

**MOOLARBEN COAL OPERATIONS - COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING No. 60**

Date: Tuesday 17th March 2022
Time: 4:17pm
Location: Moolarben Coal Training Centre
Attendance: Independent Chairperson
Lisa Andrews (LA)

Community Members

Dr Julia Imrie (JI)
Bev Smiles (BS)
Cr Katie Dicker (KD) – MWRC Delegate
David Lowe (DL) – Business Mudgee Delegate
David Stokes (DS)

Moolarben Coal Operations

Steve Archinal (SA)
Trent Cini (TC)
Rebecca Shanks (RS)
Morgan Yeatman (MY)
Mat Croake (MC) {Minute taker}

Apologies

Aliesha Lonsdale (AL)
Helen Ungaro (HU)

Meeting 60 Agenda and Presentation and Meeting 59 Minutes were provided to all meeting attendees.

1. Introduction and Welcome

Lisa Andrews (LA) opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees to the Moolarben Coal Operations (MCO) Community Consultative Committee (CCC). LA invited new delegates, KD & DL to introduce themselves to the committee.

2. Apologies

Helen Ungaro (HU)
Aliasha Lonsdale (AL)

3. Business Arising from Previous Finalised Minutes

LA confirmed previous meeting minutes finalised and distributed on 20th of December 2021.

TC informed the members that the previous actions items will be addressed during the presentation.

Actions from Meeting 59:

- 1. Provide a link to the 2020 ESG Report to the CCC.*
- 2. Provide an update to the CCC regarding consideration of relinquishing parts of MCO's EL's.*
- 3. MCO to provide the total number of drilling programs in EL6288 north.*
- 4. MCO to confirm the availability of the aeromagnetic survey results to the CCC.*
- 5. Revise surface water monitoring graphs to include creek names.*
- 6. MCO to provide further information on the Noise Policy for Industry and the Moolarben Noise monitoring program.*
- 7. MCO to investigate possible future release of St Johns Wort Biocontrol in the area in conjunction with the LLS.*
- 8. MCO to confirm the volume of coal extracted from OC1 and OC2 were consistent with the project approval predictions.*

No further actions or business arising from CCC Meeting 59.

Correspondence as sent with the Meeting Notice on 10/3/22

Correspondence to the CCC since meeting 59 included the following:

- 3/12/21 – Email to Independent Environmental Auditor with questions from JI for consideration as part of the audit.
- 9/12/21 – Draft minutes sent to CCC for review (comments received back & incorporated into minutes).
- 9/12/21 – Email from JI regarding the exhibition timing for UG2 modification.
- 9/12/21 – Email and telephone call to DPIE seeking an extension of time for submissions.
- 13/12/21 – Email from JI requesting copy of groundwater report referenced in MOD application. Forwarded to MCO for consideration.
- 15/12/21 – Email to JI advising that report is with DPIE & not yet publicly available. JI responded.
- 22/12/21 – Email to DPIE raising concerns by JI regarding availability of report.
- 25/1/21 – Email to MWRC requesting a new delegate on this CCC.
- 31/1/22 – Email from Independent Auditor advising that the report is complete with the exception of the review of the groundwater issues; advising that an independent groundwater specialist will be undertaking a review of the points raised and should be finalised at the end of February.
- 2/2/22 – Email to members proposing change in date to Q1 CCC to 17/3/22.
- 21/2/22 – Email from MWRC advising that Cr Kennedy is Council's delegate on this CCC & Cr Dicker is the alternate delegate.
- 8/3/22 – Copy of Email from JI to EPA & MCO regarding Black grey River turbidity in Goulburn River.

- 10/3/22 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & site requirements.
- 14/3/22 – Email to members with electronic copy of MCO newsletter

CCC Update Presentation

TC welcomed CCC members and provided an update on COVID-19 management actions.

TC provided an update on the Community Support Program (CSP).

TC provided an operations update and general comments on current mine progress. TC advised the UG4 extraction plan has been submitted for approval. JI asked if the dewatering bores on Saddlers Creek Road had been used for mine dewatering and why they were being removed. TC confirmed they were being decommissioned as they were no longer required.

TC addressed CCC meeting 59 Action number 8. TC advised the total coal extracted from OC1 and OC2 is generally consistent with the predictions within the Stage 1 and MOD 9 Environmental Assessments. BS provided comment regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) and variances between extracted volumes. TC advised Environmental Assessments are based on geological models to estimate volumes of ROM coal, these models continue to be refined over the life of the operation.

BS asked what direction the mining faces in Open Cut 4 (OC4) are progressing towards. TC confirmed the mining directions of the OC4 pit to the East and South. BS asked if the mining in OC4 includes rehabilitation activities. TC advised progressive rehabilitation is occurring at Moolarben. JI asked if MCO is backfilling in OC3. TC advised mining and backfilling is occurring in OC3.

TC provided an update on the Independent Water Quality Study (IWQS). JI confirmed the location of SW12. TC advised the IWQS is currently with the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). Discussion took place regarding the onsite visit by the Independent consultant that completed the Study. TC advised the University of Queensland (UQ) were approved by the DPE to complete the study. LA advised the CCC that MCO has followed the process required for the study to be undertaken. DL asked if the study is for the RO plant. TC advised the IWQS was associated with the release limits for the Water Treatment Plant. JI asked if MCO would be providing the report to the CCC. TC advised the report would be provided to the CCC once the DPE are satisfied with the report. JI commented that she will be interested in seeing the report and questioned the independent process.

TC provided an exploration update. TC addressed CCC 59 action number 2 and CCC 59 action number 3. TC advised MCO have conducted three drilling programs in EL6288 North; one in 2012, one in 2014 and the current program. TC advised the CCC that Yancoal Moolarben will continue to consider relinquishment of exploration licences based on the outcomes of exploration programs and in the best interest of its shareholders. At this time, whilst MCO continue its exploration programs, there are no plans to lodge any relinquishment applications for any Moolarben EL's. JI asked how many drill holes have been converted to groundwater monitoring bores in the EL area north of The Drip and The Goulburn River. TC advised three drill holes have been converted to monitoring bores.

TC addressed CCC 59 action number 4. TC advised Aeromagnetic survey data is confidential exploration data. As such it is not available for public release. JI explained to the CCC there are a number of basalt extrusions and fault lines in the area including areas on her property and on the Bobadeen Biodiversity Offset Area (BOA). JI then asked if MCO will release any of the geological data for this area. TC advised there are no current plans to release the geological information to the public. JI asked if MCO provides this information to the regulators. TC advised MCO report relevant information to the regulators as required. DL enquired if the reason the aero magnetic survey results are not released to the public is commercial. SA confirmed.

MY provided an update on environmental monitoring. BS asked if MCO is releasing 10 ML per day. SA confirmed. JI commented the pH has increased since December 2020. TC confirmed and explained the rise is still within the compliance limit. JI observed the EC in the treated water being released has increased. TC confirmed and advised

the EC level is an operational decision. JI asked what percentage of the water released is groundwater and where are water samples collected. TC confirmed that MCO only release treated water and the samples are of the release water in accordance with the approved Surface Water Management Plan.

MY addressed CCC 59 action number 5. The creek names were added to the surface water quality graphs. JI asked if MCO have sampled the Goulburn River following her complaint after the recent rain when flow turned an unusual dark grey. TC confirmed MCO sampled the Goulburn River during the rainfall event. JI asked if MCO can provide the Goulburn River sampling results from the rainfall event on the 7th March 2022 to the CCC (**Action**). KD asked if there was a reason the SW07 was so high from TSS in March 2021. MY advised that there were high amounts of vegetation in the sample.

BS asked if the noise monitoring figure in the CCC presentation shows the monitoring locations. TC confirmed and gave the CCC a general description of the noise monitoring points in accordance with the Noise Management Plan. JI asked if there is attended noise monitoring near her property. TC advised there is no regular attended monitoring locations near Saddlers Creek Road. BS asked if a legend can be added to the noise monitoring figure in the CCC presentation (**Action**). DS asked if MCO received any noise complaints recently, TC advised MCO received no complaints in February. TC addressed CCC 59 action number 6 providing an overview of the noise monitoring program and the Noise Policy for Industry. JI expressed her concern to the CCC that MCO doesn't conduct any planned attended noise monitoring near her property. TC advised noise monitoring is undertaken in accordance with the approved Noise Management Plan.

MY provided an update on complaints. DL enquired to what the 'other' complaints were in relation to. MY advised they included complaints associated with water and lighting. DL asked if MCO have standards for lighting. TC advised MCO follow relevant Australian Standards in regard to lighting and that changes to operations are made as required.

MC provided a rehabilitation and offset management update. TC addressed CCC 59 action number 7 providing details on the investigation for possible future release of St Johns Wort Biocontrol. The LLS were not able to provide the biocontrol to MCO and due to the prolonged drought, the natural populations have likely diminished.

TC provided information on the proposed Underground 2 Modification. JI asked if the reply to submissions will include the groundwater technical report. TC advised that the groundwater technical report is associated with the UG4 extraction plan not the UG2 modification. JI replied the groundwater report had supported the documentation for the MOD 4 DA and that it was her understanding from DPE planning it would be available when RTS were released.

TC provided an update on the Open Cut 3 Extension Project. BS asked if the project has been determined to be a controlled action. TC advised the project had been referred and determination had not been received. LA asked if the CCC can be notified when the OC3 extension Project is on public exhibition. TC confirmed (**Action**). BS asked who will be involved in the bore census for the OC3 extension project. TC advised the bore census is still being finalised however, MCO would like to talk with surrounding neighbours and stakeholders. TC also advised Australasian Groundwater & Environment (AGE) were completing the Groundwater Assessment for the Open Cut 3 Extension Project.

TC provided an employment update. DS asked if MCO have full crews for each shift. SA advised MCO currently has a high number (140) of vacant positions across the MCO Complex.

4. General Business

JI asked if sediment dams at MCO spilled during the recent weather events. TC advised MCO managed water levels onsite and did not have any sediment dams spill.

JI asked if the Independent Environmental Audit had been finalised. TC advised the audit is still waiting approval and will be provided to the CCC when finalised.

BS asked if the OC4 extension has been removed from the OC3 extension project. TC confirmed the priority will be the OC3 extension followed by the OC4 extension project. BS asked if the OC4 extension will be a project modification or an environmental impact assessment. TC advised MCO are currently undertaking additional work to define the approvals approach.

BS commented on the recent community newsletter, in particular the section regarding the expected coal volume of 40 million tonnes is expected to be extracted from the OC3 extension. TC confirmed the process of determining expected coal volumes from geological models. BS enquired if the OC3 extension will increase the life of mine. SA advised the life of mine won't be extended and confirmed the annual peak volumes won't be increased.

BS commented on a blast observed during January. TC advised all MCO blasts were compliant during January.

BS advised the CCC that an electricity transmission line is planning to be installed adjacent to the existing 330KV line as part of EnergyCo NSW's Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone.

BS asked if MCO is using stemming rock from the Merriwa Quarry. TC to confirm where MCO source their stemming rock (**Action**).

5. Next Meeting: 7th June 2022 at 2:30pm

Meeting closed at 5:51pm with LA thanking members for their attendance and participation.

Action Items:

Item	Action	Responsibility
1	MCO to provide Goulburn River sampling results from the rainfall event on the 7 th March 2022.	MCO
2	MCO to include legend on noise monitoring figure in presentation.	MCO
3	MCO to notify CCC when the OC3 extension is on public exhibition.	MCO
4	MCO to confirm the source of stemming rock for the site.	MCO

Community Consultative Committee Update

March 2022

Moolarben Coal Operations



COVID – 19 Update

- Yancoal continues to proactively manage and monitor the situation.
- Site access requirements including;
 - Temperature screening,
 - Drive through testing facilities, and
 - enhanced cleaning.
- Continued implementation of social distancing, masks and reinforcement of hygiene practices.



2022 Community Support Program (CSP)

2022 Yancoal-Moolarben Coal CSP

- A total of 33 applications were received for the 2022 CSP
- 32 applicants were successful.
- The majority of the applications were for the Social & Community category (19) followed by the Education and Training category (6)

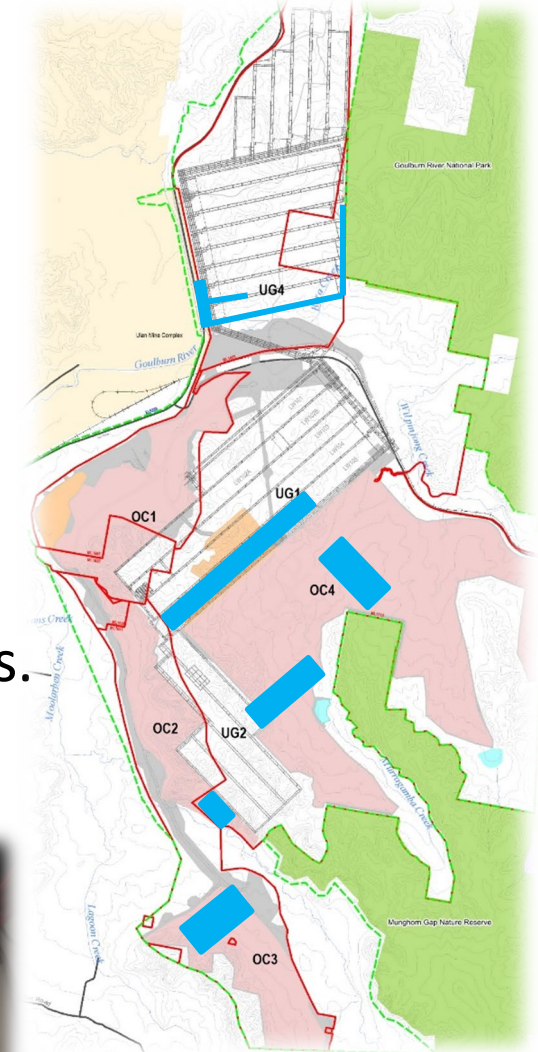
CSP events thus far in 2022 include;

- Gulgong, Rylstone & Mudgee Show
- Working Women's Wellness Luncheon
- Antique Machinery Swap meet

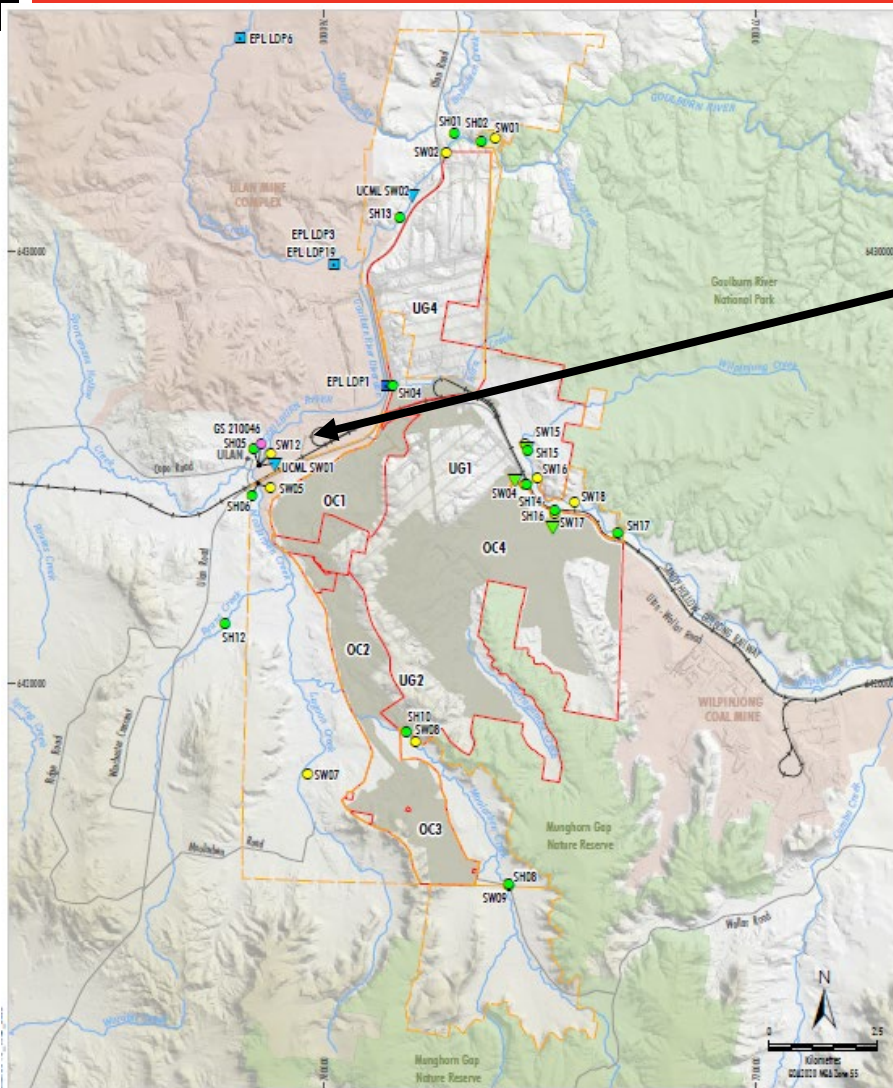


Operational Update

- Underground 1 longwall in 105.
- Open cut operations in OC2, OC3 & OC4.
- Underground development in UG4.
- LW401-408 Extraction Plan submitted.
- WTP continue as required.
- UG4 surface infrastructure construction continues.



Independent Water Quality Study



LEGEND

- National Parks/Nature Reserves
- Other Mining Operations
- Exploration Licence Boundary
- Mining Lease Boundary
- Moolarben Coal Complex
- Disturbance Footprint
- Underground Longwall Layout

Surface Water Monitoring

- Stream Health Monitoring Site
- Surface Water Monitoring Site
- Stream Flow Gauging Station
- UCLM Streamflow Gauging Station
- Government Monitoring Site GS 210046
- Licensed Discharge Point
- Moolarben Licensed Discharge Point
- Ulan Licensed Discharge Point

Source: MCO (2021); NSW Spatial Services (2021)

- Undertaken by the University of Queensland (A/Prof Barry Noller).
- Utilised water quality monitoring from EPA-endorsed site SW12.
- Monitoring data was used to determine background concentrations for salinity and heavy metals, using 80th percentile data
- Site-specific ecotoxicity testing was undertaken as per the ANZECC (and more recent ANZG) water quality guidelines
- The IWQS is subject to DPE approval.

Independent Water Quality Study

- A direct ecotoxicity response was tested for eight aquatic species, including the Mayfly as recommended by the NSW EPA.
- Ecotoxicity testing was undertaken by adding Water Treatment Plant filtrate to water collected from SW12.
- Notably, when directly testing Water Treatment Plant filtrate with electrical conductivity (EC) of 2,110 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, none of the eight species tested demonstrated a statistically significant ecotoxicity response.

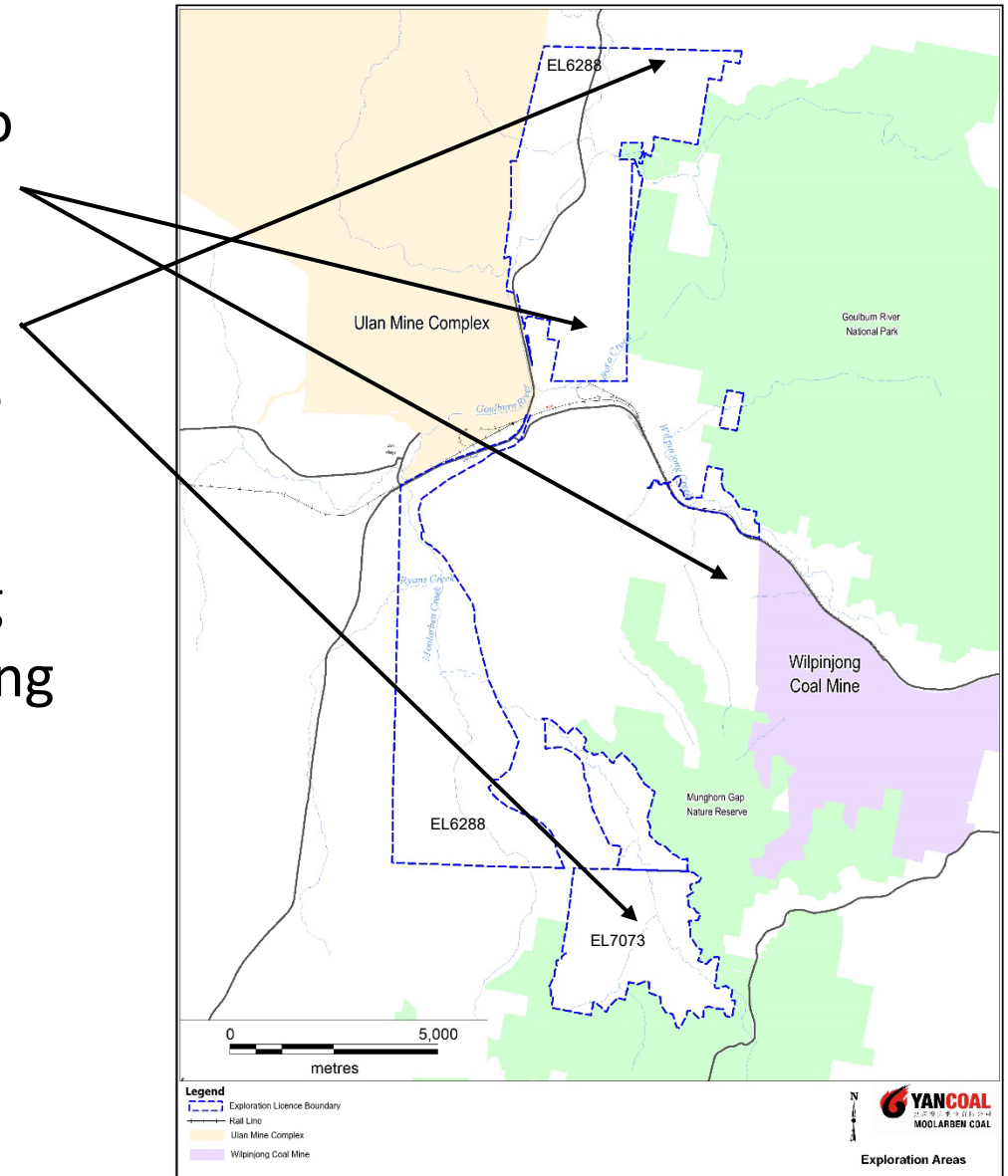


The IWQS concluded:

“Based on multiple lines of evidence, the current NSW EPA limit for electrical conductivity (EC) of 685 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ is considered acceptable”.

Exploration Update

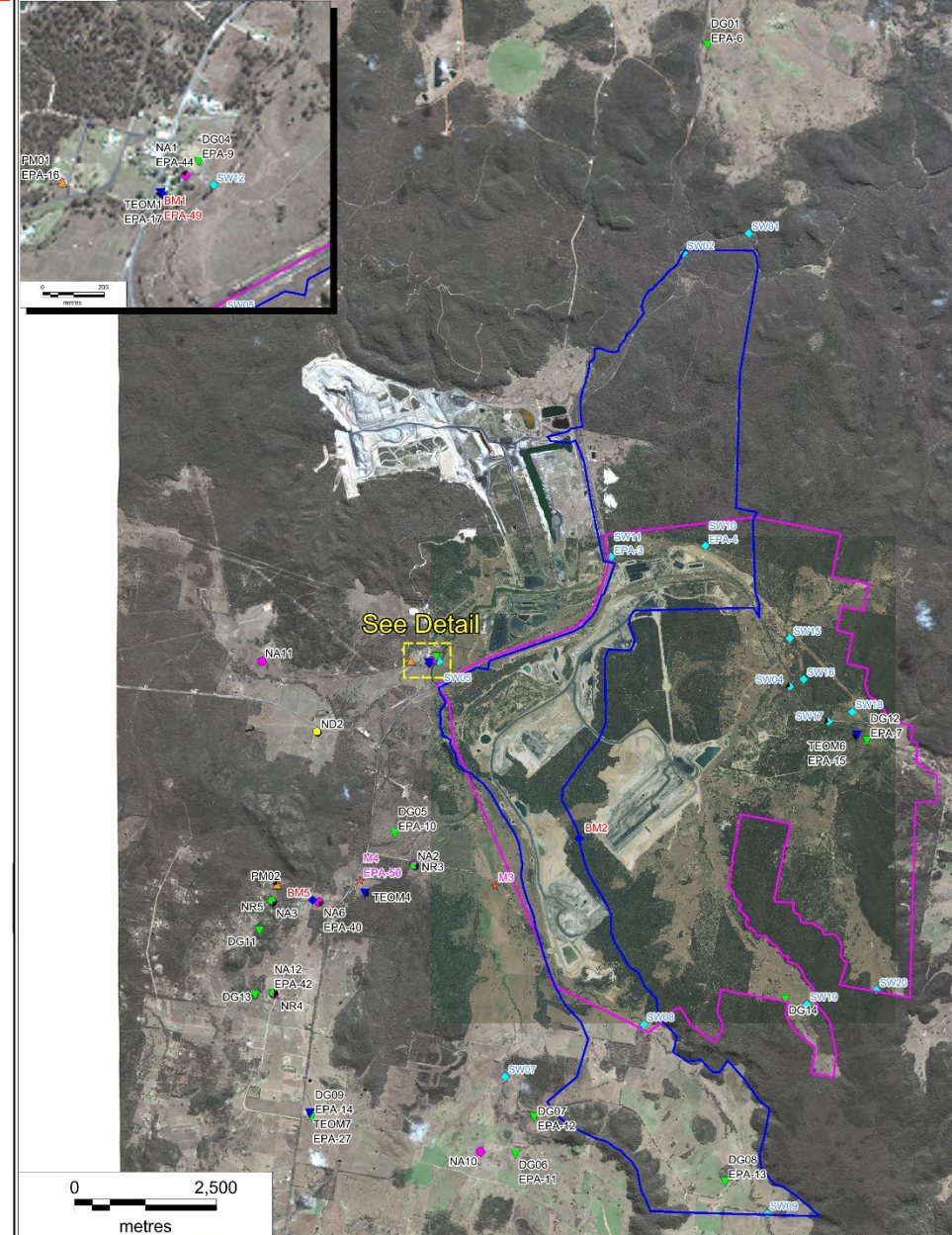
- Drilling – programs planned to commence in ML1605 and ML1715
- Drilling is planned to continue in EL7073 and EL6288 north
- Rehabilitation and monitoring activities have continued during the period.



Environmental Monitoring

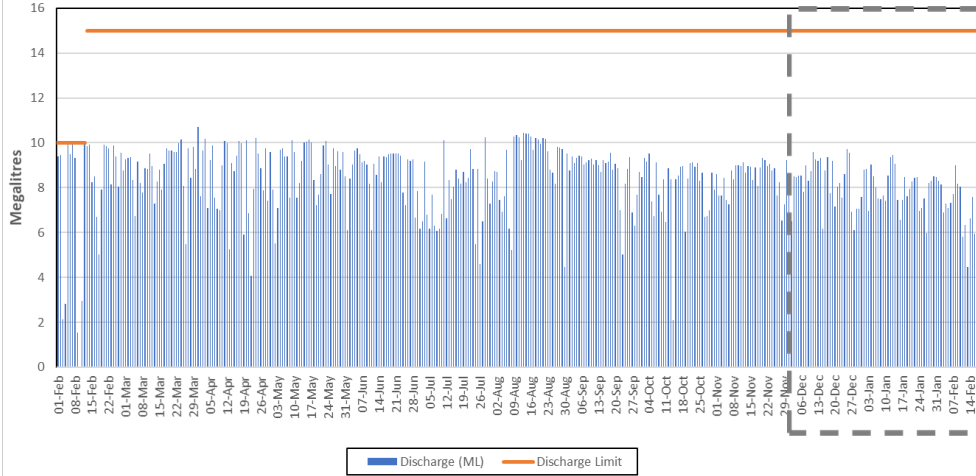
Monitoring network

- Water;
- Air Quality;
- Blasting;
- Noise;
- Meteorology.

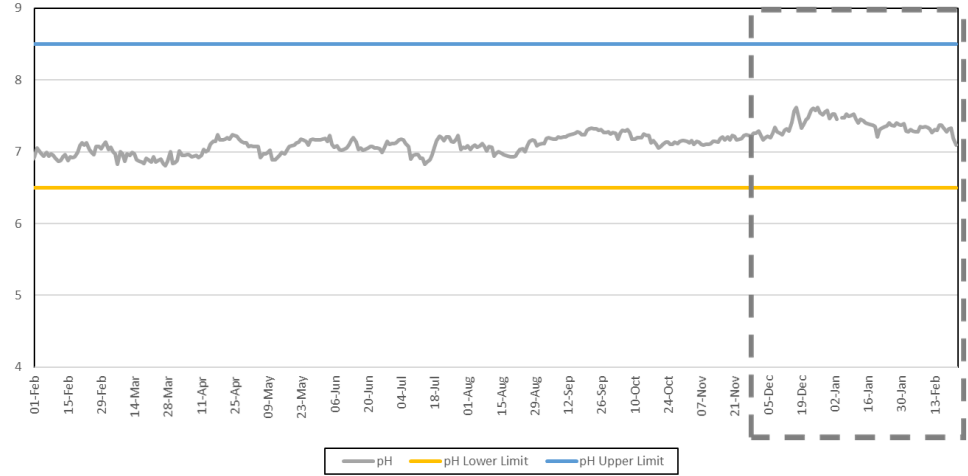


Water Release

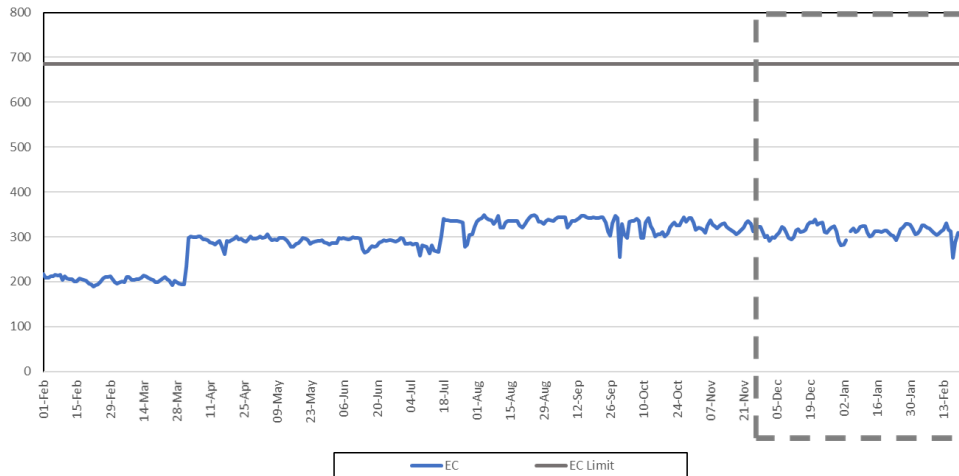
EPA 1 Daily Discharge Volumes
Feb 2021 - Feb 2022



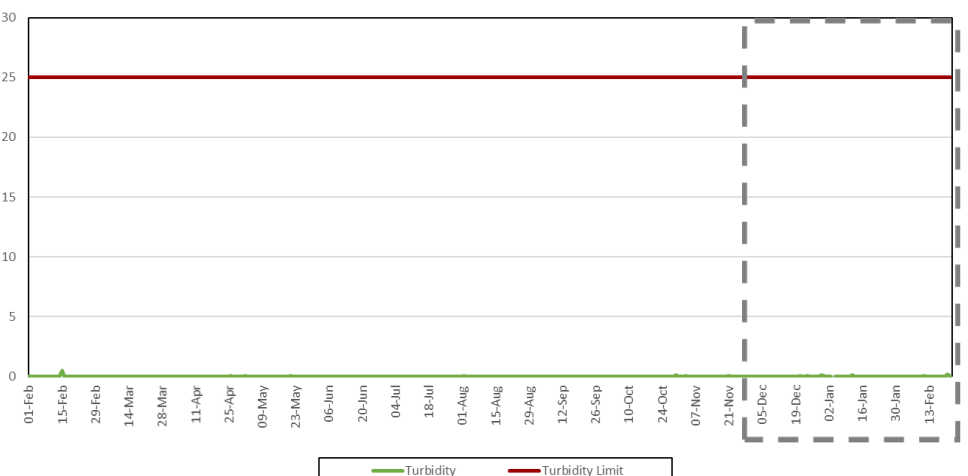
EPA 1 Daily Average pH
Feb 2021 - Feb 2022



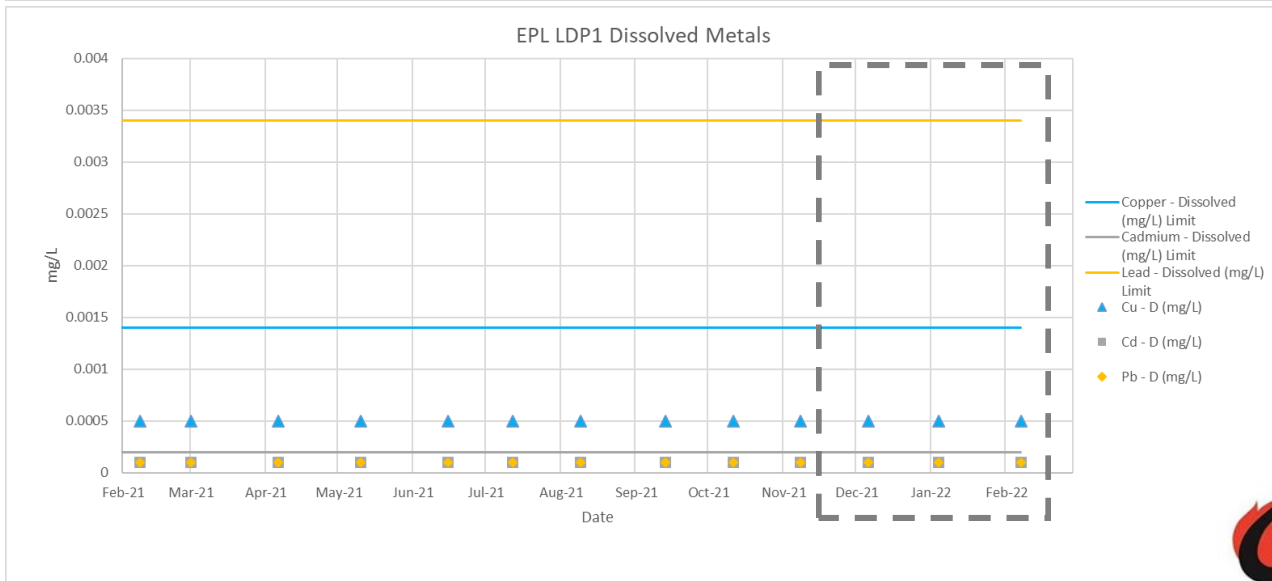
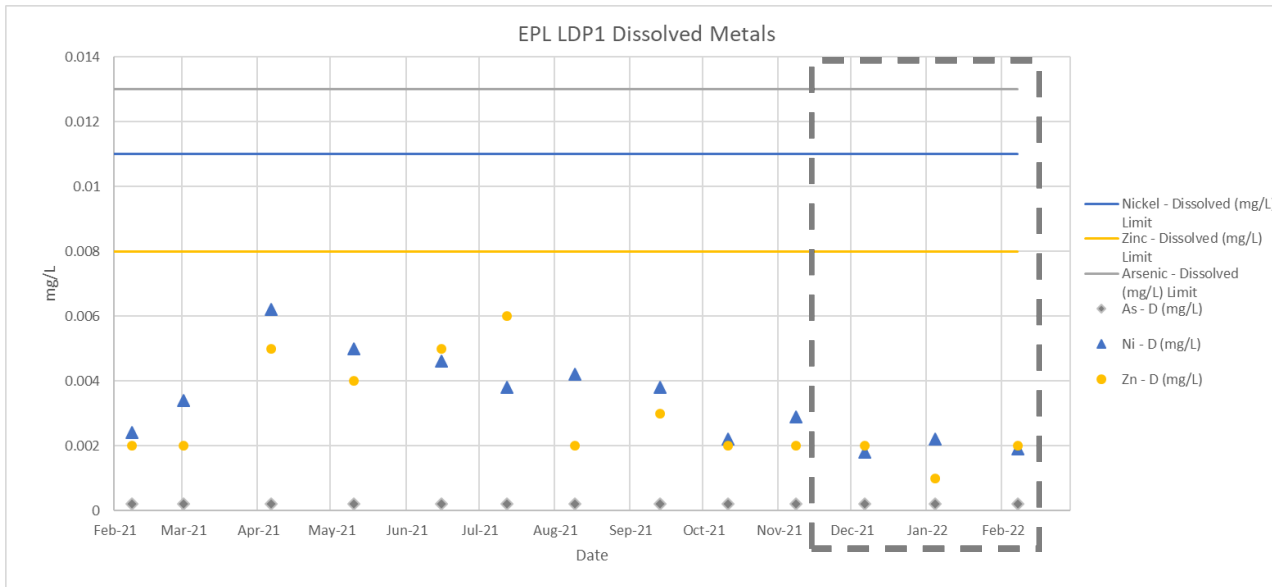
EPA 1 Daily Average EC
Feb 2021 - Feb 2022



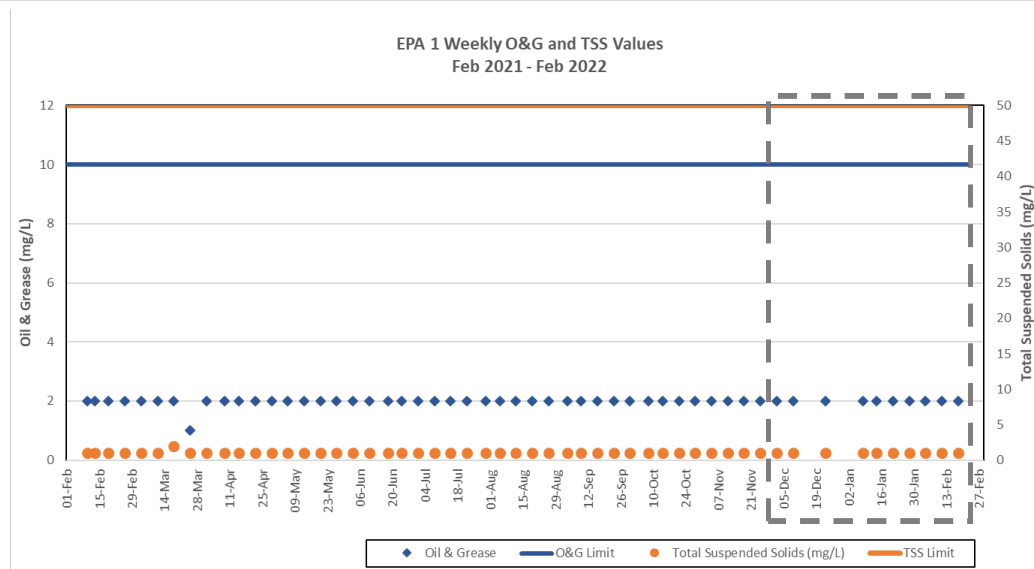
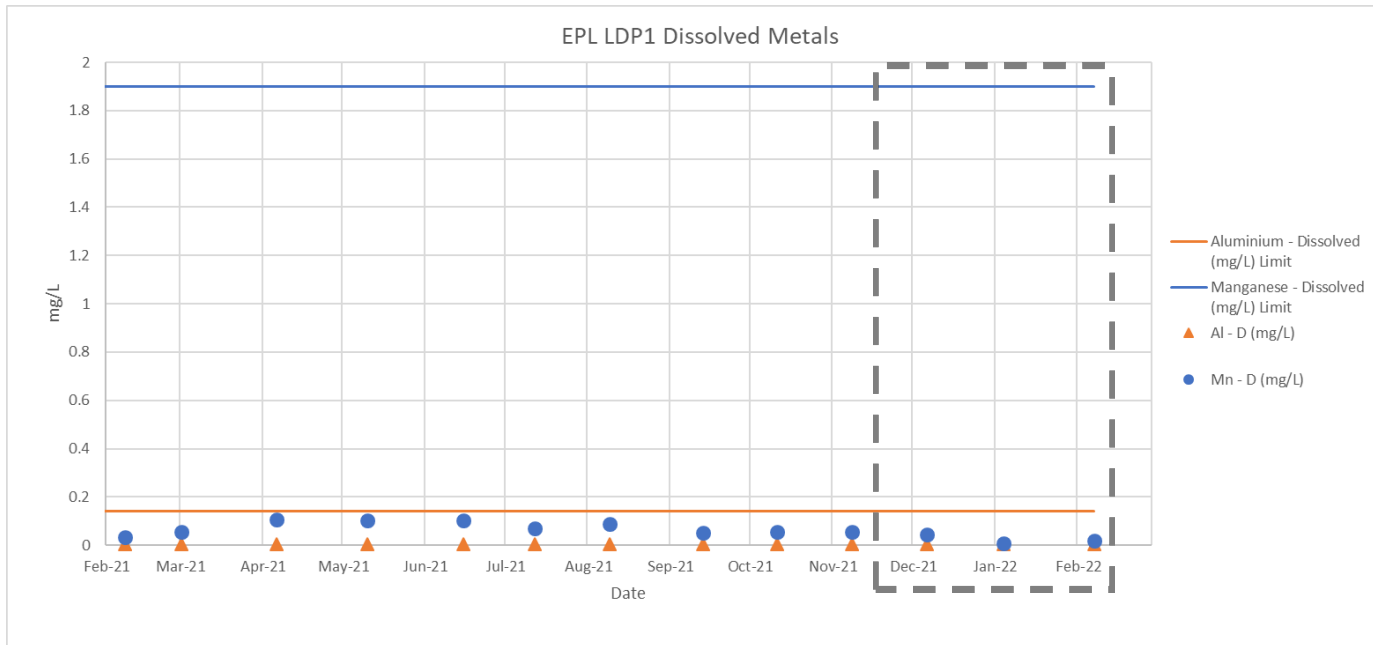
EPA 1 Daily Average Turbidity
Feb 2021 - Feb 2022



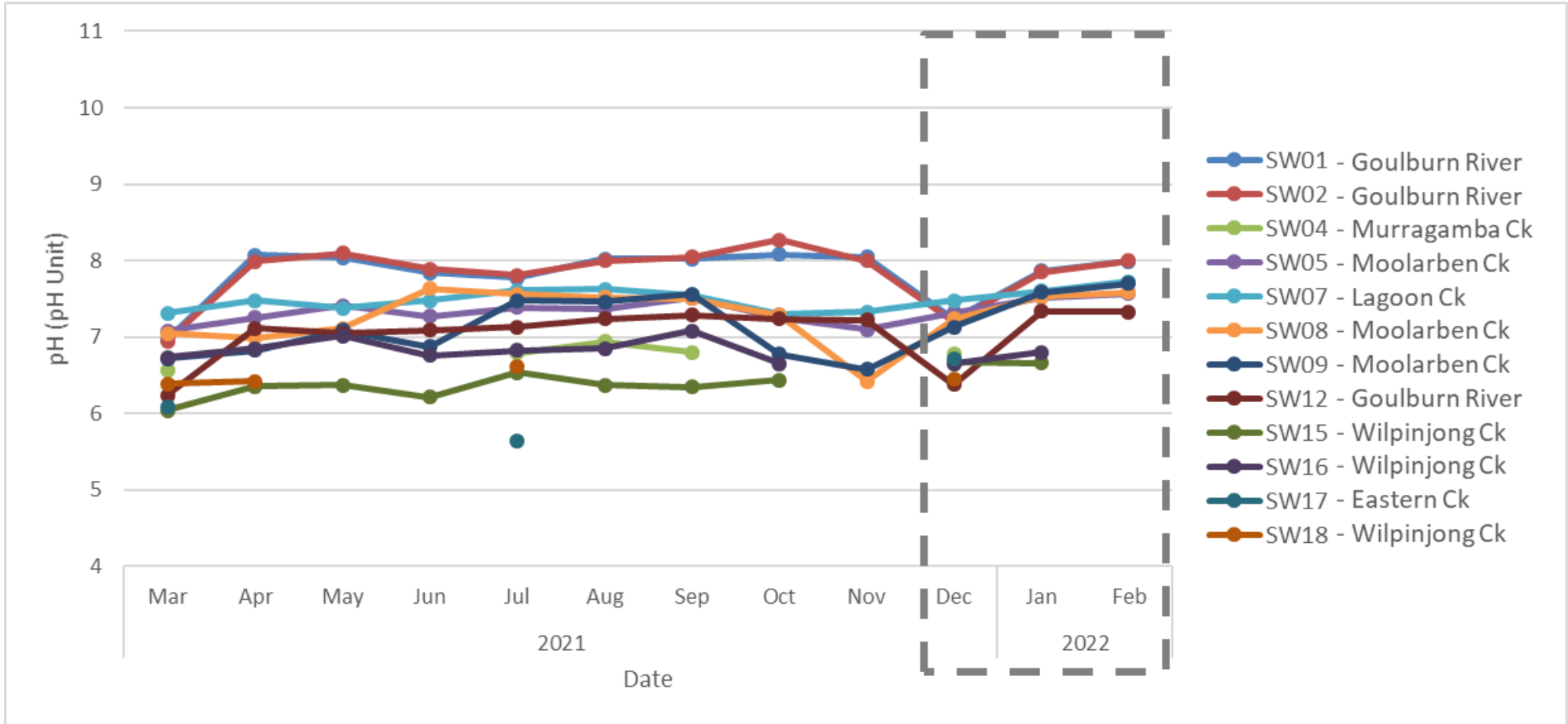
Water Release



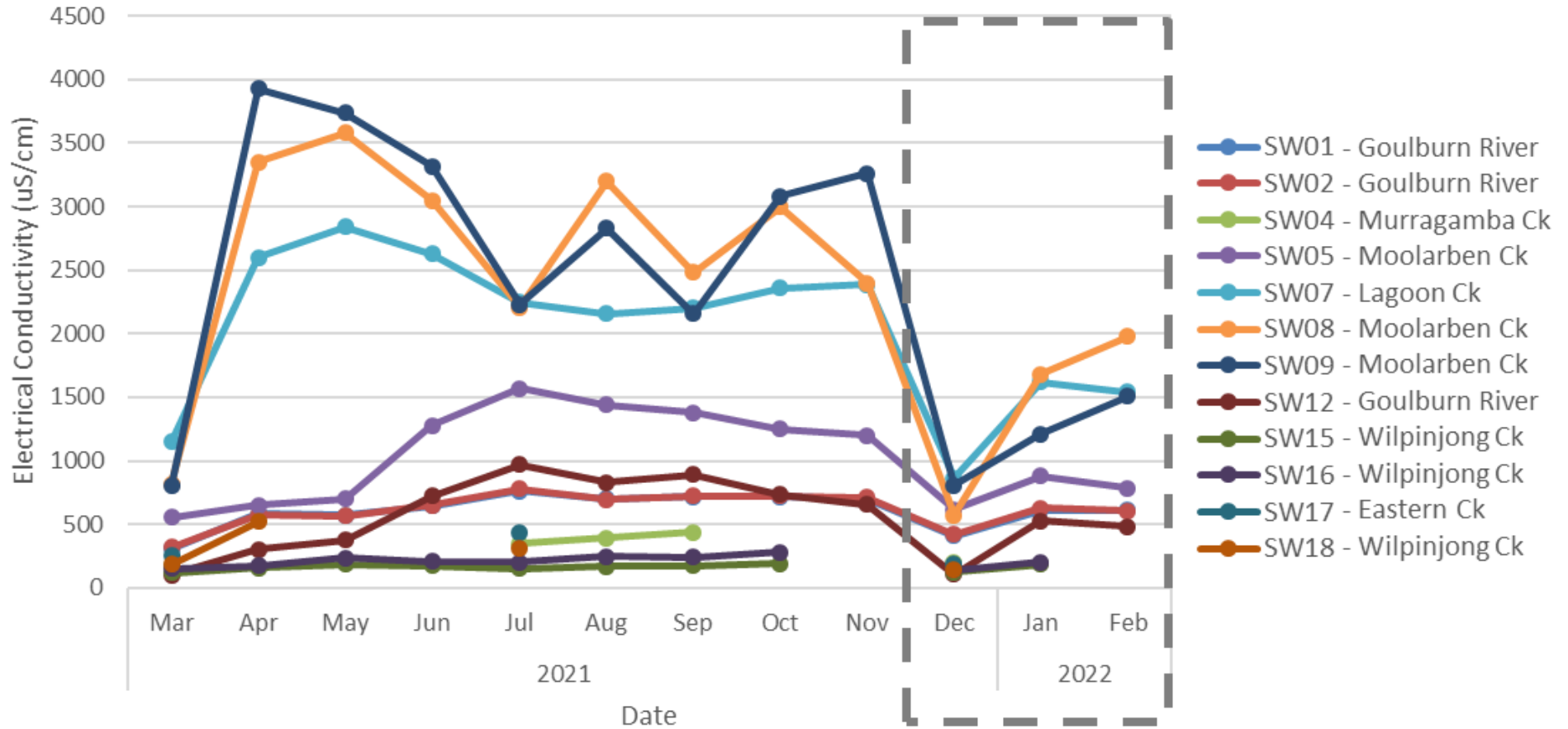
Water Release



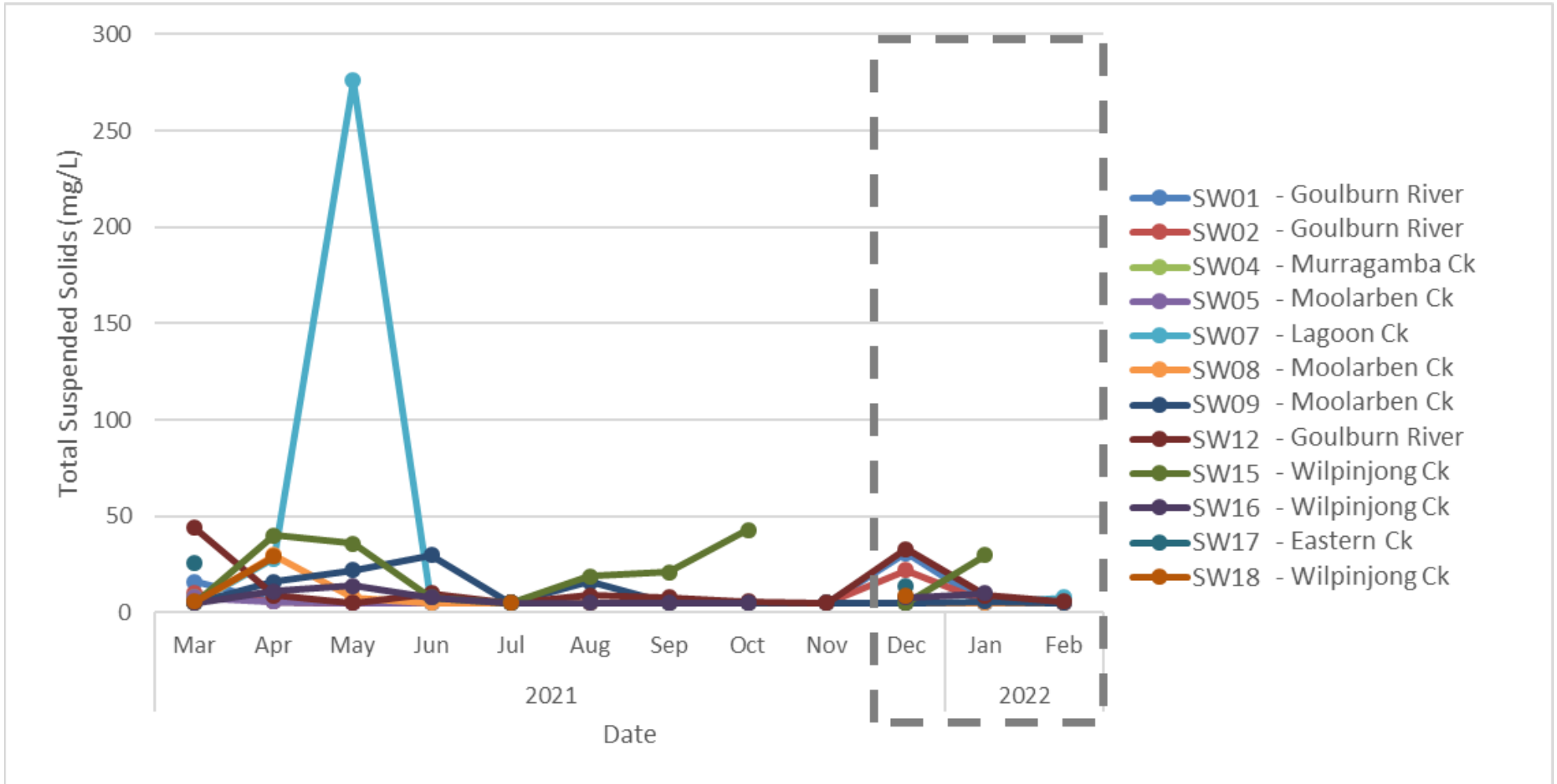
Water Quality - pH



Water Quality - EC



Water Quality - TSS



Air Quality

Site	February 2021 PM10 Annual Average ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	February 2022 PM10 Annual Average ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Air Quality PM10 Annual Average Criteria ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
TEOM 01	13.9	12.4	25.0
TEOM 07	12.6	11.7	25.0
TEOM 04	9.3	8.4	25.0

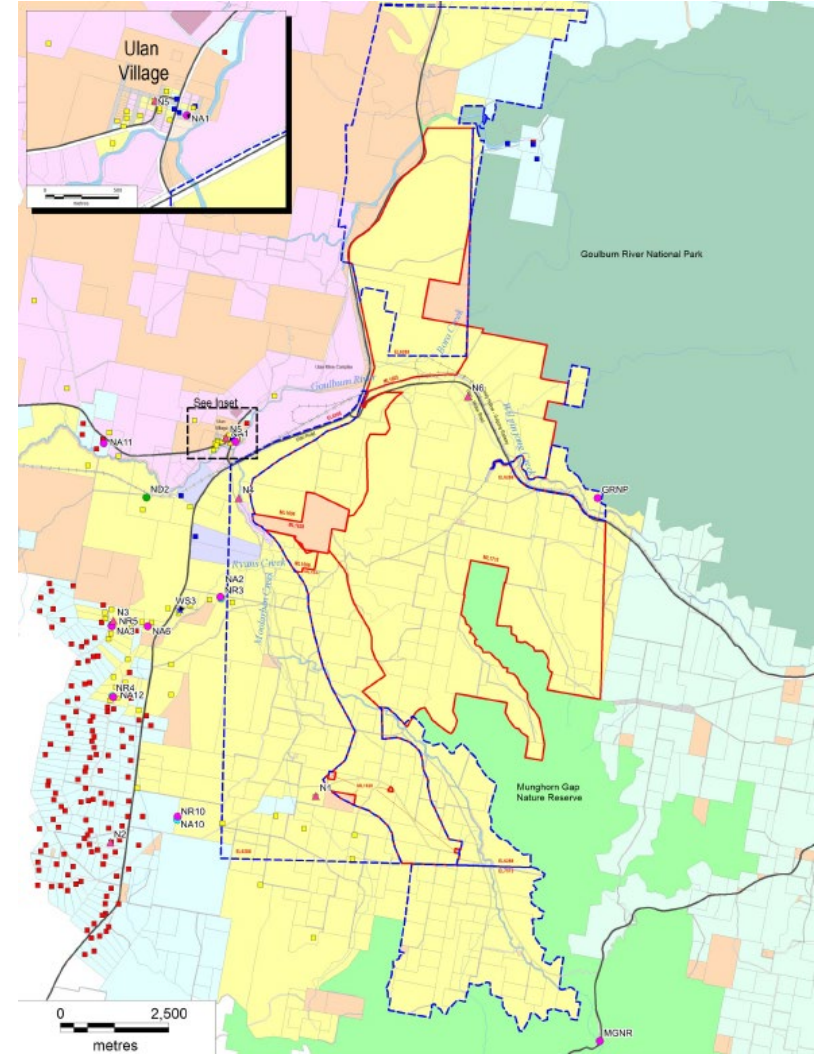
Site	February 2021 PM2.5 Annual Average ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	February 2022 PM2.5 Annual Average ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Air Quality PM2.5 Annual Average Criteria ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
TEOM 07	4.8	4.0	8.0

Monthly monitoring reports are available on our website:

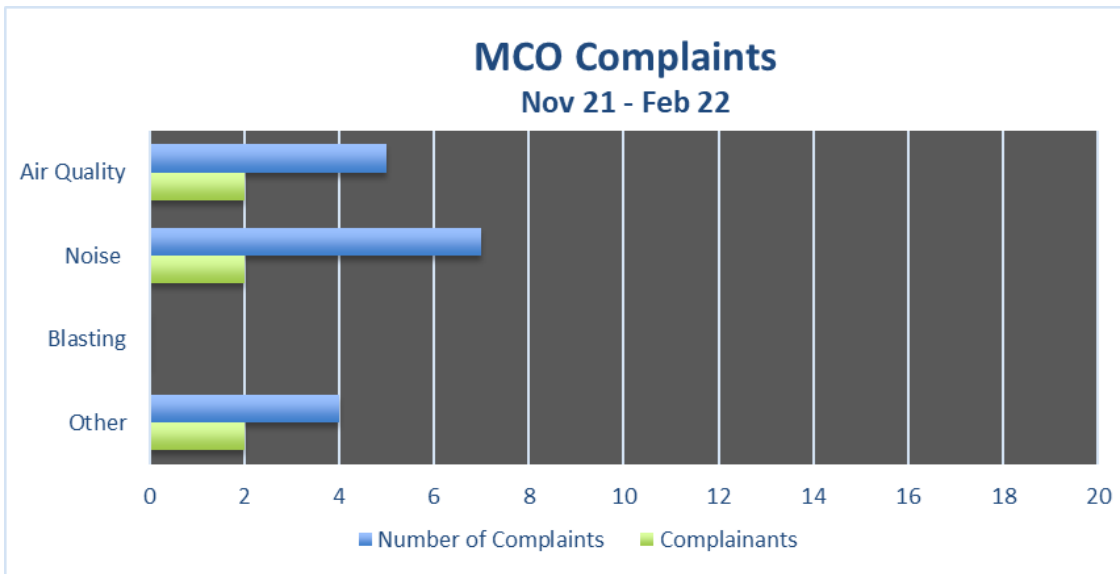
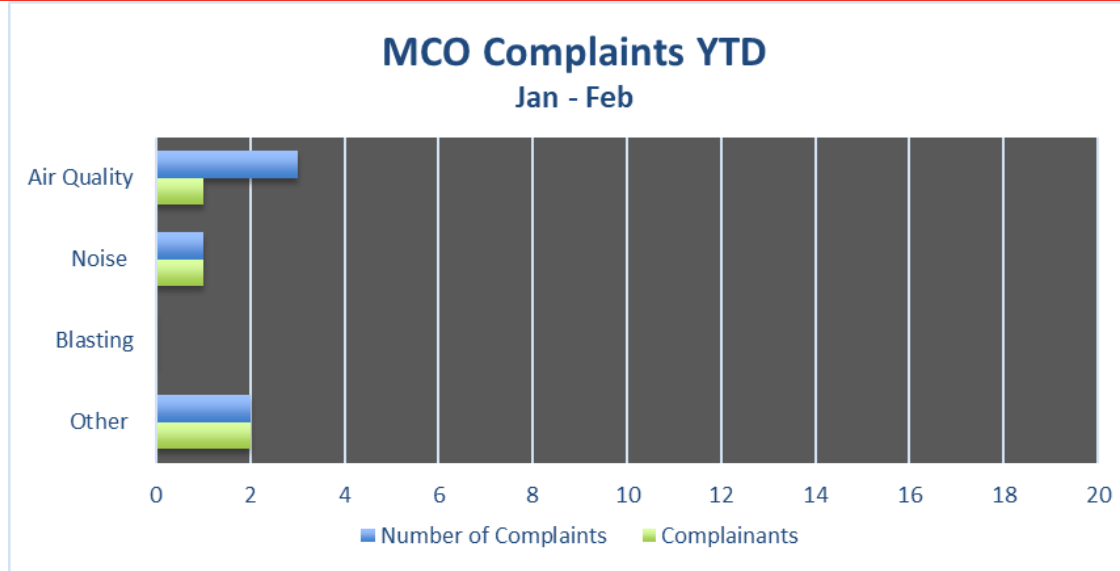
www.moolarbencoal.com.au/page/environment/environmental-monitoring/

Noise Monitoring

- All monthly & quarterly attended noise monitoring within criteria.
- Continued implementation of:
 - Planning controls - scheduling
 - Engineering controls - attenuation
 - Operational controls - bunds/screens
 - Real-time monitoring triggers
 - Real-time response protocols

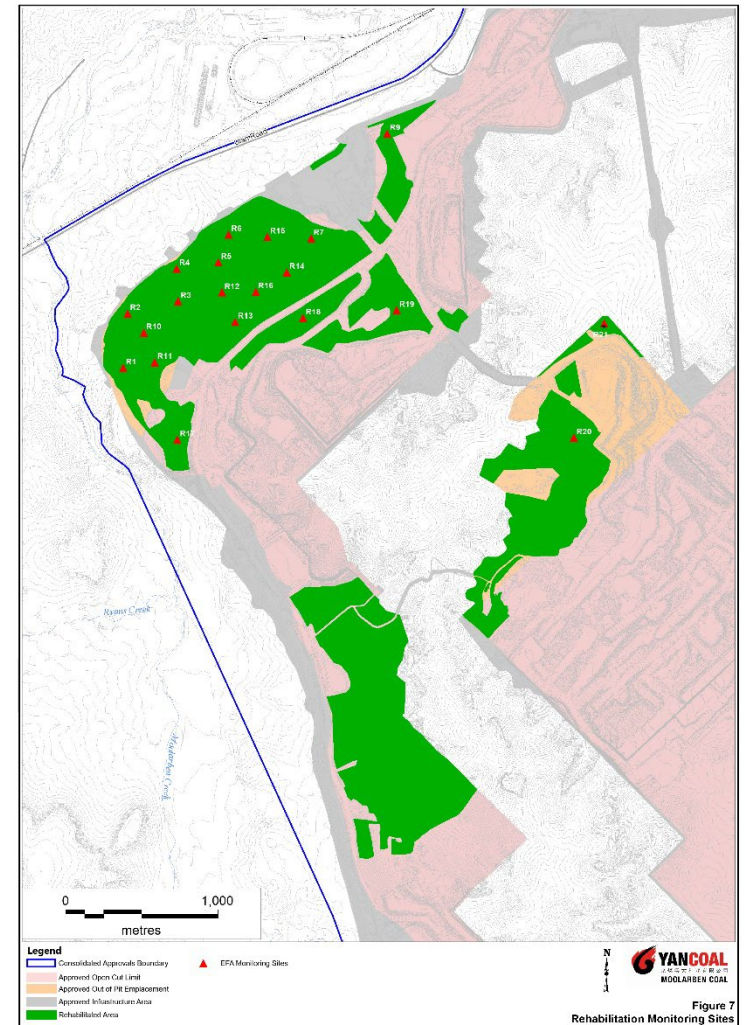


Community Complaints



Rehabilitation Update

- Rehabilitation maintenance works are continuing.
- Spring monitoring has been completed.

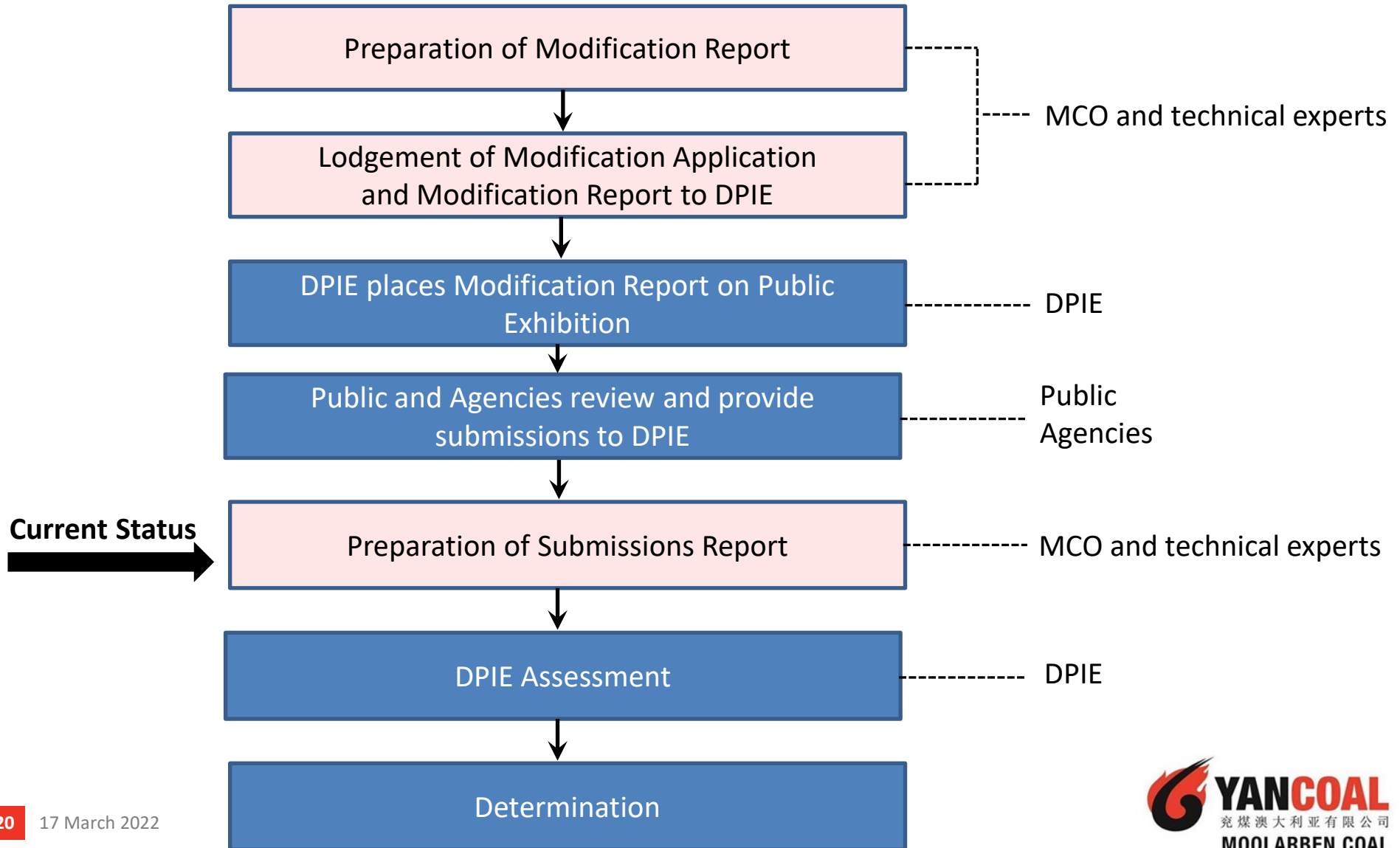


Biodiversity Offset Areas Update

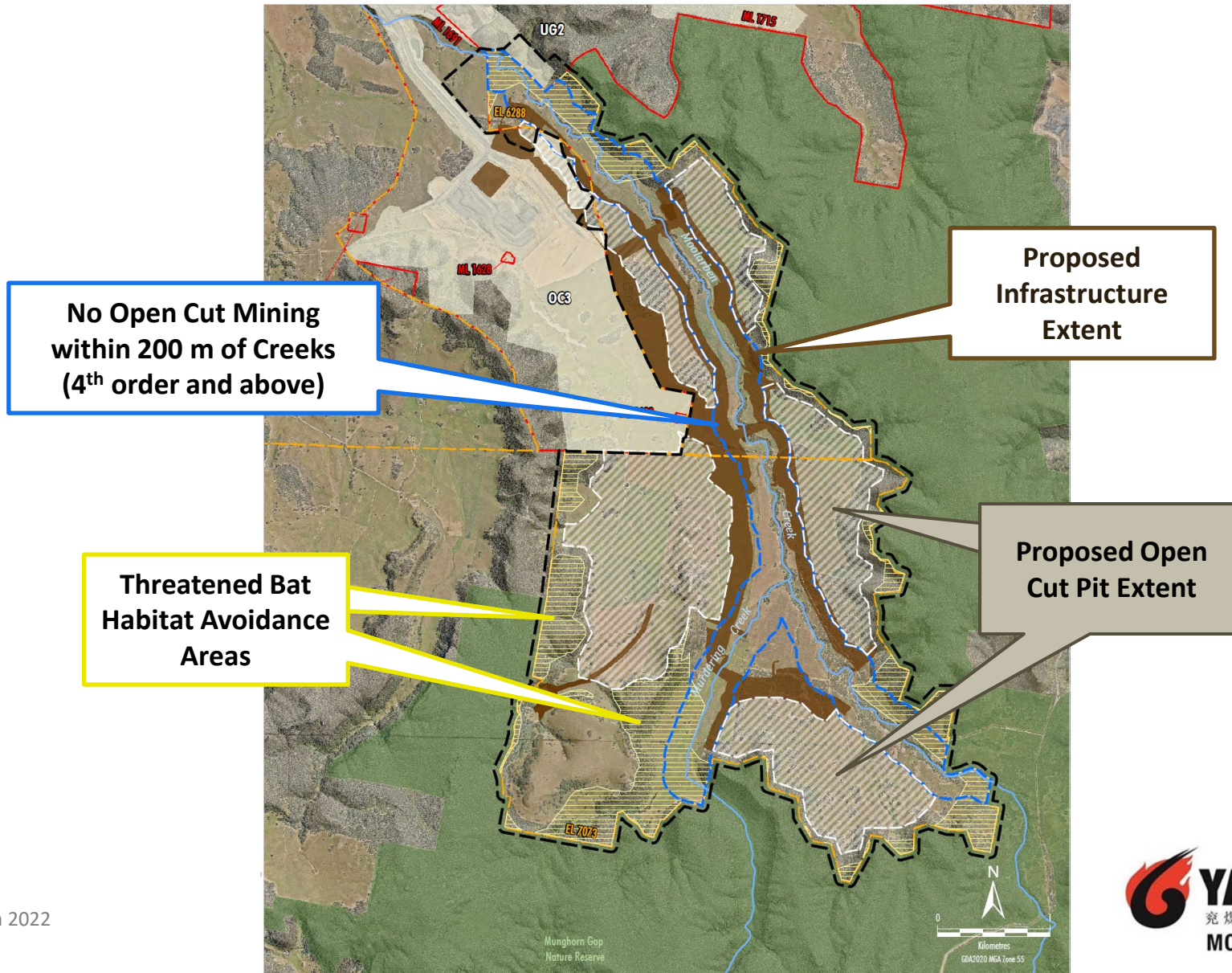
- Over 70,000 trees & shrubs planted across the Bobadeen, Redhills and Ulan 18 cluster.
- Weed control, Feral animal control and offset maintenance works have continued.
- Spring monitoring is completed.



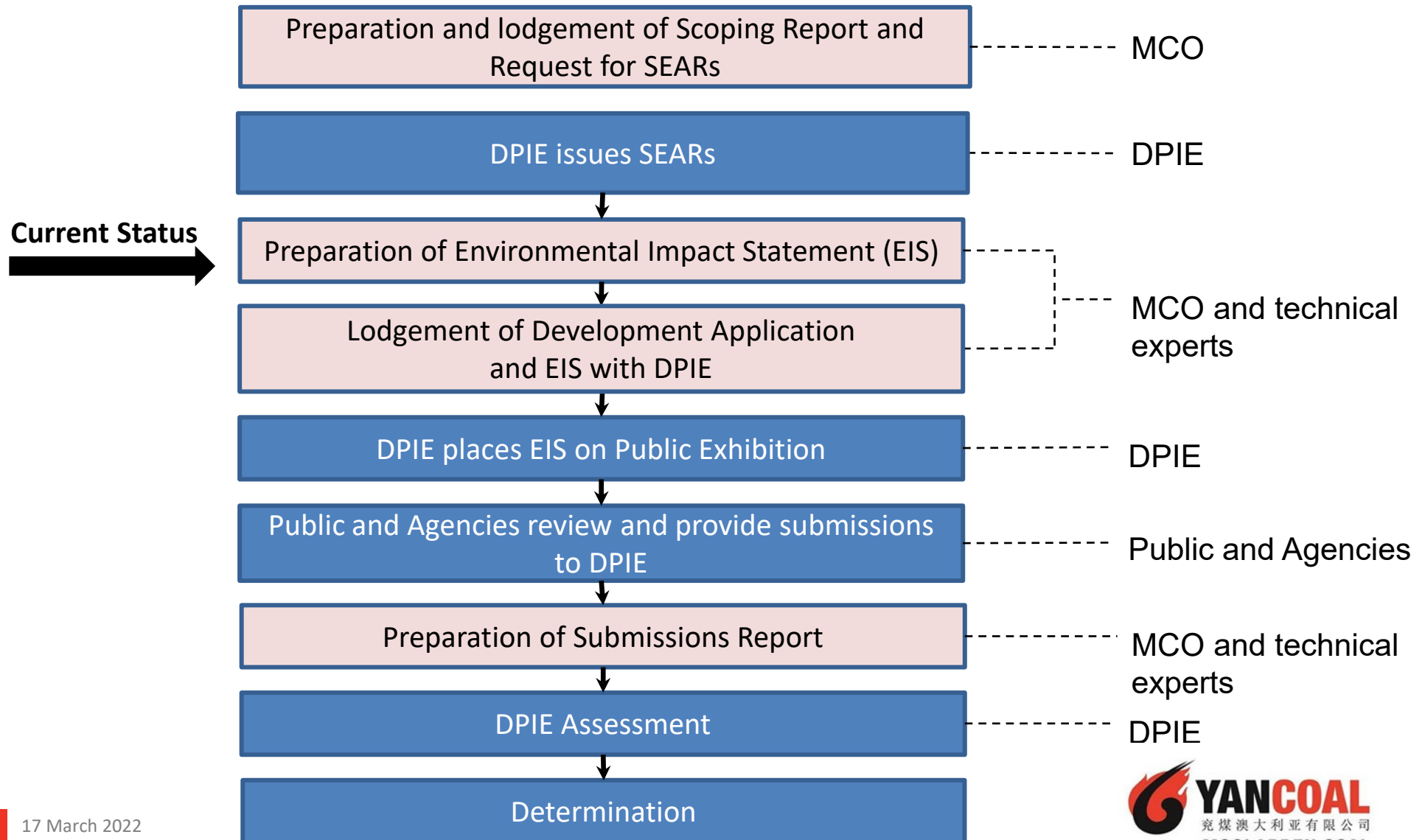
Underground 2 Modification



OC3 Extension Project



OC3 Extension Project



OC3 Extension Project

Stakeholder Engagement

- Updated community newsletter distributed, also available on Moolarben's website. <http://www.moolarbencoal.com.au/page/licences-and-approvals/extension-projects/>
- Next phase of SIA engagement will involve Council, CCC members, community organisations, local businesses, nearby landholders.
- MCO will be in contact to confirm whether you would like to participate and coordinate a meeting time.

Bore Census

- A Groundwater Assessment is being prepared for the EIS.
- Information about existing bores, wells, springs and seeps in the vicinity of the Project is required to inform the Groundwater Assessment.
- The bore census will allow landholders to formally document the status of their existing groundwater supplies prior to development of the Project and provide technical reference material.
- Currently in the process of finalizing a list of relevant landholders to be consulted for the purpose of the bore census.

Employment Update

Current Traineeships

- 10 Underground
- 7 Open Cut
- 1 Administration
- 1 Land Conservation
- Continuing to recruit for Underground Trainees



Apprentices

- Currently 3 Underground,
13 Open Cut and 9 at the CHPP



7 April 2022

