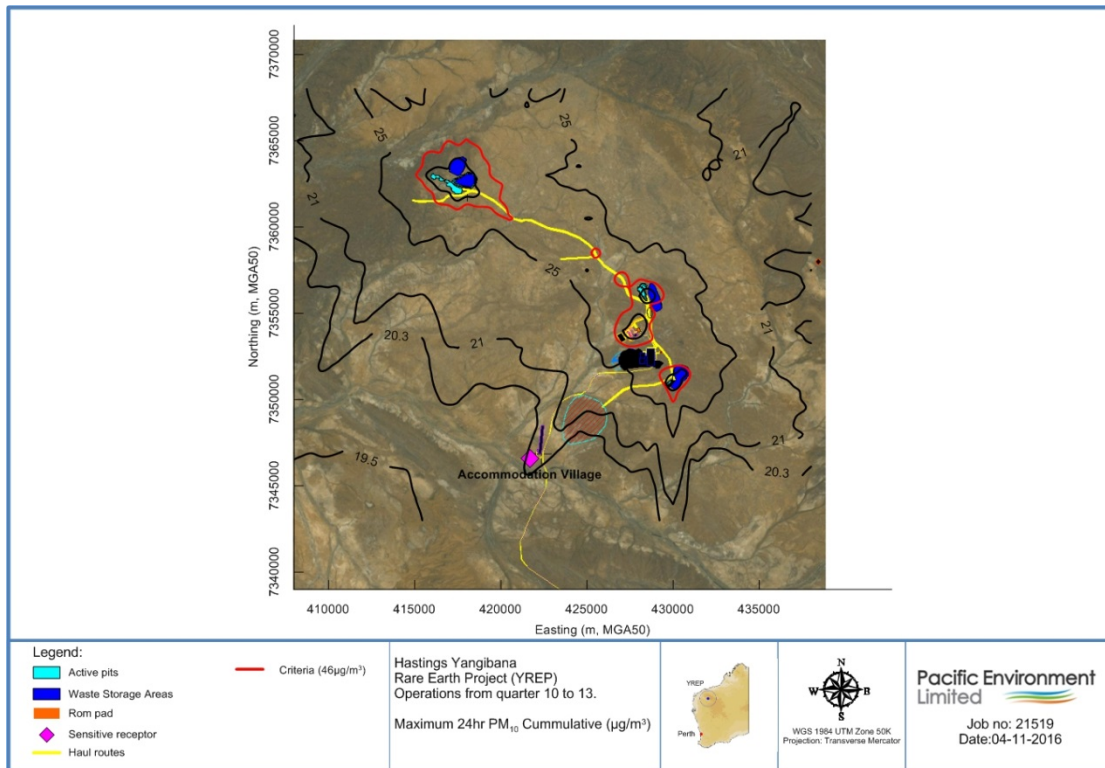


Figure 5-4: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour PM_{10} concentrations (including background)

5.2.2 Annual average

Modelled annual average PM₁₀ concentrations have been compared to the Draft WA DER annual average criteria of 27.5µg/m³ (Section 2.4.1). As observed from Table 5.5, including background, the annual average PM₁₀ concentrations at the accommodation facility is predicted to be around 70% of the criteria, with less than 1% of this level contributed by the YREP project.

Contour plot of cumulative annual average PM₁₀ is presented in Figure 5-5.

Table 5.5: Predicted annual average PM₁₀ concentrations at the accommodation facility including background (µg/m³)

Item	Value
Annual average	19.2
Criteria	27.5
Background	19

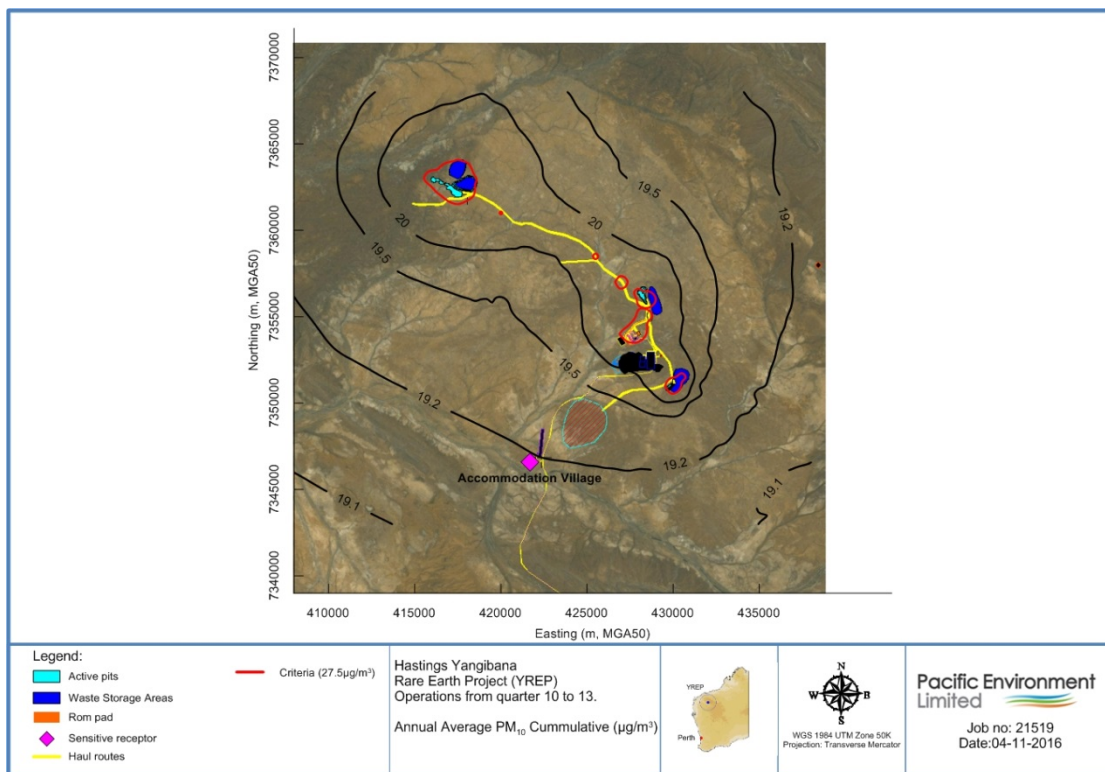


Figure 5-5: Annual average PM₁₀ concentrations (including background)

5.3 Assessment of PM_{2.5}

5.3.1 24-hour average

Modelled PM_{2.5} concentrations have been compared to the Draft WA DER 24-hour average criteria of 23µg/m³ (Section 2.4.1). The model results indicate the following:

- Excluding background, the maximum 24-hour average $PM_{2.5}$ is expected to be significantly below the criteria (Table 5.6).
- Including background, the maximum 24-hour average $PM_{2.5}$ is predicted to be significantly below (14%) the criterion (Table 5.6).
- Contour plots of maximum 24-hour average $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations both excluding and including background are presented in Figure 5-6 and Figure 5-7 respectively.

Table 5.6: Predicted 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations at the accommodation facility ($\mu g/m^3$)

Statistics	Excluding background	Including background
Maximum	0.27	3.1
99 th Percentile	0.15	3.0
95 th Percentile	0.10	3.0
90 th Percentile	0.09	2.9
70 th Percentile	0.05	2.9
Average	0.04	2.9
Criteria	n/a	23

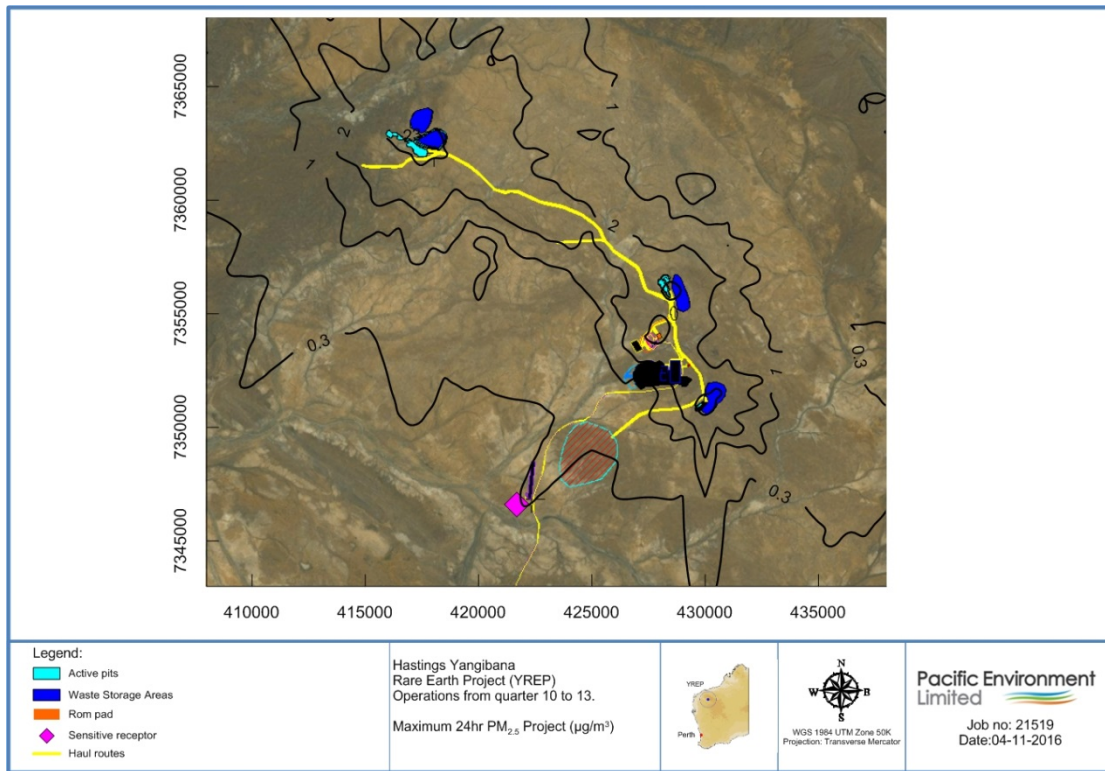


Figure 5-6: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations (excluding background)

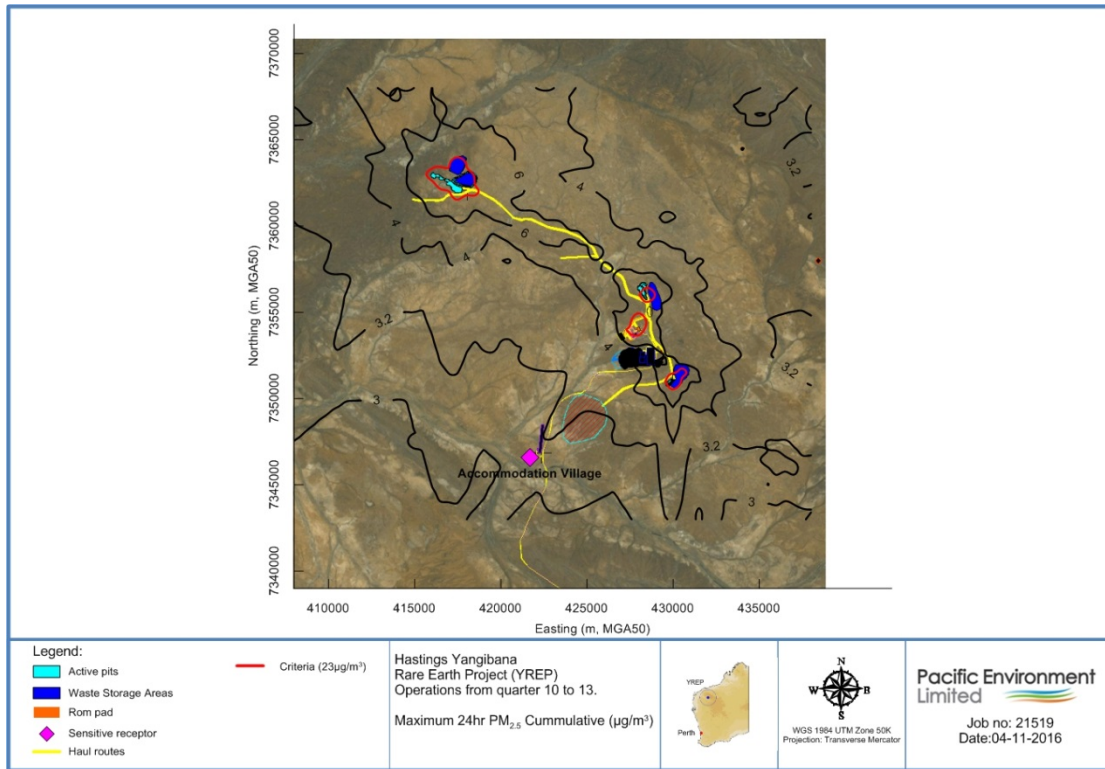


Figure 5-7: Contour plot of maximum 24-hour PM_{2.5} concentrations (including background)

5.3.2 Annual average

Modelled annual average PM_{2.5} concentrations have been compared to the Draft WA DER annual average criteria of 7 µg/m³ (Section 2.4.1). It can be observed from Table 5.7 that including background, the annual average PM₁₀ concentrations at the accommodation facility is predicted to be around 41% of the criteria, and less than 1% of this level is contributed by the YREP project.

Contour plot of cumulative annual average PM_{2.5} is presented in Figure 5-8.

Table 5.7: Predicted annual average PM_{2.5} concentrations at the accommodation facility including background (µg/m³)

Item	Value
Annual average	2.9
Criteria	7
Background	2.9

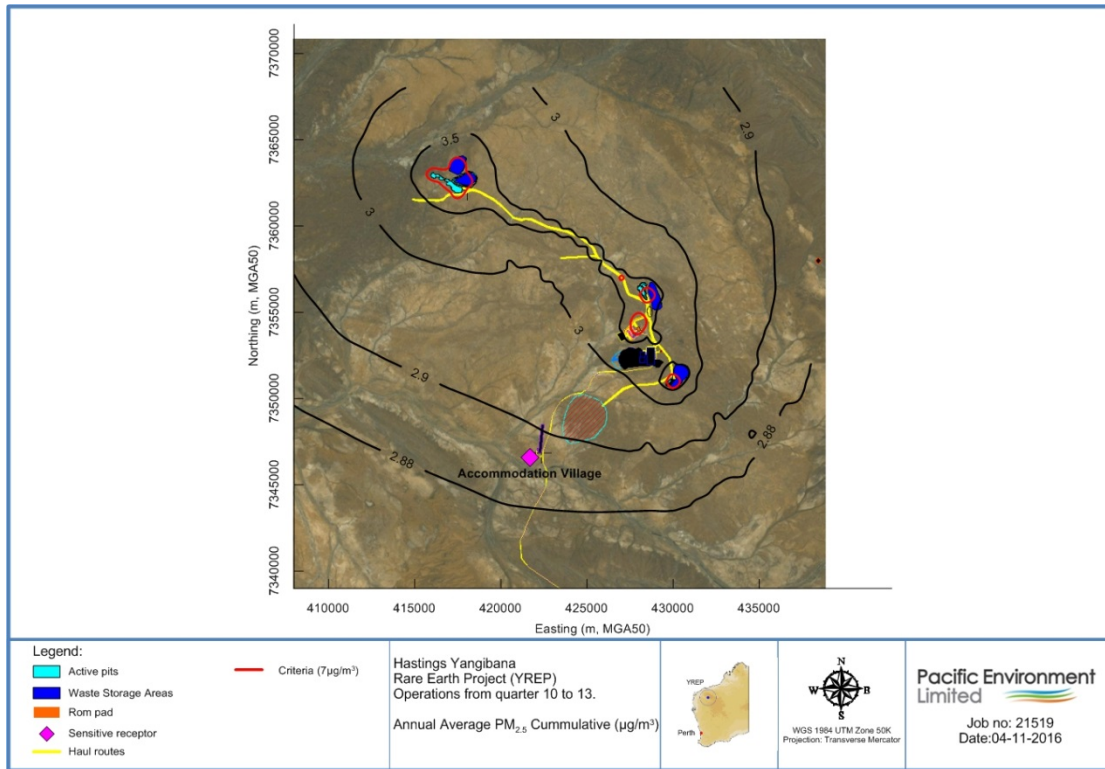


Figure 5-8: Annual average PM_{2.5} concentrations (including background)

5.4 Assessment of Dust Deposition

5.4.1 Monthly average

Given the remoteness of the region and lack of information on background dust deposition levels, predicted monthly dust deposition levels have been assessed against the NSW DEC incremental criteria of 2g/m²/month (Section 2.4.1.1).

The model results indicate the following:

- Excluding background, the maximum monthly dust deposition is predicted to be 0.014g/m²/month, at less than 0.7% of the criteria (Table 5.6).
- Contour plot of maximum monthly dust deposition levels (excluding background) is presented in Figure 5-6.

Table 5.8: Predicted maximum monthly dust deposition levels at the accommodation facility – excluding background (g/m²/30days)

Statistics	Excluding background
Maximum	0.014
Criteria	2

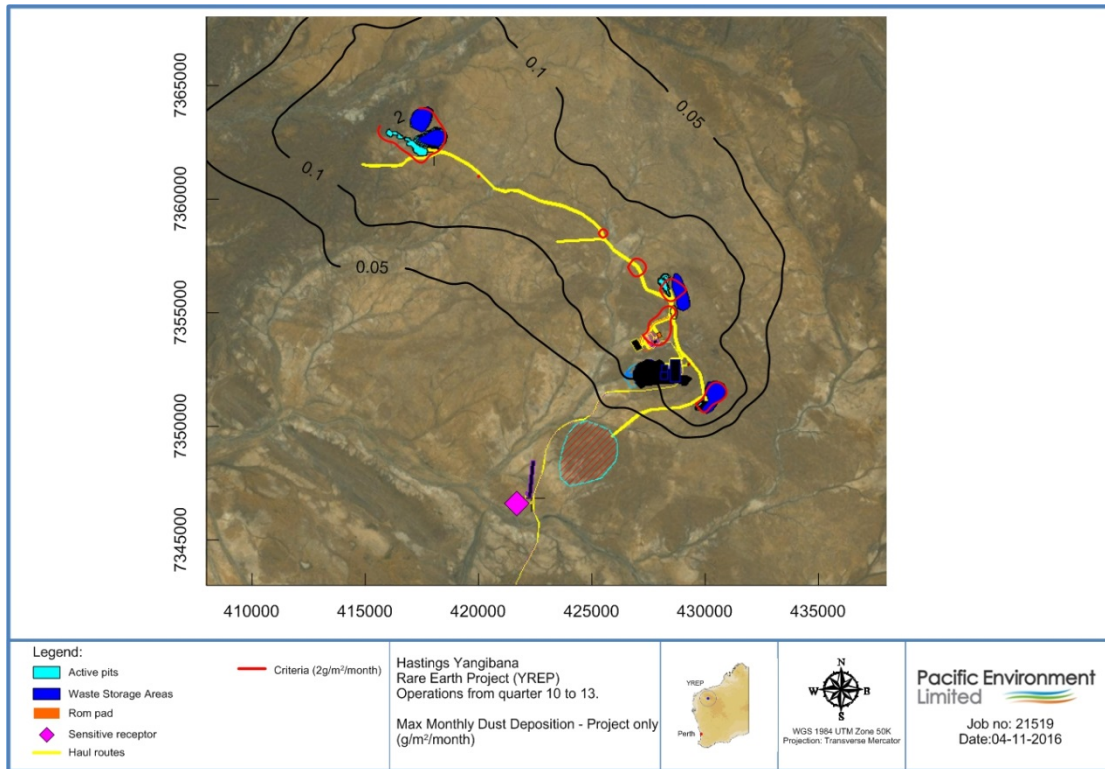


Figure 5-9: Maximum monthly dust deposition levels at receptors - excluding background (g/m²/month)

5.5 Assessment of NO₂

A summary of the predicted 1-hour maximum and annual average concentrations, for the cumulative scenario, is presented in Table 5.9. The model results indicate that:

- The maximum predicted cumulative 1-hour average NO₂ is about 13% of the criteria.
- Including background, the annual average NO₂ concentrations is expected to be less than 2% of the criteria.

Table 5.9: Maximum predicted NO₂ concentrations at the accommodation facility (including background (µg/m³))

Item	1-hour average	Annual average
Value	29.4	1.1
Criteria	226	56

Contour plots showing the cumulative 1-hour and annual average NO₂ concentrations are presented in Figure 5-10 and Figure 5-11 respectively.

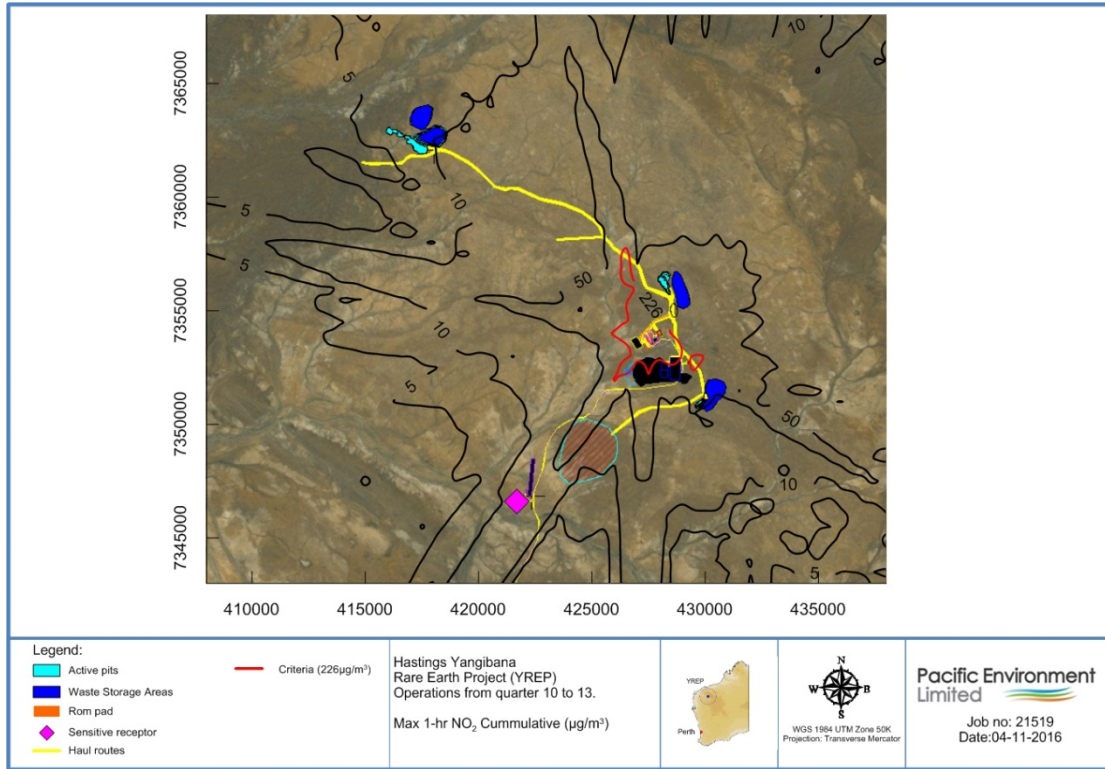


Figure 5-10: Maximum 1-hour NO₂ concentrations – cumulative

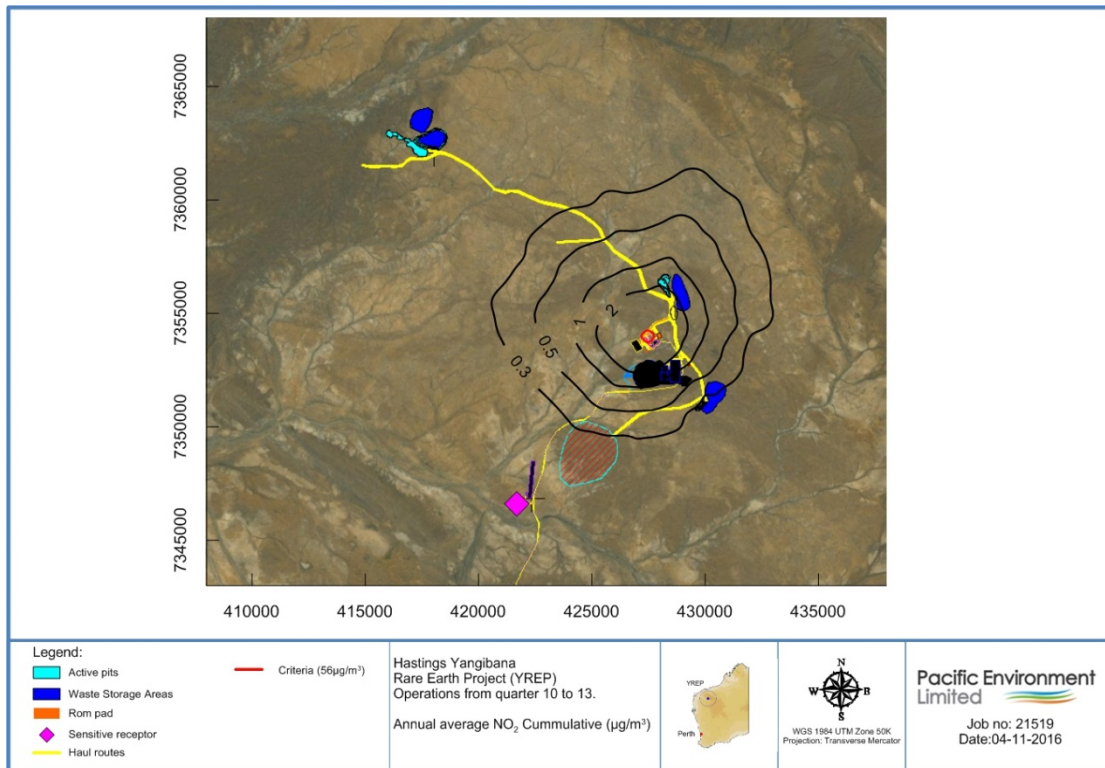


Figure 5-11: Annual average NO₂ concentrations – cumulative

6 Conclusion

6.1 Representative Meteorological Year

Given the lack of air quality monitoring in the region, the selection of a representative model year was based on identifying the most representative meteorological year. For this purposes, meteorological data over a period of 10 years (2005-2015) was analysed.

The review identified 2011 as the most representative meteorological year.

6.2 Assessment Criteria

Modelled cumulative TSP concentrations, for this assessment, have been compared to the following criteria:

- Draft WA DER 24-hour criteria of 82 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Modelled cumulative PM_{10} concentrations, for this assessment, have been compared to the following criteria:

- Draft WA DER 24-hour criteria of 46 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Draft WA DER annual average criteria of 27.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Modelled cumulative $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations, for this assessment, have been compared to the following criteria:

- Draft WA DER 24-hour criteria of 23 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Draft WA DER annual average criteria of 7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Modelled cumulative NO_2 concentrations for this assessment have been compared to the following criteria:

- Draft WA DER 1-hour criteria of 226 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Draft WA DER annual average criteria of 56 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

6.3 Modelled Results and Potential Impact

The maximum 24-hour TSP, PM_{10} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations (including background) can be expected to be well within the DER criteria at the accommodation facility. It is noted that the background concentrations have been adopted from the BHP Billiton Iron background monitoring in Newman and it is possible that the concentrations can vary at the Project area.

The annual average PM_{10} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations (including background) can be expected to be met at the sensitive receptor.

The maximum monthly dust deposition levels predicted from the YREP (project only) is expected to be significantly below the criteria.

At the identified receptor, the cumulative NO_2 concentrations are within the criteria for both 1-hour and annual averaging periods.

7 References

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8 Appendices

Appendix A

Climate and representative meteorological year

A1.1 Climate of the region

Hastings operates a meteorological station. This station records wind speed and wind direction and has been operational close to a year. Further investigation revealed that the sensors had been hit by a lightning strike and as a result data quality had been compromised and was not fit for use in this report.

There is a BoM climate station at Gascoyne Junction (station no 6022). However, the closest BoM station that records hourly wind speed and wind direction is Paraburdoo Airport (station no 7185), at around 180 kilometres from the project location. Where available, preference will be given to data recorded at the BoM Gascoyne Junction.

Data obtained from the BoM Gascoyne Junction included long term statistics of rainfall, temperature and relative humidity. Long-term hourly meteorological parameters (wind speed, wind direction and temperature and humidity) from BoM Paraburdoo Airport are also presented. This data analysis provides a general description and understanding of the local climate and supports the emission estimations and selection of representative meteorological year dispersion model set-up. Analysis of meteorological data is also used in the analysis to identify or determine a representative year for dispersion modelling.

A1.1.1 Wind Speed and Wind Direction

The seasonal wind rose for Paraburdoo Airport, as recorded at the Bureau of Meteorology location (2005–2015) is presented in Figure 8-1. It shows that the dominant annual wind direction is north-easterly to east-north-easterly.

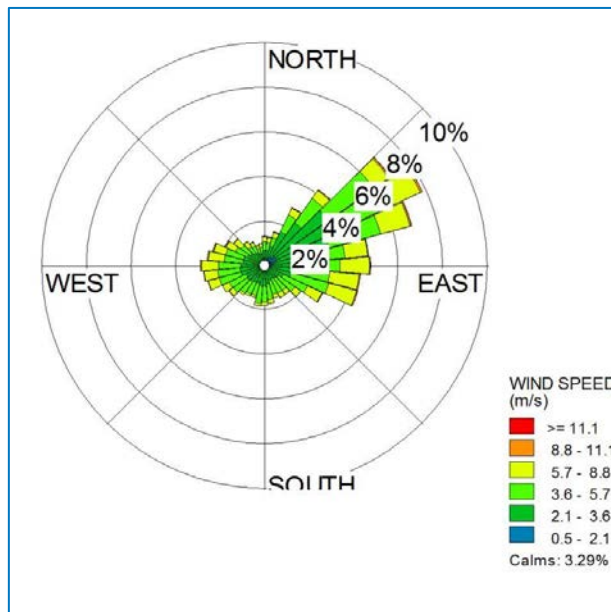


Figure 8-1: Annual wind rose recorded at Paraburdoo Airport station (2005-2015)

A1.2.1 Rainfall

Rainfall, in the context of dispersion modelling, is important for understanding the likelihood of natural dust suppression occurring.

Rainfall in the region is highly variable and predominantly limited to the late summer through to winter, with very little rainfall occurring between late winter and early summer. The average number of rainy days in the year range between 0.6 and 3.6 days. The mean annual rainfall (1907 to 2016) is around 215.5mm. Rainfall statistics are illustrated in Figure 8-2 . The figure shows the average monthly rainfall and average days of rain per month measured between 1907 and 2016 (BoM, 2016).

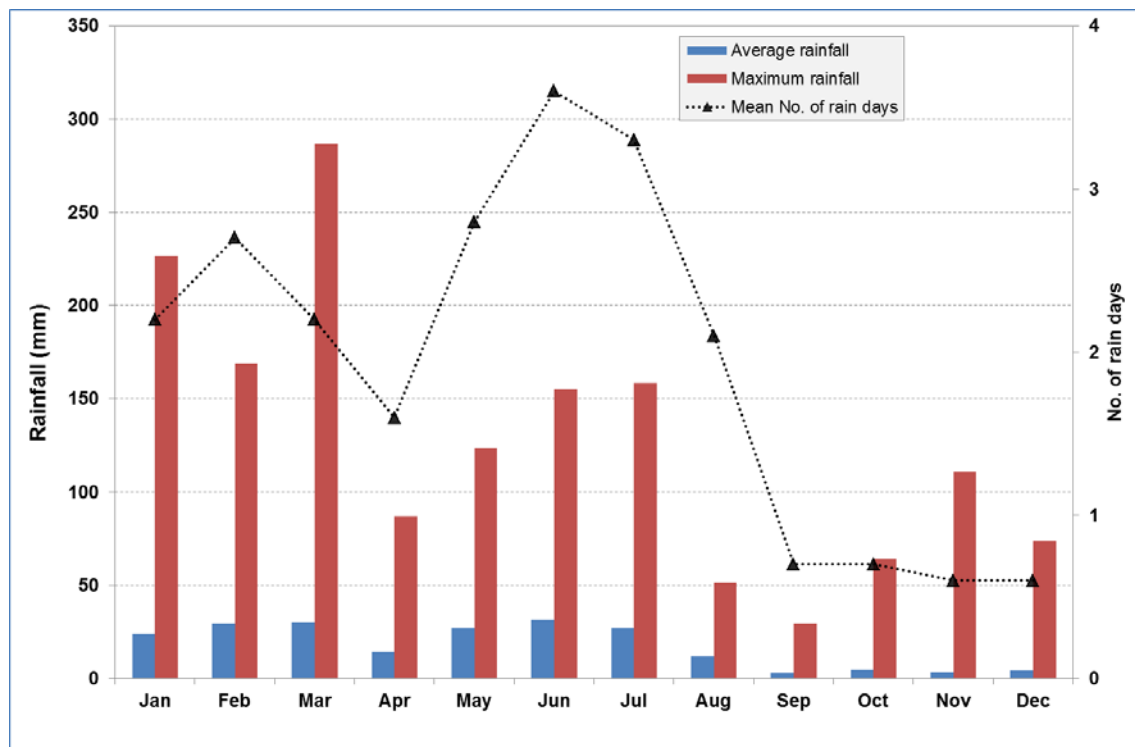


Figure 8-2: Monthly rainfall data for Gascoyne Junction (1907-2016) (BoM, 2016)

A1.3.1 Temperature

Air temperature, in the context of dispersion modelling, is important for understanding the development of mixing and inversion layers in the model domain.

The long term monthly temperature statistics for BoM Gascoyne Junction is presented in Figure 8-3. This figure shows the average monthly maxima and minima as well as the highest and lowest temperature recorded during the period 1961 to 2016.

Average temperatures in Gascoyne Junction range from 18.1°C to 38.7°C during summer, with maximum recorded temperatures of up to 48.8°C. During winter the temperature typically varies from 9.5°C to 24.9°C, with lowest minimum temperature of 1.3°C.

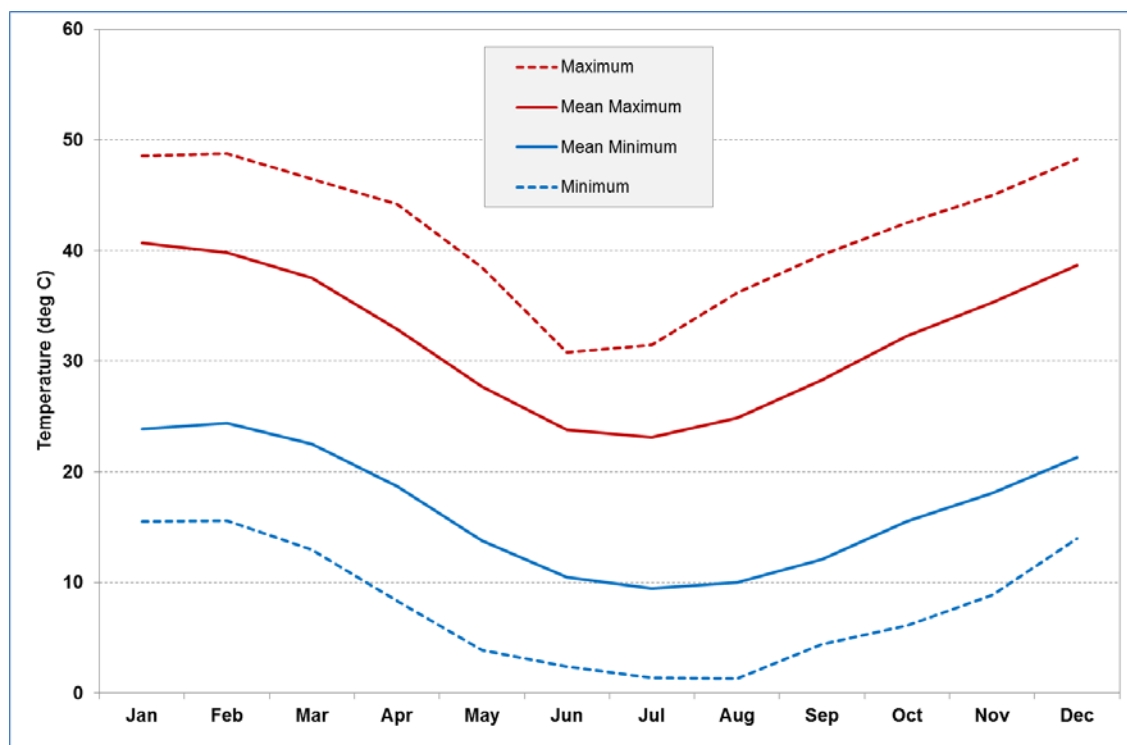


Figure 8-3: Monthly temperature data for Gascoyne Junction (1961-2016) (BoM, 2016)

A1.4.1 Relative humidity

Relative humidity, in the context of dispersion modelling, is important to understand reduced visibility. High relative humidity can significantly increase the effect of pollution on visibility. Particles could potentially accumulate water through condensation and grow to sizes at which they are more efficient at scattering light, thereby reducing visibility.

The long term humidity statistics in Gascoyne Junction at 9 am and 3 pm is presented in Figure 8-4. It shows the humidity is typically high during the winter period and is generally low during the summer period. This reflects the arid nature of the region.

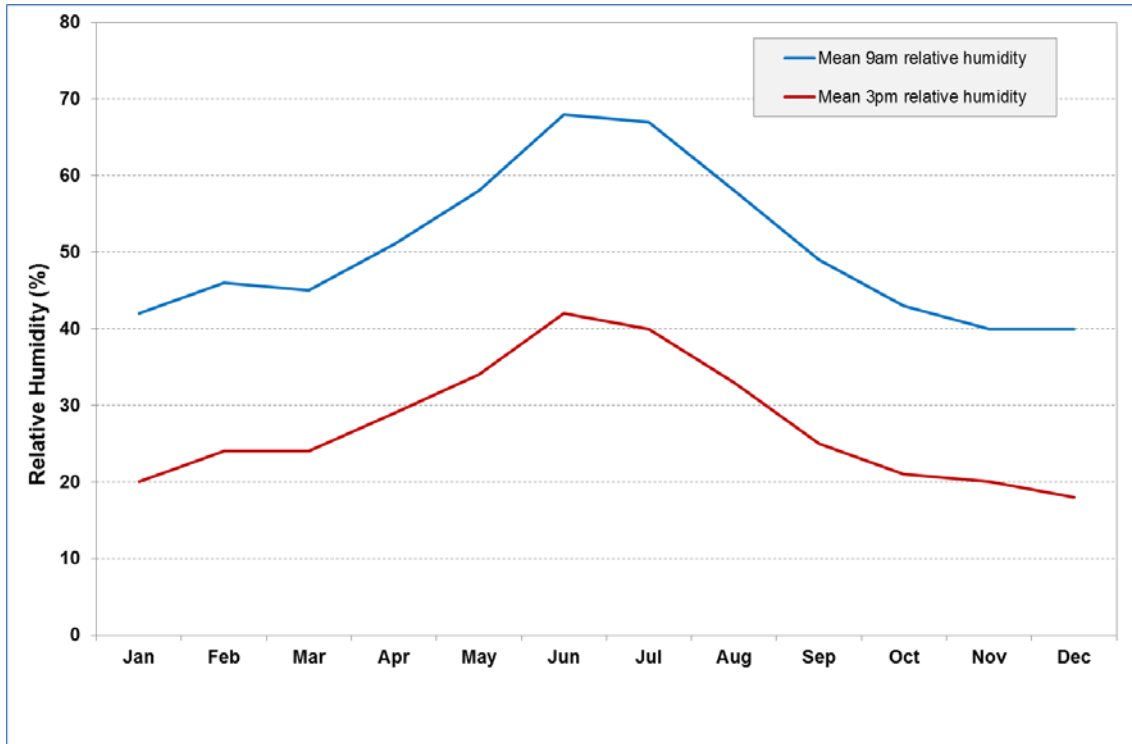


Figure 8-4: Monthly relative humidity data for Gascoyne Junction (1940-2010) (BoM, 2016)

A2.1 Representative year

In order to determine the most applicable meteorological year for use in dispersion modelling, 10-year historical surface observations from the BoM Paraburdoo Airport for the period 2005 to 2015 inclusive were reviewed. Statistical analysis was performed to determine the representative year.

A plot of annual rainfall for the period 1999 to 2015 is presented in Figure 8-5. Over the 16-year period, 2003 and 2010 recorded rainfall below the 10th percentile value while 1999 and 2006 recorded rainfall above the 90th percentile value. Of the remaining 12 year period, year 2002, 2008, 2009, 2001, 2011, 2005, 2014, 2007, 2015, 2012, 2004 and 2000 (in order of preference) provide the closest representation of long-term conditions expected in the region.

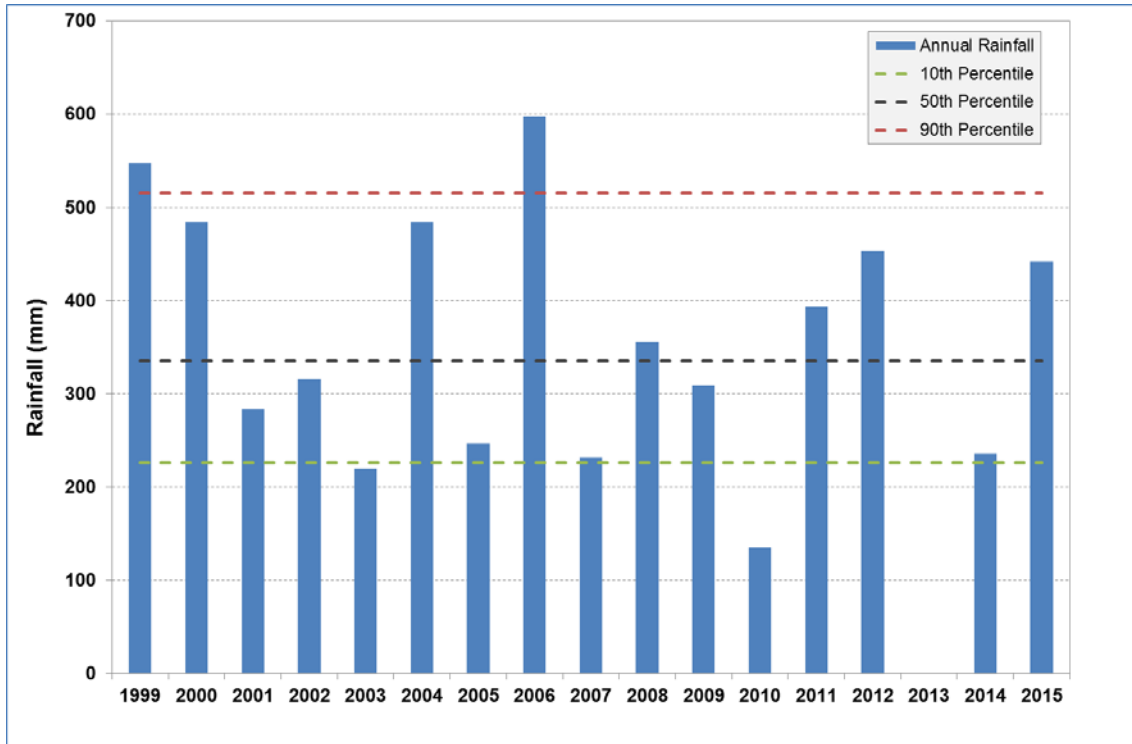


Figure 8-5: Annual rainfall data for Paraburdoo Airport (1999-2015) (BoM, 2016)

A2.1.1 Statistical Analysis

The Mann-Whitney U test was used to statistically identify the representative modelling year based on recorded meteorological parameters including wind speed and temperature. This test was used to assess the Paraburdoo Airport meteorological data.

The null hypothesis is that there is no significant difference between hourly values in an individual year and the hourly averages for long term average values. If values fall within the vertical lines (at 5% Confidence Interval, two tailed), then accept the null hypothesis (Figure 8-6). It is noted that only scalars were assessed (i.e. temperature, relative humidity and wind speed).

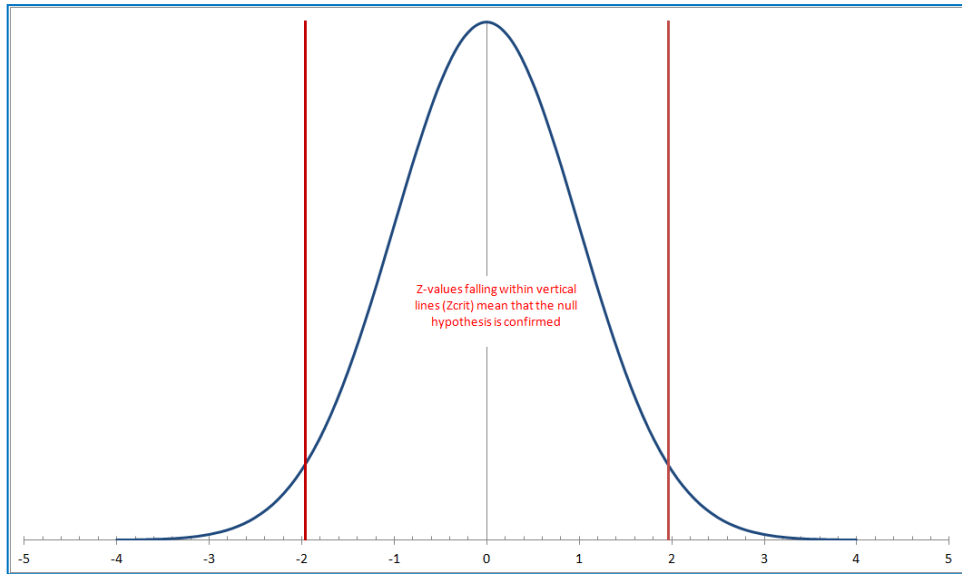


Figure 8-6: Null Hypothesis for Mann-Whitney U test

A2.2.1 Wind Speed

Mann-Whitney U test results for wind speed indicate that 2011 is the most representative of the 10-year mean conditions followed by 2010, 2013, 2012, 2007, 2015 and 2008 in order of preference (Figure 8-7). From 2009 to 2015, 2011 is the most suitable followed by 2010, 2013, 2012 and 2015 in the order of preference.

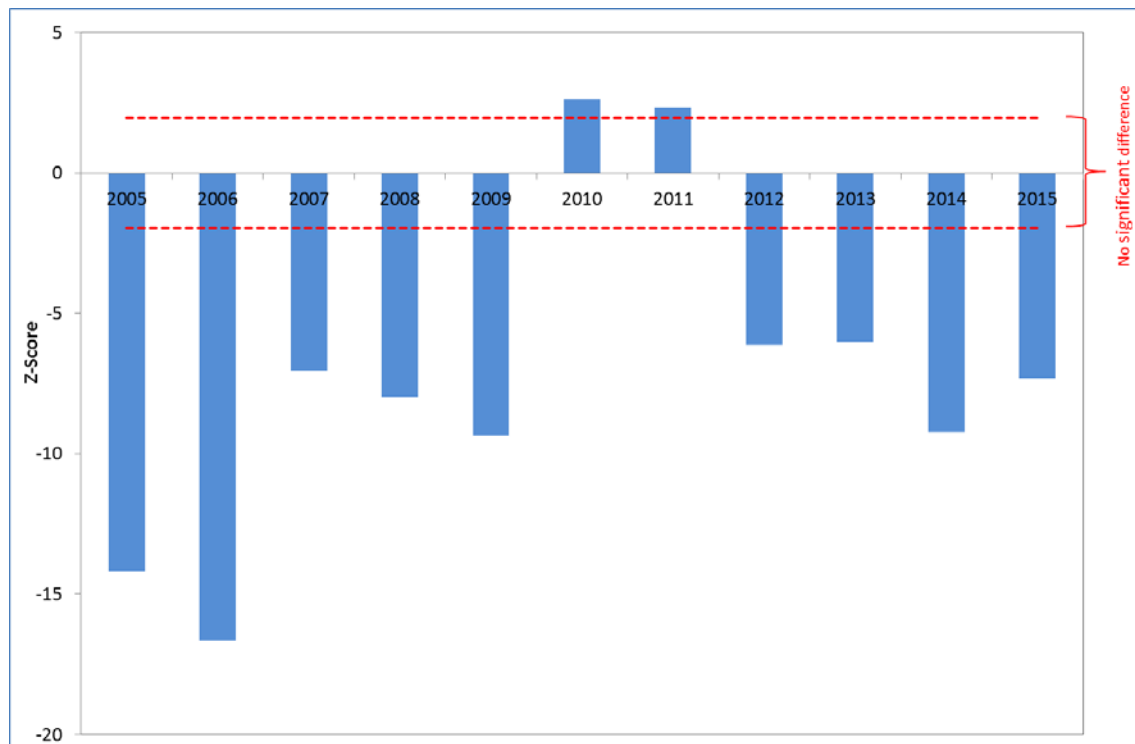


Figure 8-7: Mann-Whitney U test result for wind speed

A2.3.1 Temperature

Mann-Whitney U test results for temperature indicate that years 2015, 2013 and 2007 are the most representative followed by 2009, 2005, 2008, 2014 and 2011 in order of preference (Figure 8-8). For meteorological data from 2009 to 2015, 2015 is the most suitable followed by 2013, 2009, 2014 and 2011 in order of preference.

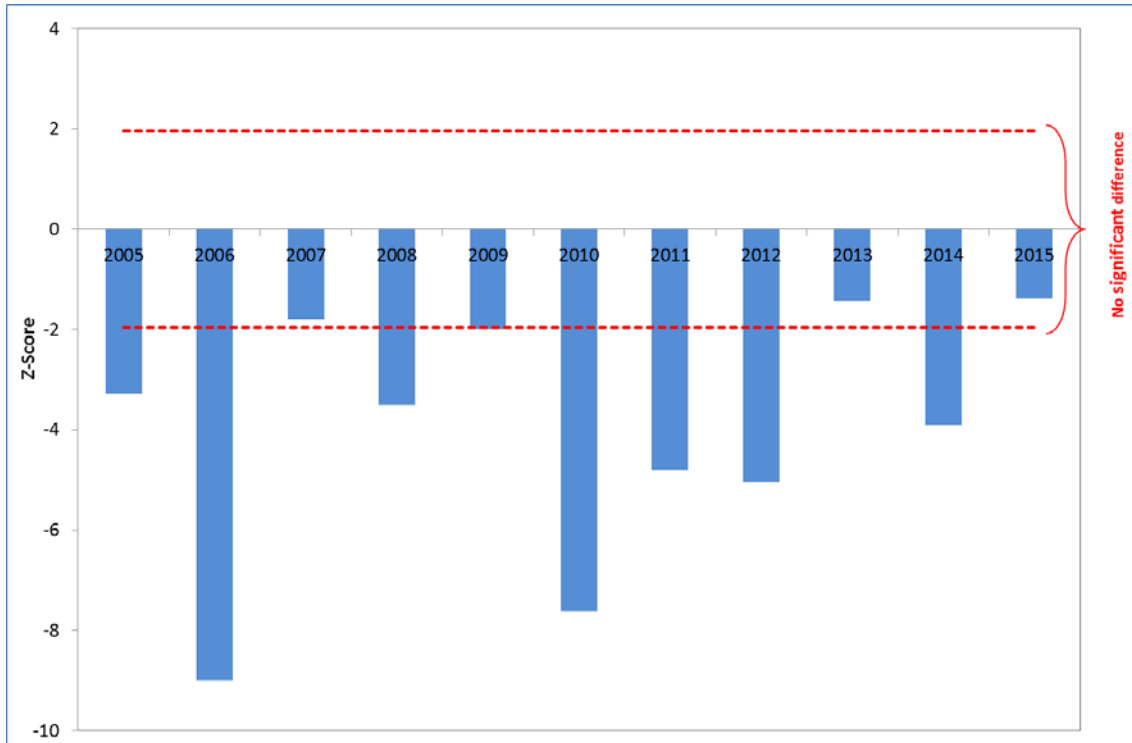


Figure 8-8: Mann-Whitney U test result for temperature

A3.1 Selection of Representative Year

The analysis of meteorological parameters indicated that a number of years were suitably representative of the long term average conditions:

- Rainfall – 2009, 2011, 2014, 2015 and 2012 (in order of preference)
- Wind - 2011, 2010, 2013, 2012 and 2015 (in the order of preference)
- Temperature - 2015, 2013, 2009, 2014 and 2011 (in the order of preference)

The meteorological conditions highlight that the most representative year in terms of rainfall, wind speed and temperature was considered to be 2011 followed by 2015. Further analysis was conducted based on 1-hour wind speed and wind direction to confirm 2011 is the most representative year for modelling (Figure 8-9 to Figure 8-11).

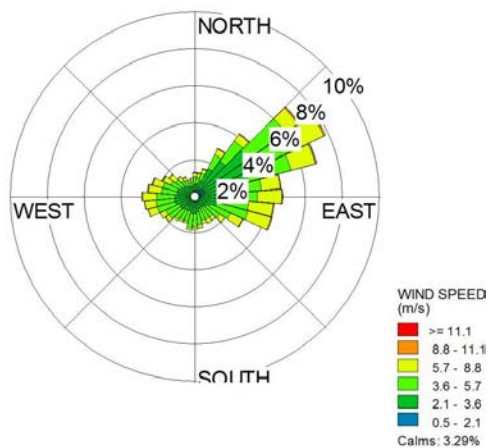


Figure 8-9: Annual wind rose recorded at Paraboradoo Airport (2005-2015)

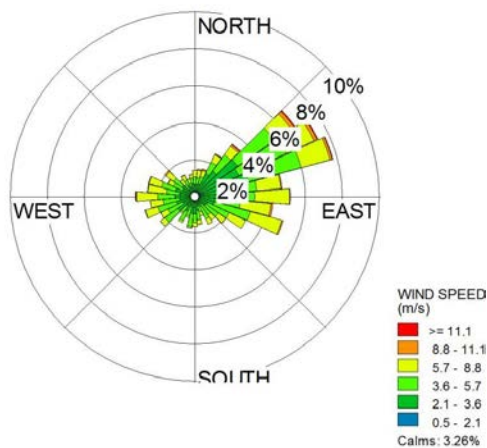


Figure 8-10: Annual wind rose recorded at Paraboradoo Airport (2011)

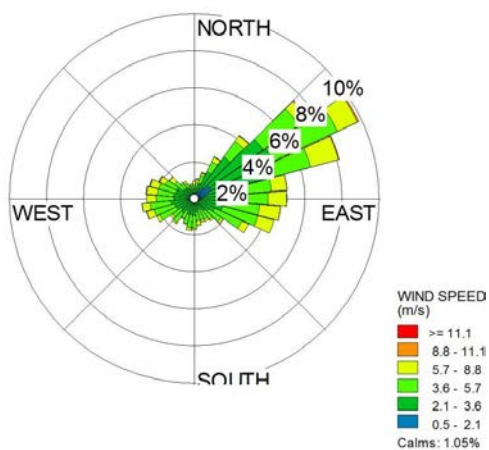


Figure 8-11: Annual wind rose recorded at Paraboradoo Airport (2015)

Appendix B

AERMET – Quality Assurance

B1 AERMET Output

Quality assurance was performed on AERMET output. Attention was focused on internally-derived variables such as mixing height and Monin-Obukhov length.

Figure 8-12 shows the diurnal statistics of mixing height where the classic diurnal profile is seen, with a gradual increase during the day followed by a rapid decrease after the transition from a convective to a mechanical mixing regime. Average minimum mixing heights of approximately 500 m occurs at night with average maximum mixing heights of 2800 m occurring during the late afternoon. A rapid decrease in mixing height after sunset is consistent with the transition from a convective to a mechanical regime.

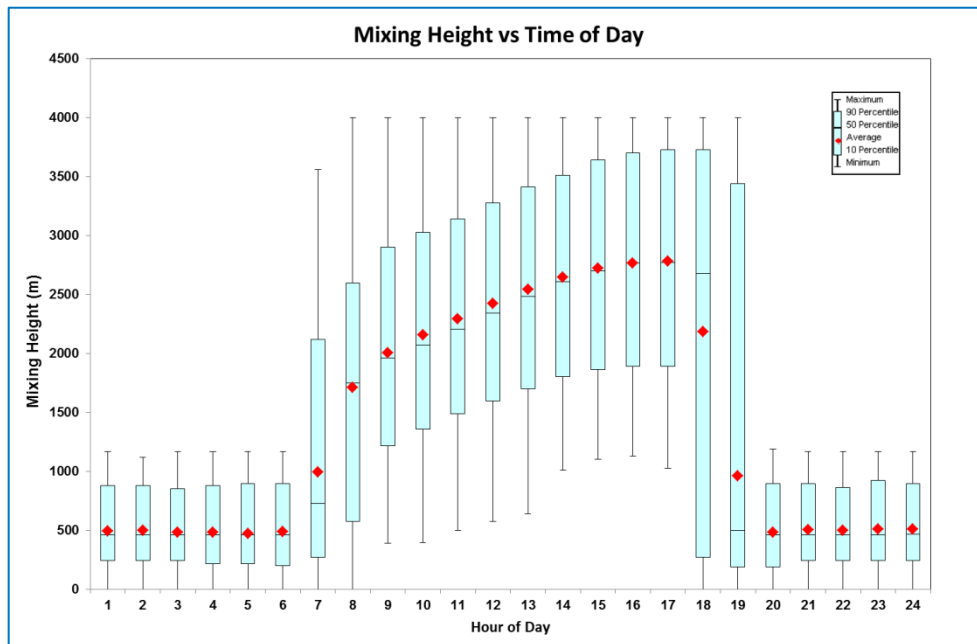


Figure 8-12: *Mixing height – generated by AERMET.*

The diurnal profile of atmospheric stability (derived from Monin-Obukhov length) is shown in the Golder plot in Figure 8-13 and Figure 8-14 . The profile follows an expected pattern, with slightly unstable and unstable conditions confined to the daytime and stable conditions confined to the night-time. Slightly unstable conditions occur for approximately 10 % of the time in a year.

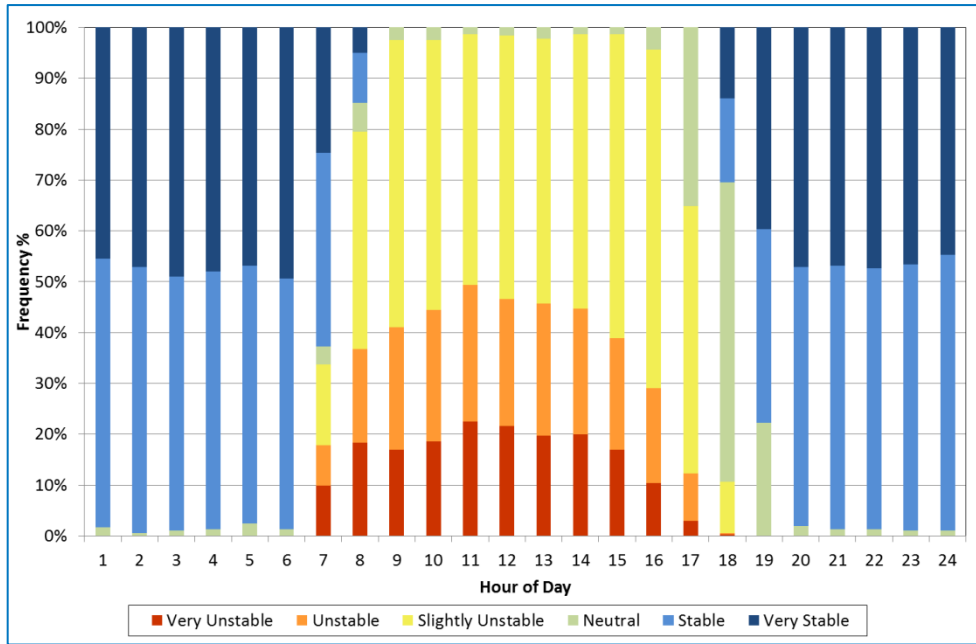


Figure 8-13: Stability – by time of day (Golder plot).

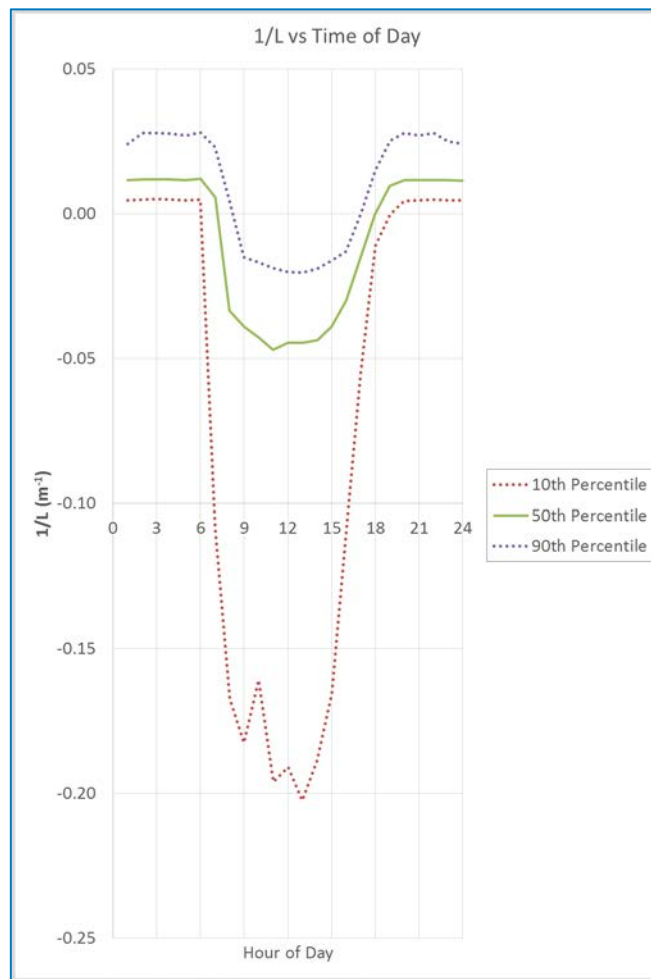


Figure 8-14: Statistics of 1/L – by time of day

Appendix C

Emission Estimation

C1 Emissions - Mining

The following tables list the site specific data used in emission estimation for mining.

Table 8.1: *Mining – Site Specific Data for Operational Phase.*

Item	Value	Unit
Area per blast	930	m ²
Blast hole depth (ore and waste)	30	m
Average volume displaced per blast	27,900	m ³ /blast
No. of holes per blast	1,000	holes
No. of blast per year	105	holes
No. of blast per year - YN	79	holes
No. of blast per year - BH	6	holes
No. of blast per year - FR	1	holes
No of holes drilled (Total)	105,000	holes
No of holes drilled - YN	79,466	holes
No of holes drilled - BH	5,901	holes
No of holes drilled - FR	997	holes
Tonnage of Ore - YN	526,000	t/yr
Tonnage of Ore -BH	291,000	t/yr
Tonnage of Ore -FR	182,000	t/yr
Tonnage of Waste - YN	10,827,000	t/yr
Tonnage of Waste -BH	823,000	t/yr
Tonnage of Waste -FR	2,352,000	t/yr
Total Tonnage of ore	999,000	t/yr
Total Tonnage of waste	14,002,000	t/yr
Total Tonnage of material moved	15,001,000	t/yr
Moisture content of ore/waste	2	t/yr
Silt content of haul road	10	%
Density of ore	5150	kg/m ³
Haul truck empty weight	64.7	tonnes
Haul truck Payload	90	tonnes
Haul truck loaded weight	163.36	tonnes
Haul truck average weight (loaded+unloaded)	114.0	tonnes
Water carts average weight	102.74	tonnes
No of haul truck trips per year - waste (total)	311,156	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - ore (total)	22,200	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - waste (YN)	240,600	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - ore (YN)	11,689	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - waste (BH)	18,289	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - ore (BH)	6,467	Trips/yr
No of haul truck trips per year - waste (FR)	52,267	Trips/yr

Item	Value	Unit
No of haul truck trips per year - ore (FR)	4,044	
No of water cart trips per year	730	Trips/yr
No. of haul truck trips per year	22,200	Trips/yr
Hourly rate of primary crusher	400	tph
Hourly rate of grinder	400	tph

Emissions were estimated using the equations detailed in Table 8.2, for the following sources:

- Blasting
- Wheel generated dust from unpaved roads
- Drilling
- Bulldozer
- Conveying
- Loading and unloading haul trucks
- Primary crushing

Table 8.2: Mining – Emission Equations.

Eq.No	Emission Source	Equations	Reference
1	Blasting	$EF_{PM10} = 0.000114 \times A^{1.5}$ Where EF_{PM10} is emission factor for PM ₁₀ (kg/blast) A is area per blast in m ²	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Table 2, p15
2	Wheel generated dust from unpaved roads	$EF_{PM10} = 0.282 \times 1.5 \times (s/12)^{0.9} \times (W/3)^{0.45}$ Where EF_{PM10} is emission factor for PM ₁₀ (kg/VKT) s is silt content of haul road % W is average weight of vehicles in tonnes	Pitts and Hibberd 2009; Pitts, R.O. and Hibberd, M. 2009. Workshop Report. ModSIG Workshop, Sydney 7th November 2008. Air Quality And Climate Change. Volume 43, No. 3, August 2009, page 14
3	Bulldozer	$EF_{PM10} = 0.34 \times (s)^{1.5} / M^{1.4}$ Where, EF_{PM10} is emission factor for PM ₁₀ (kg/hour) s is silt content % M is moisture content of material in %	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Section 1.1.5
4	Drilling	0.31 kg/hole	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Table 2, p15
5	Loading of trucks with ore/waste	0.012 kg/tonne	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Appendix A 1.1.2

Eq.No	Emission Source	Equations	Reference
6	Unloading of trucks with ore/waste	0.0043 kg/tonne	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Appendix A 1.1.6
7	Conveying	0.002 kg/tonne	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Table 3, p20; High Moisture Ore
8	Primary Crushing	0.004 kg/tonne	NPI EET Manual for Mining v3.1, Table 3, p20; Primary Crusher; High Moisture Ore

Wind erosion emissions were estimated using the equations detailed in **Equation 1** and **Equation 2**.

Equation 1

$$EF_{PM10} = k [WS^3 \times (1 - WS_0^2/WS^2)] \quad \text{when } WS > WS_0$$

$$EF_{PM10} = 0 \quad \text{when } WS < WS_0$$

Where:

- EF_{PM10} = Emission factor for PM10 (g/m²/s)
- WS = Wind speed (m/s)
- WS₀ = Threshold for dust lift off (m/s)
- k = A constant

Equation 2

$$E_{PM10(g/s)} = EF_{PM10} \times A \times (100 - CE_{PM10})/100$$

Where:

- E_{PM10(g/s)} = Emission factor for PM10 (g/s)
- EF_{PM10} = Emission factor for PM10 (g/m²/s)
- A = Total exposed (m²)
- CE = Overall control efficiency of PM10 (%)

The following tables detail the emission rates and parameters used for modelling PM₁₀ and NO_x from power plant and carbon regeneration kilns.

Table 8.3: Emission – Diesel Power generation

Item	NO _x	PM ₁₀	Unit
Emission Rate for 2MW plant ^a	9.2	0.54	g/KW-hr
Normal Operating Load	2072		KW

a) Reference temperature of 25°C, 100kPa, 10.7g/kg of dry air

Table 8.4: Emissions – Carbon Regeneration Kiln

Item	Value	Unit
Natural Gas Fuel Consumption per burner	84	kg/hr
No of burners	2	
Operating hours	8073	Hours/ year

Table 8.5: Power Generation – Stack Parameters

Parameters	Value	Unit
No. of units	5	
Exhaust Temperature	350	degree
Stack diameter	0.301	m
Velocity	22.8	m/s
Release height	16.5	m

Appendix D

AERMOD – Sample File

D1 AERMOD Sample Input File

```
**
*****
**
** AERMOD Input Produced by:
** AERMOD View Ver. 9.1.0
** Lakes Environmental Software Inc.
** Date: 7/11/2016
** File: C:\Jobs\21519\Mine\PM10\PM10.ADI
**
*****
**
**
*****
** AERMOD Control Pathway
*****
**
**
CO STARTING
  TITLEONE C:\Jobs\21519\Mine\PM10\PM10.isc
  TITLETWO Haul Road
  MODELOPT CONC DDEP DRYDPLT BETA LOWWIND2
  AVERTIME 1 24 PERIOD
  POLLUTID TSP
  RUNORNOT RUN
  ERRORFIL PM10.err
CO FINISHED
**
*****
** AERMOD Source Pathway
*****
**
**
SO STARTING
** Source Location **
** Source ID - Type - X Coord. - Y Coord. **
LOCATION DR01A      VOLUME    416318.600  7362907.000    334.510
LOCATION DR01B      VOLUME    417046.000  7362446.000    338.490
LOCATION DR01C      VOLUME    417413.700  7362117.000    345.030
LOCATION DR02       VOLUME    428174.100  7356227.000    351.680
LOCATION DR03       VOLUME    429805.900  7350909.000    353.010
LOCATION BLA01      VOLUME    417228.400  7362278.000    342.220
LOCATION BLA02      VOLUME    428105.700  7356329.000    355.220
LOCATION BLA03      VOLUME    429879.400  7350964.000    354.590
LOCATION LO_OR1A    VOLUME    416148.700  7362844.000    338.000
LOCATION LO_OR1B    VOLUME    416956.600  7362586.000    333.800
LOCATION LO_OR1C    VOLUME    417507.500  7362036.000    343.410
LOCATION LO_OR2     VOLUME    428057.900  7356417.000    357.410
LOCATION LO_OR3     VOLUME    429747.200  7350863.000    351.270
LOCATION LO_WA1A    VOLUME    416508.600  7362755.000    334.380
LOCATION LO_WA1B    VOLUME    417140.200  7362381.000    340.730
LOCATION LO_WA1C    VOLUME    417595.600  7362080.000    343.960
LOCATION LO_WA2     VOLUME    428285.600  7356098.000    348.870
LOCATION LO_WA3     VOLUME    429945.500  7351030.000    351.980
LOCATION UN_OR1     VOLUME    427944.100  7354045.000    342.370
LOCATION UN_OR2     VOLUME    427979.000  7353992.000    342.350
LOCATION UN_OR3     VOLUME    428023.000  7353938.000    340.170
LOCATION UN_WA1A    VOLUME    417485.400  7363475.000    339.720
LOCATION UN_WA1B    VOLUME    417742.500  7362638.000    341.130
LOCATION UN_WA1C    VOLUME    418175.800  7362770.000    343.120
LOCATION UN_WA2     VOLUME    428913.600  7355859.000    352.480
LOCATION UN_WA3     VOLUME    430261.300  7351052.000    348.920
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LOCATION DOZER2     VOLUME    417316.500  7362183.000    344.560
LOCATION DOZER3A    VOLUME    428230.500  7356175.000    350.650
```

LOCATION	DOZER3B	VOLUME	429839.000	7350993.000	352.070
LOCATION	DOZER4	VOLUME	417610.300	7363629.000	341.010
LOCATION	DOZER5	VOLUME	418028.900	7362550.000	344.660
LOCATION	DOZER6A	VOLUME	428840.100	7356050.000	354.870
LOCATION	DOZER6B	VOLUME	430481.600	7351449.000	352.000
LOCATION	LO_OR4	VOLUME	427906.100	7353942.000	341.740
LOCATION	PC	VOLUME	427761.500	7353862.000	335.950
LOCATION	CNV1	VOLUME	427694.600	7353768.000	334.020
LOCATION	UN_OR4	VOLUME	427637.600	7353832.000	333.170
LOCATION	LO_OR5	VOLUME	427670.800	7353895.000	334.310
LOCATION	CNV2	VOLUME	427604.300	7353919.000	333.120
LOCATION	WE_ROM	VOLUME	427984.300	7354011.000	341.840
LOCATION	WE_WASTE_YN1	VOLUME	417416.000	7363432.000	338.900
LOCATION	WE_WASTE_YN2	VOLUME	417942.200	7362669.000	343.040
LOCATION	WE_WASTE_BH	VOLUME	428958.400	7355886.000	352.830
LOCATION	WE_WASTE_FR	VOLUME	430361.600	7351259.000	348.060
** Source Parameters **					
SRCPARAM	DR01A	1.0	1.000	0.242	0.465
SRCPARAM	DR01B	1.0	1.000	0.242	0.465
SRCPARAM	DR01C	1.0	1.000	0.242	0.465
SRCPARAM	DR02	1.0	1.000	0.242	0.465
SRCPARAM	DR03	1.0	1.000	0.242	0.465
SRCPARAM	BLA01	1.0	10.000	16.994	4.651
SRCPARAM	BLA02	1.0	10.000	16.994	4.651
SRCPARAM	BLA03	1.0	10.000	16.994	4.651
SRCPARAM	LO_OR1A	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_OR1B	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_OR1C	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_OR2	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_OR3	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_WA1A	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_WA1B	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_WA1C	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_WA2	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	LO_WA3	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_OR1	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_OR2	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_OR3	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
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SRCPARAM	UN_WA1B	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_WA1C	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_WA2	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	UN_WA3	1.0	7.000	0.847	2.326
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SRCPARAM	DOZER2	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER3A	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER3B	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER4	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER5	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER6A	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	DOZER6B	1.0	1.800	0.969	0.837
SRCPARAM	LO_OR4	1.0	5.000	0.847	2.326
SRCPARAM	PC	1.0	10.000	4.000	4.000
SRCPARAM	CNV1	1.0	1.500	2.790	0.700
SRCPARAM	UN_OR4	1.0	7.000	0.847	3.256
SRCPARAM	LO_OR5	1.0	5.000	0.847	3.256
SRCPARAM	CNV2	1.0	1.500	2.790	0.700
SRCPARAM	WE_ROM	1.0	4.000	14.480	2.000
SRCPARAM	WE_WASTE_YN1	1.0	2.000	61.230	1.000
SRCPARAM	WE_WASTE_YN2	1.0	2.000	64.420	1.000
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PARTDIAM	WE_ROM	1.25	3.75	7.5	
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PARTDIAM	UN_WA2	1.25	3.75	7.5	

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 PARTDIAM UN_OR3 1.25 3.75 7.5
 PARTDIAM UN_OR2 1.25 3.75 7.5
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 MASSFRAX WE_ROM 0.15 0.36 0.48
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 MASSFRAX UN_WA2 0.15 0.36 0.48
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 MASSFRAX UN_WA1B 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX UN_WA1A 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX UN_OR4 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX UN_OR3 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX UN_OR2 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX UN_OR1 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX PC 0.15 0.36 0.48
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 MASSFRAX LO_WA2 0.15 0.36 0.48
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 MASSFRAX LO_OR1C 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX LO_OR1B 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX LO_OR1A 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DR03 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DR02 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DR01C 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DR01B 0.15 0.36 0.48

MASSFRAX DR01A 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER6B 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER6A 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER5 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER4 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER3B 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER3A 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER2 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX DOZER1 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX CNV2 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX CNV1 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX BLA03 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX BLA02 0.15 0.36 0.48
 MASSFRAX BLA01 0.15 0.36 0.48
 PARTDENS WE_WASTE_YN2 1 1 1
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 PARTDENS WE_WASTE_FR 1 1 1
 PARTDENS WE_WASTE_BH 1 1 1
 PARTDENS WE_ROM 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_WA3 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_WA2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_WA1C 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_WA1B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_WA1A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_OR4 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_OR3 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_OR2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS UN_OR1 1 1 1
 PARTDENS PC 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_WA3 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_WA2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_WA1C 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_WA1B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_WA1A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR5 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR4 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR3 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR1C 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR1B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS LO_OR1A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DR03 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DR02 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DR01C 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DR01B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DR01A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER6B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER6A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER5 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER4 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER3B 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER3A 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS DOZER1 1 1 1
 PARTDENS CNV2 1 1 1
 PARTDENS CNV1 1 1 1
 PARTDENS BLA03 1 1 1
 PARTDENS BLA02 1 1 1
 PARTDENS BLA01 1 1 1
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT DR01A DR01B DR01C
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT DR02 DR03 BLA01
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT BLA02 BLA03 LO_OR1A
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT LO_OR1B LO_OR1C LO_OR2
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT LO_OR3 LO_WA1A LO_WA1B
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT LO_WA1C LO_WA2 LO_WA3
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT UN_OR1 UN_OR2 UN_OR3
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT UN_WA1A UN_WA1B UN_WA1C
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT UN_WA2 UN_WA3 DOZER1
 HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT DOZER2 DOZER3A DOZER3B

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HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT DOZER4 DOZER5 DOZER6A
HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT DOZER6B LO_OR4 PC
HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT CNV1 UN_OR4 LO_OR5
HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT CNV2 WE_ROM WE_WASTE_YN1
HOUREMIS MINE_SOURCE_PM10.TXT WE_WASTE_YN2 WE_WASTE_BH WE_WASTE_FR
SRCGROUP ALL
SO FINISHED
**
*****
** AERMOD Receptor Pathway
*****
**
**
RE STARTING
  INCLUDED PM10.rou
RE FINISHED
**
*****
** AERMOD Meteorology Pathway
*****
**
**
ME STARTING
  SURFFILE Hastings_new.SFC
  PROFFILE Hastings.PFL
  SURFDATA 0 2011
  UAIRDATA 54321 2011
  SITEDATA 54321 2011
  PROFBASE 300.0 METERS
ME FINISHED
**
*****
** AERMOD Output Pathway
*****
**
**
OU STARTING
  RECTABLE ALLAVE 1ST
  RECTABLE 1 1ST
  RECTABLE 24 1ST
  POSTFILE 1 ALL PLOT PM10.AD\01_GALL.POS 31
  POSTFILE 24 ALL PLOT PM10.AD\24_GALL.POS 32
  POSTFILE PERIOD ALL PLOT PM10.AD\PE_GALL.POS 33
** Auto-Generated Plotfiles
  PLOTFILE 1 ALL 1ST PM10.AD\01H1GALL.PLT 34
  PLOTFILE 24 ALL 1ST PM10.AD\24H1GALL.PLT 35
  PLOTFILE PERIOD ALL PM10.AD\PE00GALL.PLT 36
  SUMMFILE PM10.sum
OU FINISHED
**
*****
** Project Parameters
*****
** PROJCTN CoordinateSystemUTM
** DESCPTN UTM: Universal Transverse Mercator
** DATUM Geocentric Datum of Australia (1994)
** DTMRGN Australia
** UNITS m
** ZONE -50
** ZONEINX 0
**
```

Appendix E

Source Parameters

E1 Source Parameters

The modelled volume source parameters are listed in Table 8.6 and Table 8.7.

Table 8.6: Source characteristics for mining operations

Source ID	Description	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Sigma Y (m)	Sigma Z (m)	Release Height (m)
DR01A	Drilling at Yangibana North	416319	7362907	0.24	0.47	1.00
DR01B	Drilling at Yangibana North	417046	7362446	0.24	0.47	1.00
DR01C	Drilling at Yangibana North	417414	7362117	0.24	0.47	1.00
DR02	Drilling at Bald Hill	428174	7356227	0.24	0.47	1.00
DR03	Drilling at Frasers	429806	7350909	0.24	0.47	1.00
BLA01	Blasting at Yangibana North	417228	7362278	16.99	4.65	10.00
BLA02	Blasting at Bald Hill	428106	7356329	16.99	4.65	10.00
BLA03	Blasting at Frasers	429879	7350964	16.99	4.65	10.00
LO_Or1A	Loading of ore into trucks at Yangibana North	416149	7362844	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Or1B	Loading of ore into trucks at Yangibana North	416957	7362586	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Or1C	Loading of ore into trucks at Yangibana North	417507	7362036	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Or2	Loading of ore into trucks at Bald Hill	428058	7356417	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Or3	Loading of ore into trucks at Frasers	429747	7350863	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Wa1A	Loading of waste into trucks at Yangibana North	416509	7362755	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Wa1B	Loading of ore into trucks at Yangibana North	417140	7362381	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Wa1C	Loading of ore into trucks at Yangibana North	417596	7362080	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Wa2	Loading of ore into trucks at Bald Hill	428286	7356098	0.85	2.33	5.00
LO_Wa3	Loading of ore into trucks at Frasers	429945	7351030	0.85	2.33	5.00
Un_Or1	Trucks dumping ore onto RoM	427944	7354045	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Or2	Trucks dumping ore onto RoM	427979	7353992	0.85	2.33	7.00



Source ID	Description	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Sigma Y (m)	Sigma Z (m)	Release Height (m)
Un_Or3	Trucks dumping ore onto RoM	428023	7353938	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Wa1A	Trucks dumping waste at Yangibana North	417485	7363475	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Wa1B	Trucks dumping waste at Yangibana North	417742	7362638	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Wa1C	Trucks dumping waste at Yangibana North	418176	7362770	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Wa2	Trucks dumping waste at Bald Hill	428914	7355859	0.85	2.33	7.00
Un_Wa3	Trucks dumping waste at Frasers	430261	7351052	0.85	2.33	7.00
DOZER1	Dozer on ore at Yangibana North	416053	7362968	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER2	Dozer on ore at Yangibana North	417316	7362183	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER3A	Dozer on ore at Bald Hill	428231	7356175	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER3B	Dozer on ore at Frasers	429839	7350993	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER4	Dozer on waste at Yangibana North	417610	7363629	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER5	Dozer on waste at Yangibana North	418029	7362550	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER6A	Dozer on waste at Bald Hill	428840	7356050	0.97	0.84	1.80
DOZER6B	Dozer on waste at Frasers	430482	7351449	0.97	0.84	1.80
LO_Or4	Loading of ore onto trucks near ROM pad	427906	7353942	0.85	2.33	5.00
PC	Primary Crusher	427762	7353862	4.00	4.00	10.00
Cnv1	Conveyor from PC to Stockpile	427695	7353768	2.79	0.70	1.50
Un_Or4	Unloading of ore to Stockpile	427638	7353832	0.85	3.26	7.00
LO_Or5	Loading of ore from Stockpile	427671	7353895	0.85	3.26	5.00
Cnv2	Conveyor from stockpile to wet processing facility	427604	7353919	2.79	0.70	1.50
WE_ROM	Wind erosion from ROM Pad	427984	7354011	14.48	2.00	4.00
WE_Waste_YN1	Yangibana North	417416	7363432	61.23	1.00	2.00
WE_Waste_YN2	Yangibana North	417942	7362669	64.42	1.00	2.00
WE_Waste_BH	Wind erosion from Bald Hill	428958	7355886	61.59	1.00	2.00

Source ID	Description	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Sigma Y (m)	Sigma Z (m)	Release Height (m)
WE_Waste_FR	Wind erosion from Frasers	430362	7351259	63.46	1.00	2.00

Table 8.7: Source characteristics for Haul Roads

Source ID	Description	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Sigma Y (m)	Sigma Z (m)	Release Height (m)
V1_1	Yangibana North to processing facility - Ore	418265	7362075	25	0.25	0.5
V1_2		419209	7361712	25	0.25	0.5
V1_3		420000	7361128	25	0.25	0.5
V1_4		420668	7360584	25	0.25	0.5
V1_5		421374	7360317	25	0.25	0.5
V1_6		421984	7360236	25	0.25	0.5
V1_7		422762	7359948	25	0.25	0.5
V1_8		423761	7359642	25	0.25	0.5
V1_9		424754	7359142	25	0.25	0.5
V1_10		425492	7358356	25	0.25	0.5
V1_11		426198	7357632	25	0.25	0.5
V1_12		426931	7356940	25	0.25	0.5
V1_13		427384	7356242	25	0.25	0.5
V1_14		428042	7355712	25	0.25	0.5
V1_15		428480	7355104	25	0.25	0.5
V1_16		427989	7354521	25	0.25	0.5
V2_1	Yangibana North to waste dump	417393	7362768	25	0.25	0.5
V3_1	Bald Hill to processing facility - Ore	428309	7355664	25	0.25	0.5
V3_2		428060	7354851	25	0.25	0.5
V3_3		427680	7354245	25	0.25	0.5
V4_1	Bald Hill to waste dump	428551	7355996	25	0.25	0.5
V5_1	Frasers to processing facility - Ore	428060	7354634	25	0.25	0.5
V5_2		428618	7354264	25	0.25	0.5
V5_3		428902	7353395	25	0.25	0.5
V5_4		429425	7352676	25	0.25	0.5
V5_5		429814	7351896	25	0.25	0.5
V5_6		429990	7351249	25	0.25	0.5
V6_1	Frasers to waste dump	430108	7351304	25	0.25	0.5