Appendix H

Addendum Air quality impact assessment

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EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)
Amendment Report – Air Quality Impact Assessment

TransGrid

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GLOSSARY

TERM/ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION		
AAQMS	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station		
Approved Methods	Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales 2016		
AWS	Automatic Weather Station		
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology		
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement		
EnergyConnect	EnergyConnect is a proposed new electricity interconnector between Wagga Wagga in New South Wales and Robertstown in South Australia, with an added connection into north-west Victoria. EnergyConnect is a joint project between TransGrid and ElectraNet, who operate the transmission networks in New South Wales (NSW) and South Australia (SA), respectively.		
EPA	Environment Protection Authority		
EPL	Environmental Protection Licence		
HV	High Voltage		
MH1	Emission source: Loading trucks at site 1		
MH2	Emission source: Loading trucks at site 2		
МН3	Emission source: Loading trucks at the stockpile		
MH4	Emission source: Trucks dumping onto the stockpile		
MH5	Emission source: Trucks dumping at the substation pad		
NPI	National Pollutant Inventory		
NSW	New South Wales		
PM _{2.5}	Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less		
PM ₁₀	Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less		
POEO Act	(NSW) Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997		
SA	South Australia		
Site 1	Earthworks material site 1		
Site 2	Earthworks material site 2		
TSP	Total Suspended Particulates		
TAPM	The Air Pollution Model		
WSP	WSP Australia Proprietary Limited		

TERM/ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION		
(the) Site	The Site area include:		
	 Buronga substation pad earthworks material site 1 (site 1) 		
	— earthworks material site 1 (site 1) — earthworks material site 2 (site 2)		
	— crushing and screening site		
	— stockpile area		
	 Buronga main construction compound and accommodation camp site. 		
Units			
°C	Degree Celsius		
km	kilometre		
km/h	kilometre per hour		
kg/VKT	kilogram per vehicle kilometres travelled		
kg/t	kilogram per tonne		
kV	kilovolts		
g/s	gram per second		
m	Metre		
mm	Millimetres		
MW	Megawatt		
t/a	tonne per annum		
$\mu g/m^3$	Microgram per cubic meter		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western section) was publicly exhibited in 2020. TransGrid proposes to make a series of amendments to the proposal which have been developed since the public exhibition of the EIS, including a series of clarifications and refinements as a result of ongoing design of the proposal and comments received during exhibition of the EIS which have been described in the Amendment Report. This includes the inclusion of additional earthwork activities to potentially obtain fill material for the substation upgrade and expansion from two earthworks material sites adjacent to the substation rather than importing all materials from surrounding quarries. To ensure excavated material is suitable for use in the substation pad, a mobile crushing and screening plant may be required. It is estimated that up to 100,000 cubic metres of material would be crushed and screened in total which triggers the requirement for an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) according to the *Environmental Operation Act* 1997 (POEO Act).

An air quality impact assessment including dispersion modelling for particulate matters generated from crushing, screening and all other contemporaneous operations was requested by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA). This report was completed to support the Amendment Report.

Rainfall and wind conditions at the Mildura Airport for the past six years were reviewed, and the year 2018 was selected for dispersion modelling as representative of long term meteorological conditions and slightly conservative for dust dispersion modelling.

Site-specific meteorological files for 2018 was generated using CALMET with prognostic data generated by The Air Pollution Model (TAPM) and observational data collected at Mildura Airport Automatic Weather Station (AWS).

Background data collected at the Buronga ambient air quality monitoring station for 2018 were processed and adopted as background for this assessment. The adopted background data are characterised as:

- Annual average TSP and PM₁₀ concentrations were below criteria, while the annual average PM_{2.5} exceeded its
 criterion due primarily to elevated concentrations derived from the TSP concentrations.
- 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations exceeded its criterion on seven days and 24-hour average PM_{2.5} concentrations exceeded its criterion on 16 days.

An emission inventory was developed for the following sources:

- machinery operation (i.e. excavators, scrapers, dozers and graders)
- materials handling (loading and unloading trucks)
- wheel generated dust from unpaved roads
- crushing, screening and associated activities
- wind erosion from stockpiles and other exposed areas.

Dispersion modelling was conducted using CALPUFF, and the modelling results indicate that:

- TSP: the total annual average TSP concentrations are predicted to be below the impact assessment criterion of 90 μg/m³ and the highest incremental annual average at receptors is predicted to be 0.09 per cent of the criterion.
- PM₁₀: The highest predicted incremental 24-hour average at all receptors is 17.5 per cent of the criterion and the highest incremental annual average PM₁₀ is 1.8 per cent of the criterion. One day of additional exceedance is predicted to occur at R1 and R3 over modelled 365 days (up to 0.2 μg/m³ above the criterion), with background accounting for 96.1 per cent of criterion and maximum contribution from the Site accounting for 4.1 per cent of the criterion.

- PM_{2.5}: The highest predicted incremental 24-hour average at all receptors is 5.2 per cent of the criterion and the highest incremental annual average PM_{2.5} is 0.9 per cent of the criterion. No additional exceedances would occur as a result of the Site activities. Cumulative concentration exceedances are all caused by existing background exceedances.
- Deposited dust: Maximum incremental monthly dust deposition concentrations at all receptors are below the assessment criterion, with the maximum of 0.06 g/m²/month accounting for three per cent of the criterion.

As summarised above, all incremental concentrations for TSP, PM_{10} , $PM_{2.5}$ and deposited dust at all sensitive receptors are predicted to account for a small portion of the corresponding criteria. There is only one day of additional exceedance over 365 days are predicted for PM_{10} due to elevated background (background accounts for 96.1 per cent of the criterion), and the exceedances are only up to $0.2 \mu g/m^3$ above the criterion.

There are a number of unknowns regarding the construction methodology at the time of assessment. Therefore, a conservative approach was taken to many of the assumptions which will lead to a conservative assessment outcome. The actual impacts are likely to be less than those predicted for this assessment.".

Due to the limited availability of background data, a conservative methodology was used to develop a whole year time-varying background data (i.e. assuming 100 per cent of TSP is PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for 1 January to 10 May). Moreover, the monitoring at Buronga AQMS was not conducted using Australian standard methods. Therefore, the background data can only provide a indicative level of local ambient air quality.

What's more, due to the nature of construction activities, air quality impacts associated with the Site earthworks activities would be transient given the contribution would be for the duration of this particular activity and would not be an ongoing emission source.

In summary, predicted particulate matters impacts at the modelled sensitive receptors associated with crushing, screening and all other contemporaneous operations were predicted to be low.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

TransGrid (electricity transmission operator in New South Wales (NSW)) and ElectraNet (electricity transmission operator in South Australia (SA)) are seeking regulatory and environmental planning approval for the construction and operation of a new High Voltage (HV) interconnector between NSW and SA, with an added connection to north-west Victoria. Collectively, the proposed interconnector is known as EnergyConnect.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western section) was publicly exhibited in 2020. TransGrid proposes to make a series of amendments to the proposal which have been developed since the public exhibition of the EIS, including a series of clarifications and refinements as a result of ongoing design of the proposal and comments received during exhibition of the EIS which have been described in the Amendment Report. This includes the inclusion of additional earthwork activities to potentially obtain fill material for the substation upgrade and expansion from two earthworks material sites adjacent to the substation rather than importing all materials from surrounding quarries. To ensure excavated material is suitable for use in the substation upgrade and expansion pad, a mobile crushing and screening plant may be required. It is estimated that up to 100,000 cubic metres of material would be crushed and screened in total which triggers the requirement for an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) according to the *Environmental Operation Act 1997* (POEO Act).

An air quality impact assessment including dispersion modelling for particulate matters generated from crushing, screening and all other contemporaneous operations was required by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA). This report was completed in support the Amendment Report.

1.2 ASSESSMENT SCOPE

All dust generating activities that would occur for the period crushing would be required are included in this assessment. The assessment areas (the Site) include:

- Buronga substation upgrade and expansion pad (substation pad)
- earthworks material site 1 (site 1)
- earthworks material site 2 (site 2)
- crushing and screening site
- stockpile area
- Buronga main construction compound and accommodation camp site (construction compound and camp site).

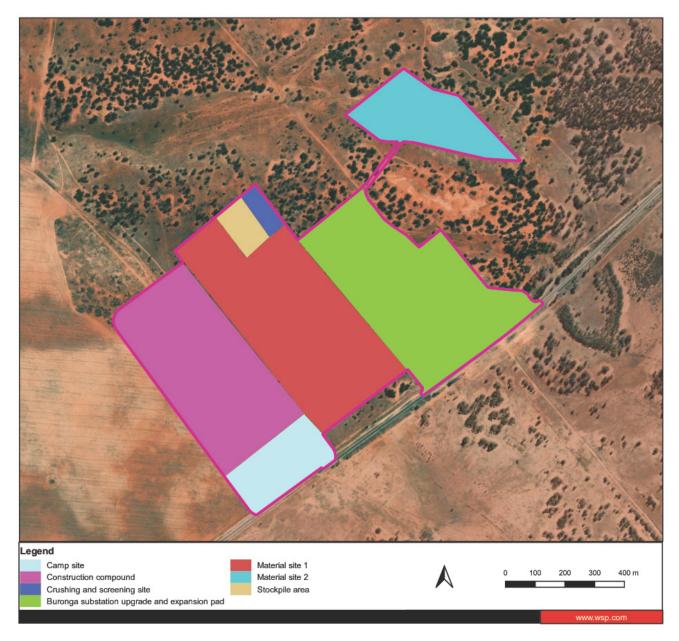


Figure 1.1 The Site layout

1.3 SCOPE OF WORKS

The scope of works includes:

- develop appropriate ambient air quality data to be used as background for the assessment
- generate an emission inventory for all sources. This includes proposed earthworks material sites, Buronga substation upgrade and expansion works, crushing and screening site, stockpile area and construction compound
- generate site specific meteorological files for one year using CALMET with prognostic data generated by The Air Pollution Model (TAPM) and observational data collected at the nearest Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) Automatic Weather Station (AWS) to Buronga substation
- predict incremental and cumulative ground level concentrations for TSP, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and deposited dust using
 CALPUFF in accordance with the EPA's Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (2016)
- prepare contour plots illustrating the extent of air quality impact
- prepare an air quality impact assessment report to support the Amendment Report.

1.4 POLLUTANTS OF INTEREST

The modelled pollutants in this assessment include:

- total suspended particulates (TSP)
- particulate matters equal to or less than 10 micrometres in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀)
- particulate matters equal to or less than 2.5 micrometres in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5})
- deposited dust.

2 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The NSW EPA's Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales 2016 (Approved Methods) prescribes the statutory methods for modelling and assessing emissions of air pollutants from stationary sources.

The Approved Methods lists impact assessment criteria for a number of pollutants and the relevant criteria of this proposal are presented in Table 2.1. As stated in the Approved Methods, these criteria should be applied at the nearest existing or likely future off-site sensitive receptors.

Table 2.1 Air quality impact assessment criteria for relevant pollutants

POLLUTANT	AVERAGING PERIOD	CRITERIA	
TSP	Annual 90 $\mu g/m^3$		
PM ₁₀	24 hours 50 μg/m ³		
	Annual	25 μg/m ³	
PM _{2.5}	24 hours	$25 \mu g/m^3$	
	Annual	8 μg/m ³	
Deposited dust	Annual 2 g/m²/month (increase		
		4 g/m ² /month (cumulative)	

Two levels of impact assessment are outlined by the Approved Methods as follows:

- Level 1: screening-level dispersion modelling technique using worst-case input data
- Level 2: refined dispersion modelling technique using site-specific input data.

Due to the elevated background data, a level 2 assessment was conducted directly to assess potential impacts from the proposal.

For a level 2 assessment, the Approved Methods require at least one year of continuous measurements which is contemporaneous with the meteorological data should be included. At each sensitive receptor, each individual dispersion model prediction is added to the corresponding measured background concentration (e.g. the predicted 24-hour ground level concentration of PM₁₀ for 1 January 2018 is added to the background concentration on the same day to obtain the 24-hour predicted cumulative impact).

The occurrence of additional exceedances of the impact assessment criteria need to be assessed. If additional exceedances are predicted to occur by the addition of the proposed sources, additional management practices or emission controls should be applied.

3 METEOROLOGICAL MODELLING

3.1 MODELLING YEAR SELECTION

There is no site-specific meteorological data collected for the Site. The closest Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) automatic weather station (AWS) is Mildura Airport, approximately 21 kilometres southwest of the Buronga substation. Wind direction, wind speed and rainfall data collected at this station for the period 2015 to 2020 were analysed to select a representative year for CALPUFF meteorological dataset compilation.

Annual rainfall data are listed in Table 3.1, and seasonal and annual wind roses are presented in Figure 3.1. The data indicates that:

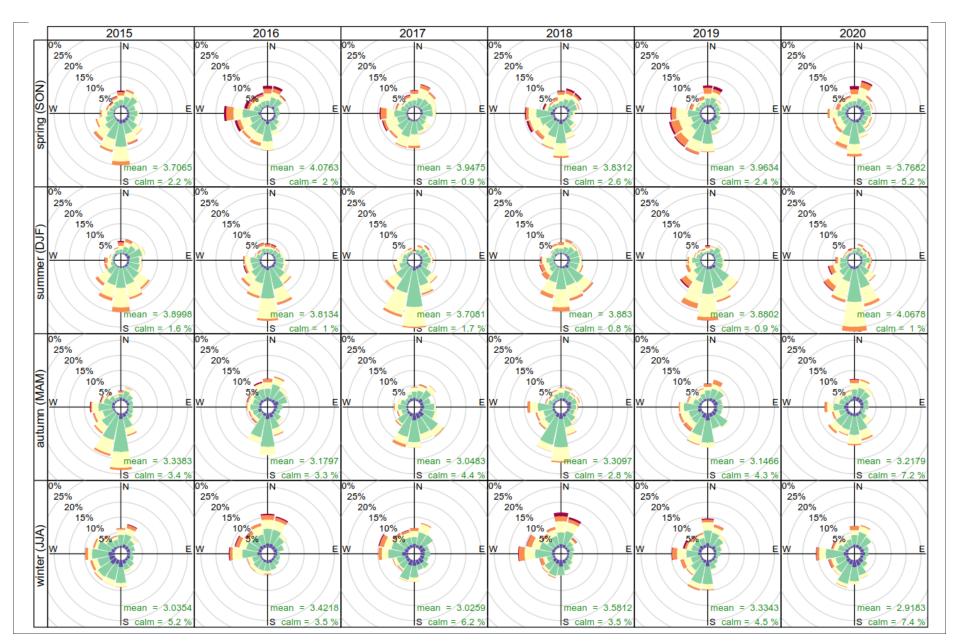
- 5.2 per cent of calm winds in 2020 was much higher than all other years (maximum of 3.3 per cent)
- calm winds and average wind speed in 2018 were generally consistent with other years, and within the upper range
 of average wind speed and lower range of calm winds proportion which are favourable for dust generating
- annual rainfall of 111.6 millimetres in 2019 was the lowest in all six years
- although rainfall in 2015 to 2017 were higher than that in 2018 and 2019, the national rainfall history on the BoM website (http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/history/rainfall/) indicates that rainfall in 2016 and 2017 were the highest in the last nine years.

In summary, the year 2018 was selected for dispersion modelling as representative of the long-term meteorological conditions at the Site. The meteorological data is also considered slightly conservative for dust dispersion modelling as particulate matters are more likely to be generated and travel far under windy and no-rain conditions.

Table 3.1 Total annual rainfall at the Mildura Airport AWS from 2015 to 2020

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Annual rainfall (mm)	221.8	358.2	251	130.2	111.6	265.4

A Level 2 assessment was conducted for this proposal. One year of continuous meteorological data used in the dispersion modelling should be contemporaneous with one year of continuous ambient air quality monitoring data for TSP, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$. The year 2018 was used for both the generation of the meteorological modelling files and the adopted background concentrations.



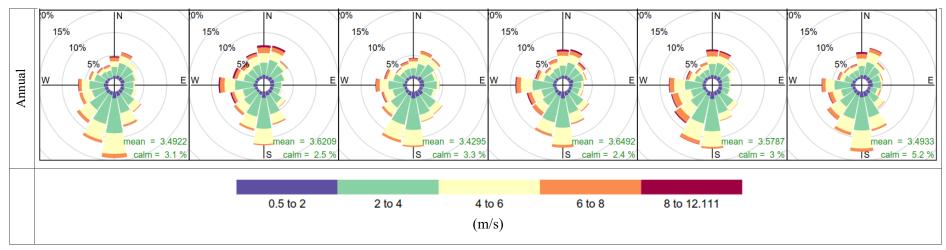


Figure 3.1 Seasonal and annual wind roses at Mildura Airport AWS for 2015-2020

3.2 TAPM

In the absence of a full suite of meteorological data required as input for dispersion modelling purposes, the Approved Methods specifies that The Air Pollution Model can be used to generate meteorological files.

The meteorological component of TAPM is an incompressible, optionally non-hydrostatic, primitive equation model with a terrain-following vertical co-ordinate for three dimensional simulations. The model is connected to 'databases of terrain, vegetation and soil type, leaf area index, sea-surface temperature and synoptic –scale meteorological analysis for various regions around the world'. These inputs were used together with observations from the Mildura Airport automatic weather station (AWS) [site number: 076031], located 21 kilometres to the southwest of Buronga substation, to generate synthetic meteorological files for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018:

TAPM (Version 4.0.5) was run adopting the setup in compliance with the requirements from the Approved Methods and using the following parameters:

- Four nesting grids of 30 kilometres, 10 kilometres, three kilometres and one kilometre
- 25 by 25 horizontal grid points
- grid centre of 34°6' S, 142°15' E (MGA Zone 54H 615728 m E, 6225749 m S)
- observation file for wind speed and wind direction from Mildura Airport AWS with areas of influence of 10,000 metres and four layers of the atmosphere influenced by the readings.
- 25 vertical levels (10 metres, 25 metres, 50 metres, 100 metres, 150 metres 200 metres, 250 metres, 300 metres, 400 metres, 500 metres, 600 metres, 750 metres, 1000 metres, 1250 metres, 1500 metres, 1750 metres, 2000 metres, 2500 metres, 3000 metres, 3000 metres, 4000 metres, 5000 metres, 6000 metres, 7000 metres, and 8000 metres)
- GEODATA 9-Second terrain height database
- TAPM default database for land use, synoptic analysis and sea surface temperature.

TAPM's output was exported as an upper air station at MGA Zone 54H 615728 m E, 6225749 m S and used as upper air data in the meteorological modelling.

3.3 CALMET

The meteorology was modelled using CALMET (V6.5.0). CALMET is a meteorological model which includes a diagnostic wind field generator. It accounts for the treatment of slope flows, terrain effects, such as blocking, and a micrometeorological model for overland and overwater boundary layers. This model produces fields of wind components, air temperature, relative humidity, mixing height and other micro-meteorological variables to produce the three-dimensional meteorological fields that are utilised in the CALPUFF dispersion model.

A one year meteorological dataset was compiled for CALPUFF for the calendar year 2018. Observed data from the Mildura Airport AWS were used to create surface data and precipitation data files for CALMET.

Upper air data were generated using TAPM as detailed in section 3.2.

Two grid domains were modelled to account for the meteorological station:

- the outer domain with a coarse resolution of 500 metres and a 40 kilometres x 40 kilometres extent as an initial guess
- the inner domain with a finer resolution of 200 metres and 20 kilometres x 20 kilometres extent.

Output from the inner domain was then used in the CALPUFF dispersion modelling. Site-specific meteorological data were extracted from the inner domain output at the Buronga substation (i.e. MGA Zone 54H 615740 m E, 6225840 m S). Wind direction, wind speed data were then analysed and presented in section 4.1.

Table 3.2 provides a summary of the CALMET configuration.

Table 3.2 CALMET configuration summary

PARAMETERS	CONFIGURATION		
Outer domain	Southwest corner (MGA Zone 54H): 595710 m E, 6205827 m S.		
	Resolution: 500 m		
	Extent: 40 km x 40 km		
Inner domain	Southwest corner (MGA Zone 54H): 605550 m E, 6215716 m S.		
	Resolution: 200 m		
	Extent: 20 km x 20 km		
Cell faces heights (m)	0, 20, 30, 40, 50, 70, 90, 100, 250, 500, 1000, 1500, 2000.		
Biases	-1, -1, -0.75, -0.5, -0.25, 0, 0.5, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1		
TERRAD	2 km		
Terrain data	1 Second DEM from ELVIS: https://elevation.fsdf.org.au/		
Land use Catchment Scale Land Use Data for Australia (CLUM): https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/aclump/land-use/catchment-scale-australia-update-december-2018			

4 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

4.1 SITE-SPECIFIC METEOROLOGICAL CONDITION

4.1.1 WIND CONDITIONS

Site-specific wind conditions were extracted from CALMET at the Buronga substation. Seasonal and annual wind roses for 2018 at this location are presented in Figure 3.1. The wind roses indicate that wind conditions at the Site were generally consistent with that at the Mildura Airport AWS.

The wind roses indicate that the winds at the Site in 2018 were:

- most frequently ranging from the south to west and rarely from the east during spring with an average wind speed of 3.8 m/s
- most frequently from the south east to south southwest during summer with an average wind speed of 3.9 m/s
- most frequently from the south and south-southwest during autumn with an average wind speed of 3.3 m/s
- most frequently form the north, north-northeast and the west during winter with an average wind speed of 3.6 m/s
- overall most frequently from the south and south-southwest and the west directions with an average wind speed of 3.7m/s and calm winds of 2.5 per cent over the year.

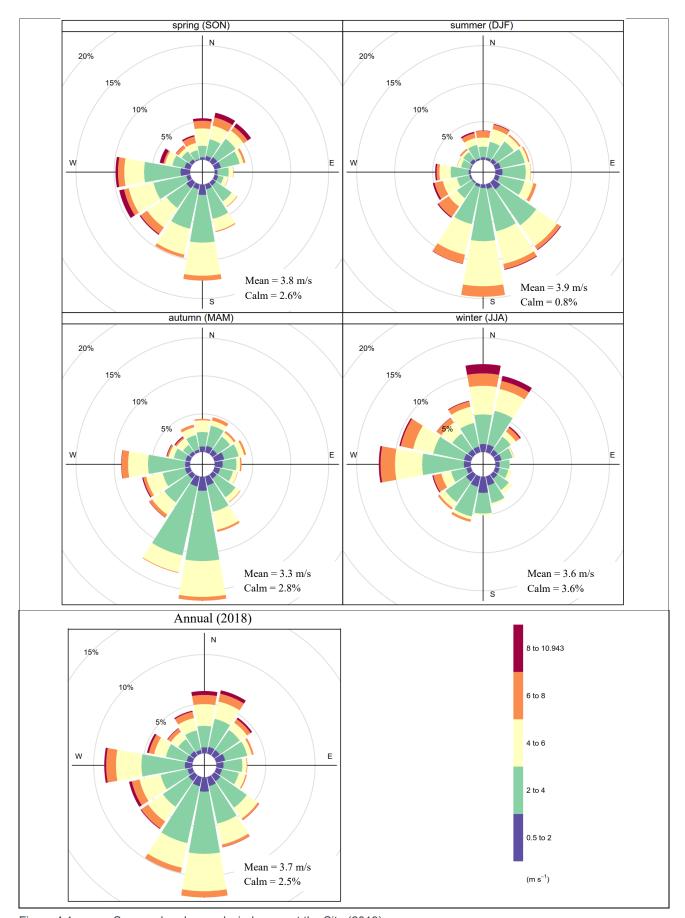


Figure 4.1 Seasonal and annual wind roses at the Site (2018)

4.1.2 STABILITY CLASS

Stability categories are used as indicators of atmospheric turbulence and the dispersive properties of the atmosphere by Gaussian plume dispersion models. Higher stability of the atmosphere typically results in poor dispersion conditions and higher ground level concentrations, whilst unstable atmospheres typically have the opposite impact.

Stability classes described by Pasquill-Gifford are presented Table 4.1. Usually, Class F and G are combined into one class, F.

Table 4.1 Atmospheric stability classes

STABILITY CLASS	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	
A	Very stable	Low winds, clear skies, hot daytime conditions	
В	Unstable	Moderate winds, clear skies, daytime conditions	
С	Slightly unstable	Moderate winds, slightly overcast daytime conditions	
D	Neutral	High winds or cloudy days and nights	
Е	Slightly stable	Moderate winds, slightly overcast night-time conditions	
F	Stable	Low winds, clear skies, cold night-time conditions	
G	Very stable		

Figure 4.2 shows the predicted frequency of stability classes at the Site. Stability classes have been predicted using the methodology outlined in section 3.3. The distribution of stability classes indicates that there are:

- very rare low wind days with high solar insolation (Class A)
- a low amount of sunny days with moderate winds (Class B)
- a relatively low amount of slightly overcast days with moderate winds (Class C) and slightly overcast nights with moderate winds (Class E)
- a high amount of overcast days and nights (Class D)
- a moderate amount of calm and cold night time conditions (Class F).

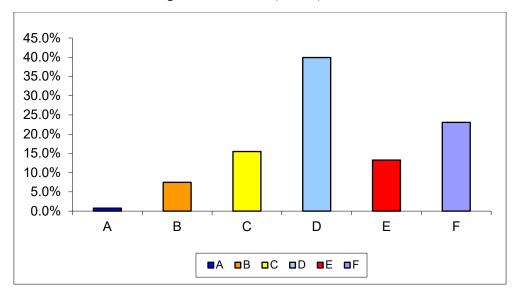


Figure 4.2 Frequency of atmospheric stability classes predicted for the Site

4.2 AMBIENT BACKGROUND DATA

The nearest ambient air quality monitoring station (AAQMS) is the Buronga AAQMS, located approximately 8.7 kilometres to the southwest of the Site. There are no other AAQMS within 70 kilometres of the Site.

TSP, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} were monitored at this station using DustTracks which is not a reference or reference equivalent monitoring method. Theoretically, the data collected at this station should not be used for compliance assessment but provides an indicative level of particulate matter concentrations in the rural area. Due to the limitation of background data availability, the monitoring data collected at Buronga AAQMS in 2018 (the selected meteorological year) was adopted as background.

An email notification from NSW EPA was received in February 2021 indicating the PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} data provided previously and presented in the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section): Technical paper 7 – Air Quality* (October 2020, WSP) report for the period 1 January to 10 May 2018 were incorrect and should not be used as background data for air quality impact assessments. Only valid TSP data is available for this period. Consequently, for 1 January to 10 May 2018, 24 hour PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations were derived based on PM₁₀ to TSP and PM_{2.5} to TSP to ratios using valid TSP, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} data collected for the period 10 May to 31 December 2018.

Given the ratio of PM_{10} to TSP ranged from 0.96 to 1 and the ratio of $PM_{2.5}$ to TSP ranged from 0.49 to 1 for the rest of the year (10 May to 31 December 2018), both the PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ 24-hour concentrations were conservatively assumed to be 100 per cent of TSP for the period 1 January 2018 to 10 May 2018. Where background data for all three pollutants (i.e. TSP, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) were missing, the 70th percentile of 24-hour average concentrations for each pollutant was adopted for that day in order to develop a continuous full year background. By including derived 24 hour PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations in the 2018 dataset, this allowed a contemporaneous assessment (i.e. adding the predicted 24 hour PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ ground level concentration with the same 24-hour background concentration) to be conducted as required by the Approved Methods.

Time-varying background concentrations for the year 2018 were adopted as the background dataset for this assessment. Table 4.2 presents 24-hour average data availability and Table 4.3 presents a summary of background concentrations. Figure 4.3 to Figure 4.5 illustrate daily concentrations for TSP, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ for the year 2018.

It is noted that no monitoring data for deposited dust is available while preparing this report.

The adopted background data are characterised as:

- annual average TSP and PM₁₀ concentrations were below their relevant criteria, while annual average PM_{2.5}
 exceeded its criterion primarily due to the elevated concentrations derived from the PM_{2.5} to TSP ratio
- 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations exceeded its criterion on seven days and the 24-hour average PM_{2.5} concentrations exceeded its criterion on 16 days.

Table 4.2 Data availability

ITEM	TYPE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
24-hour average data	Raw data	87%	52%	52%
availability	After applying PM ₁₀ /TSP and PM _{2.5} /TSP Ratio	87%	87%	87%
	After filling missing data using 70 th percentile	100%	100%	100%

Table 4.3 Summary of background concentrations

SPECIES	ANNU	JAL (μG/M³)	24-HOUR AVERAGE (μG/M³)						
	Criteria	Background	Criteria	Maximum	70 th percentile	Number of exceedances			
TSP	90	13.7	None	634.6	9.6	N/A			
PM ₁₀	25	13.7	50	634.6	9.6	7 days			
PM _{2.5}	8	12.5	25	634.6	8.6	16 days			

Note: Exceedances of criteria are highlighted in bold

N/A: Not applicable

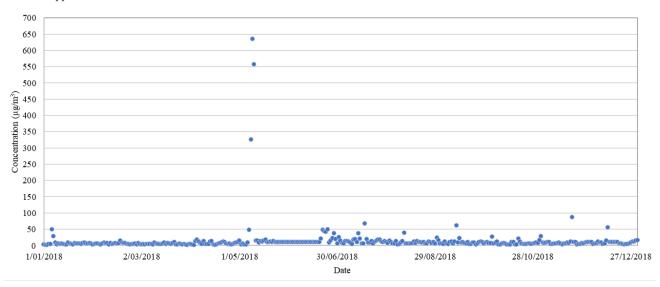
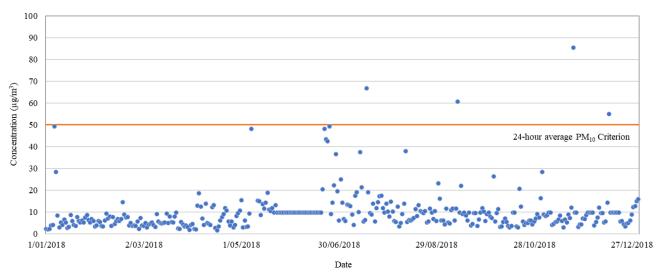
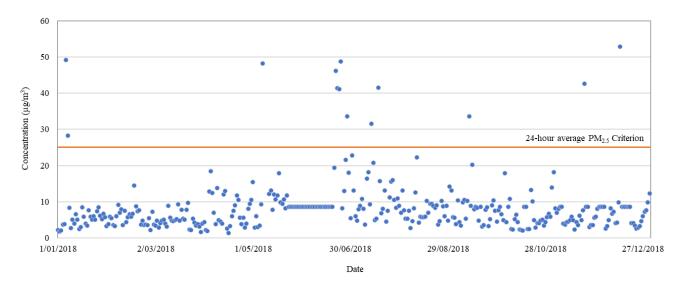


Figure 4.3 24-hour average TSP concentrations



Note: The three exceedances above $300\mu g/m^3$ shown in Figure 4.3 have been removed from the figure to aid visual representation pf the data

Figure 4.4 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations



Note: The three exceedances above 300 $\mu g/m^3$ shown in Figure 4.3 are removed from the figure to aid visual representation.

Figure 4.5 24-hour average PM_{2.5} concentrations

4.3 SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

The Approved Methods (EPA, 2016) describes a sensitive receptor as:

A location where people are likely to work or reside; this may include a dwelling, school, hospital, office or public recreational area. An air quality impact assessment should also consider the location of any known or likely future sensitive receptor.

Both confirmed and potential sensitive receptors within five kilometres of the Site were identified and presented in Table 4.4 and Figure 4.6.

Table 4.4 Identified sensitive receptors

RECEPTORS	TYPE	DISTANCE TO THE SITE (M)
R1	Residential (shed)	1500
R2	Residential	1780
R3	Potential dwelling	3870
R4	Workplace (industry facility)	4050
R5	Potential dwelling	4065
R6	Workplace (industry facility)	5011

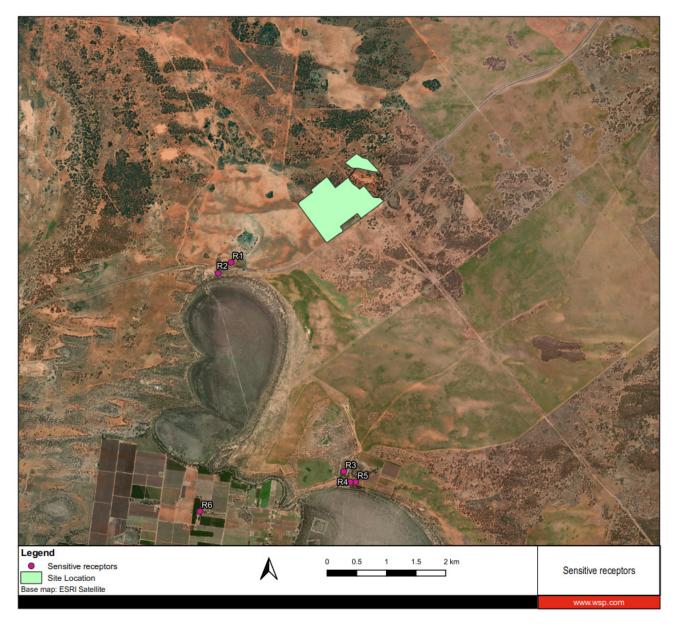


Figure 4.6 Modelled sensitive receptors

5 DISPERSION MODELLING

5.1 AIR DISPERSION MODEL

CALPUFF is a multi-layer, multi-species, non-steady-state Gaussian puff dispersion model that can simulate the effects of time- and space-varying meteorological conditions on pollutant transport.

CALPUFF is one of the most commonly used models for regulatory dispersion modelling applications in NSW and it provides a distinct advantage in the treatment of calm conditions over steady-state models (such as AERMOD).

Air dispersion modelling was undertaken using the latest version of CALPUFF (V.7.2.1) in accordance with the requirements of the Approved Methods.

5.2 EMISSION ESTIMATION

5.2.1 METHODOLOGY

Emission rates for activities at Buronga substation were determined using National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) emission factors and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) AP-42. An emission factor is a value representing the relationship between an activity and the rate of emissions of a specified pollutant. Emission factors are developed based on test data, material mass balance studies and engineering estimates.

Emission estimates for the Site were based on the following NPI and USEPA AP-42 references:

- NPI Emission Estimation Technique Manual for Mining Version 3.1 (NPI Mining)
- AP-42 Section 11.19.2: Crushed Stone Processing and Pulverized Mineral Processing
- AP-42 Section 13.2.2: Unpaved Roads
- AP-42 Section 13.2.3: Heavy Construction Operation.

The emission calculations and resultant emission rates are discussed in the following sections using the equation presented below and information provided by TransGrid.

Emission factors are expressed as a function of the weight, volume, distance or duration of the activity emitting the pollutant. The general equation used for the estimation of emissions is:

$$E = A \times EF \times \left(1 - \frac{ER}{100}\right)$$

Where:

E = emission rate

A = activity rate

EF = emission factor

ER = overall emission reduction efficiency (%)

5.2.2 EMISSION SOURCES

Fugitive emissions at the Site have the potential to arise from the following sources:

- machinery operation (i.e. Excavators, scrapers, dozers and graders)
- materials handling (loading and unloading trucks)
- wheel generated dust from unpaved roads
- crushing, screening and associated activities
- wind erosion from stockpiles and other exposed areas.

5.2.3 EMISSION INVENTORY

Standard working hours for construction works would be from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm with one hour break. All emissions are expected be generated during this period except for wind erosion which were modelled for all hours.

As site-specific silt content and moisture content were not available while preparing this report, default emission factors from the NPI Mining manual were used to estimate emission rates.

It is noted that where an emission factor for $PM_{2.5}$ is not available, a $PM_{2.5}$ to PM_{10} ratio of 0.15 was used as recommended by USEPA AP-42.

The final extent of the material sites 1 and 2 would be confirmed by further geotechnical investigations during detailed design. Material sites 1 and 2 may not both be required, or the final extent may be smaller than the area presented in Figure 5.1.

5.2.3.1 MACHINERY OPERATION

For assessment purposes, it is estimated that three excavators, three scrapers, one dozer and one grader would be used on the Site at various locations. In practice, the machinery would be used on material site 1, site 2, the substation pad or construction compound and camp site. However, for the purpose of this assessment, where the machinery would be used both on site 1 and site 2, the machinery was conservatively modelled at site 1 which is closer to sensitive receptors.

The dozer and grader were modelled at different sites based on the estimated amount of time they would operate at each site. It is noted that the exact months are only indicative and should not be interpreted as working schedules.

Scrapers may be used both for topsoil removal and materials transportation. The emission rates for scrapers were estimated assuming topsoil removal. Dust generated from materials transportation are outlined in section 5.2.3.3.

Emission factors adopted for all machinery are obtained from Table 2 in the NPI Mining manual and the emission inventory for machinery operation is presented in Table 5.1 to Table 5.3.

Table 5.1 Emission inventory for excavators and scrapers

MACHINERY			(KG/T)			THROU GHPUT(CONTROL MEASURES AND	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)		
			TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	T/H)	REDUCTION RATE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Excavator_1	Site 1	Whole year,	0.029	0.014	0.0021	96	No control	0.77	0.372	0.056
Excavator_2	Site 1	Working hours	0.029	0.014	0.0021	96	No control	0.77	0.372	0.056
Excavator_3	Site 1	110 0110	0.029	0.014	0.0021	64	No control	0.514	0.248	0.037
Scraper_1	Site 1		0.029	0.0073	0.0011	85	Water sprays (50%)	0.342	0.086	0.013
Scraper_2	Site 1		0.029	0.0073	0.0011	85	Water sprays (50%)	0.342	0.086	0.013
Scraper_3	Substation pad		0.029	0.0073	0.0011	85	Water sprays (50%)	0.342	0.086	0.013

Table 5.2 Emission inventory for the dozer

MACHINERY				ON FACT EHICLE)		CONTROL MEASURES AND	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)		
			TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	REDUCTION RATE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Dozer	Construction compound	Sep-Oct, working hours	17	4.1	0.615	Water sprays (50%)	2.361	0.569	0.085
	Site 1	Jan-Aug, Nov- Dec, working hours	17	4.1	0.615	Water sprays (50%)	2.361	0.569	0.085

Table 5.3 Emission inventory for grader

MACHINERY	MODELLED LOCATION	OPERATION PERIOD	FACTORS		VEHICLE SPEED (KM/H)	CONTROL MEASURES AND REDUCTION RATE	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)			
			TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}			TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Grader	Site 1	Aug-Sep, working hours	1.08	0.340	0.051	10	Water sprays (50%)	1.493	0.472	0.071
	Construction Compound	Oct-Dec, working hours	1.08	0.340	0.051	10	Water sprays (50%)	1.493	0.472	0.071
	Substation pad	Jan-July, working hours	1.08	0.340	0.051	10	Water sprays (50%)	1.493	0.472	0.071

5.2.3.2 MATERIALS HANDLING

Materials handling operations at the Site include the transfer of materials by means of loading and unloading trucks. Potential emission sources are identified to be:

- loading trucks at site 1 (MH1)
- loading trucks at site 2 (MH2)
- loading trucks at the stockpile (MH3)
- trucks dumping onto the stockpile (MH4)
- trucks dumping at the substation pad (MH5).

Emission factors for materials handling are obtained from Table 2 in the NPI Mining manual and the emission inventory is presented in Table 5.4.

Table 5.4 Emission inventory for materials handling

ACTIVITIES OPERATION PERIOD		EMISS (KG/T)	ION FAC	TORS	THROUGHPUT(T/H)	CONTROL MEASURES AND REDUCTION RATE	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)			
		TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}			TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	
MH1	Whole year, working hours	0.029	0.014	2.1E-03	390	Water sprays (50%)	1.57	0.76	0.11	
MH2	Dec-May, working hours	0.029	0.014	2.1E-03	180	Water sprays (50%)	0.73	0.35	0.05	
МН3	Whole year, working hours	0.029	0.014	2.1E-03	120	Water sprays (50%)	0.48	0.23	0.04	
MH4	Whole year, working hours	0.01	0.0042	6.3E-04	210	Water sprays (70%)	0.18	0.07	0.01	
МН5	Whole year, working hours	0.01	0.0042	6.3E-04	405	Water sprays (70%)	0.34	0.14	0.02	

5.2.3.3 WHEEL GENERATED DUST FROM UNPAVED ROADS

Vehicles travelling on unpaved haulage roads would generate dust by the force of the wheels on the road surface. For assessment purposes, approximately 65 per cent of excavated soil from site 1 and site 2 has been assumed would be transferred to the substation upgrade and expansion pad directly for use, while 35 per cent of excavated materials would be transferred to the stockpile for crushing and screening. The product from crushing and screening would then be transferred to the substation upgrade and expansion pad or stockpiled if not suitable for use.

Both trucks and scrapers may be used to transport materials among different sites (i.e. site 1, site 2, the stockpile area and substation pad). This assessment conservatively assumed all materials would be transported using trucks. Specific haul roads have not been developed at this stage. Haulage routes modelled in this assessment represents a simplified and averaged indication of the future haul roads.

Five possible haul roads have been identified as follows:

- site 2 to intersection (S2-Inter)
- intersection to substation pad (Inter-Pad)
- intersection to the stockpile (Inter-Stk)
- site 1 to the stockpile (S1-Stk)
- site 1 to substation pad (S1-pad).

The unpaved road emission factor equations obtained from the NPI Mining are:

$$E_{TSP} = \frac{0.4536}{1.6093} \times 4.9 \times \left(\frac{s}{12}\right)^{0.7} \times \left(\frac{W \times 1.1023}{3}\right)^{0.45} \qquad kg/VKT$$

$$E_{PM10} = \frac{0.4536}{1.6093} \times 1.5 \times \left(\frac{s}{12}\right)^{0.9} \times \left(\frac{W \times 1.1023}{3}\right)^{0.45} \qquad kg/VKT$$

Where:

s = silt content (%).

W = vehicle gross mass (t).

Silt content of 8.5 per cent was used in the modelling based on the mean silt content for construction sites obtained from *AP-42, Section 13.2.2 Unpaved Roads*. The emission inventory for wheel generated dust from unpaved roads is presented in Table 5.5.

Table 5.5 Emission inventory for wheel generated dust from unpaved roads

ROADS	STATUS	OPERATION PERIOD	VEHICLE WEIGHT(T)			CTORS	TRIPS/HOUR		CONTROL MEASURES AND	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)		
				TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}		(M)	REDUCTION RATE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
S2-Inter	Loaded	Dec-May, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	6.0	379	Level 2 watering	3.46E-03 1.01E-03		1.52E-04
	Unloaded	Dec-May, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	6.0		(75%)			
Inter-	Loaded	Dec-May, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	4.5	416	Level 2 watering	2.60E-03	7.61E-04	1.14E-04
Pad	Unloaded	Dec-May, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	4.5		(75%)			
	Loaded	Other months, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	1.5			8.66E-04	2.54E-04	3.81E-05
	Unloaded	Other months, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	1.5					
Inter-Stk	Loaded	Dec-May, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	4.5	484	Level 2 watering	2.60E-03	7.61E-04	1.14E-04
	Unloaded	Dec-May, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	4.5		(75%)			
	Loaded	Other months, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	1.5			8.66E-04	2.54E-04	3.81E-05
	Unloaded	Other months, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	1.5					
S1-Stk	Loaded	Whole year, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	4.0	547	Level 2 watering	2.31E-03	6.77E-04	1.01E-04
	Unloaded	Whole year, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	4.0		(75%)			
S1-pad	Loaded	Whole year, working hours	70	4.68	1.37	0.21	9.0	448		5.20E-03	1.52E-03	2.28E-04
	Unloaded	Whole year, working hours	40	3.64	1.07	0.16	9.0					

5.2.3.4 CRUSHING AND SCREENING

Mobile crushing and screening plant is proposed to reduce the size of excavated material from sites 1 and 2 and meet the engineering requirements for use as the substation base. Excavated material is expected to be crushed and screened at a rate of approximately 600 to 700 cubic metres per day. The final quantity of material requiring crushing and screening would be further developed during detailed design.

The crushing and screening plant would be operating for approximately five hours per day during 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. As the exact operation hours is not known at this stage, the emission estimation was conducted using an average total daily throughput over a 12-hour period. Material density of 1.8 tonnes per cubic metre was assumed in the assessment.

The exact crushing and screening methodology would be developed during detailed design. This assessment assumed primary crushing, secondary crushing and screening would be required. Emission factors for crushing and screening activities were obtained from *AP-42 Section 11.19.2: Crushed Stone Processing and Pulverized Mineral Processing* as recommended by *AP-42 Section 13.2.3: Heavy Construction Operation*. Other activities associated with crushing and screening include:

- loading to hopper
- conveyor transfer points
- conveyor dropping points
- unloading from surge piles.

Materials would be transferred between the crushing and screening plant, transferred out of the plant using conveyors. Emission factors for the associated activities were adopted from the NPI Mining manual. Given the small footprint of the crushing and screening plant and multiple emission sources contained within the plant, all sources associated with crushing and screening were combined and modelled as one volume source.

The emission inventory for crushing, screening and associated activities is presented in Table 5.6.

Table 5.6 Emission inventory for crushing, screening and associated activities

SOURCES	NUMBER OF	EMISSION FACTORS (KG/T)			(T/H)	CONTROL MEASURES AND	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)			
	SOURCES	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}		REDUCTION RATE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	
Loading to hopper	1	0.029	0.014	0.0021	105	Water sprays (50%)	0.423	0.204	0.031	
Primary crushing (controlled)	1	0.0006	0.00027	0.00005	105	Water sprays	1.75E-02	7.88E-03	1.46E-03	
Secondary crushing (controlled)	1	0.0006	0.00027	0.00005	105	Water sprays	1.75E-02	7.88E-03	1.46E-03	
Screening (controlled)	1	0.0011	0.00037	0.000025	105	Water sprays	3.21E-02	1.08E-02	7.29E-04	
Conveyor transfer points	3	0.00032	0.00015	0.0000225	105	Covering and water sprays (70%)	0.0084	0.0039	0.0006	
Conveyor dropping points	1	0.004	0.0017	0.000255	105	Water sprays (50%)	0.058	0.025	0.004	
Unloading from surge piles	1	0.03	0.013	0.00195	105	Water sprays (50%)	0.438	0.190	0.028	
Total							0.994	0.449	0.067	

5.2.3.5 WIND EROSION

Dust emissions are expected to occur due to the wind erosion of stockpiles and exposed areas. The following sources potentially subject to wind erosion were identified:

- material site 1
- material site 2
- material stockpiles
- substation pad.

The Buronga construction compound and accommodation camp would be covered by hardstand materials, and a laydown area would be used to mainly store plant, machinery and other non-dust-generating materials. Therefore, wind erosion at this area was not considered.

As discussed in Section 5.2.3, the final extent of the material sites 1 and 2 would be confirmed by further geotechnical investigations during detailed design. For assessment purposes, it is conservatively assumed that material from both sites would be required and potential impact from the full extent was assessed. Excavation of the material sites would be conducted progressively and up to 50 per cent of the area presented in Figure 5.1 would be exposed at any given time with other exposed areas being thoroughly compacted and no loose surface remaining. Water spray and re-compaction would be used if any loose surface was observed. Dust generated from 50 per cent of the non-active area due to wind erosion would be negligible and therefore not included as an emission source in the assessment.

As the works are subject to more detailed construction planning, a conservative approach to this assessment was adopted. The whole extent of the extraction area presented in Figure 5.1 was modelled as an exposed area, with a factor of 50 per cent used to adjust the area afterwards. This method is expected to slightly overestimate the impacts on sensitive receptors rather than modelling actual extent of extraction over a smaller area.

Water sprays would be used for all exposed areas and stockpiles. In addition, both site 1 and site 2 would be compacted using rollers or compactors at the end of each working day which would stabilise the surface and reduce dust emissions at night. As such, dust emission reduction is considered to be 50 per cent during working hours and 75 per cent at night time. The exact operation duration of the material sites is unknown at the time of this assessment, so the model has conservatively assessed emissions from wind erosion over the entire potential exposure period. Material sites would be rehabilitated and revegetated once earthworks are finished.

Multiple stockpiles would likely be required at the stockpile area with a height of up to 2.5 metres. As the exact position of the stockpiles within the stockpile area is not known at this stage, the stockpiles were combined and modelled as one in this assessment with a total volume of 5,500 cubic metres. Exported materials would be delivered to the substation upgrade and expansion pad directly.

Existing topsoil would be removed from the substation pad at the start of earthworks. This assessment conservatively assumed topsoil removal would occur in the first two months and the whole substation upgrade and expansion pad would be subjected to wind erosion.

All materials imported or from the material sites 1 and 2 to the substation upgrade and expansion pad would be compacted once placed and dampened with water sprays. Dust generated from wind erosion at the substation upgrade and expansion pad during base construction is considered to be negligible and not modelled in this assessment. Dust generated during trucks unloading or other machinery operation are included in the model, the details of which are presented in section 5.2.3.1 to 5.2.3.3.

Default emission factors for wind erosion from the NPI Mining was adopted in this assessment and the emission inventory is presented in Table 5.7. It is noted that emission rates presented in this table are the total emissions. Each wind erosion source was broken down to multiple volume sources to optimise model run time. Figure 5.1 presents the volume sources included in the model.

Table 5.7 Emission inventory for wind erosion

SOURCES	PERIOD	EMISSION	EMISSION FACTORS (KG/T)			CONTROL MEASURES AND	MODELLED EMISSION RATES (G/S)			
		TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}		REDUCTION RATE	TSP	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	
Site 1	7am-7pm, 1.11E-05 5.56E-06 8.33E-07 253,000 whole year	253,000	Water sprays (50%)	1.406	0.703	0.105				
	Other hours, whole year	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07		Water sprays + compaction (75%)	0.703	0.351	0.053	
Site 2	7am-7pm, Dec- may	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07	80,000	Water sprays (50%)	0.444	0.222	0.033	
	Other hours, Dec-May	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07		Water sprays + compaction (75%)	0.222	0.111	0.017	
	Jun-Nov	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07		Revegetation (90%)	0.089	0.044	0.007	
Material stockpile	Whole year	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07	2,200	Water sprays (50%)	0.012	0.006	0.001	
Substation pad	Jan-Feb	1.11E-05	5.56E-06	8.33E-07	110,000	Water sprays (50%)	0.611	0.306	0.046	

5.2.3.6 SOURCE CHARACTERISTICS

Emission sources are modelled as follows:

machinery: 11 volume sources

material handling: five volume sources

unpaved roads: five road sources

- crushing and screening: one volume source

wind erosion: 177 volume sources.

Source modelled locations are presented in Figure 5.1 and Figure 5.2. Model inputs for each source parameter are presented in Appendix A.

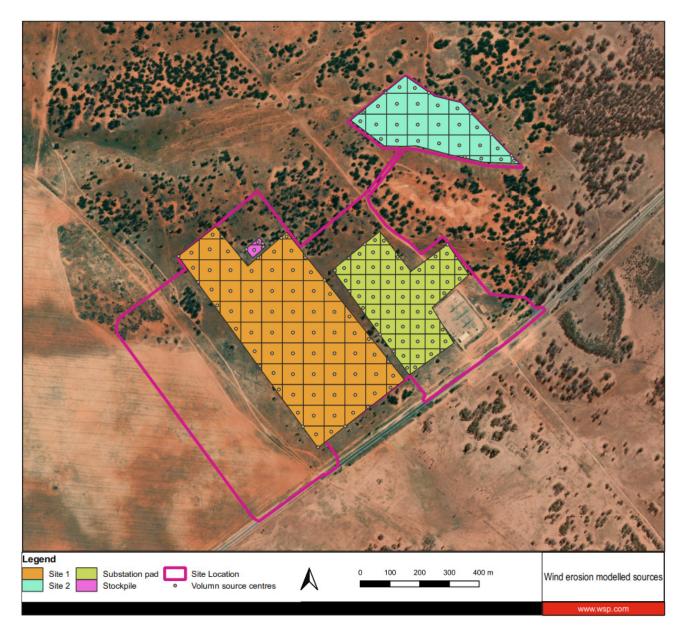


Figure 5.1 Wind erosion modelled sources

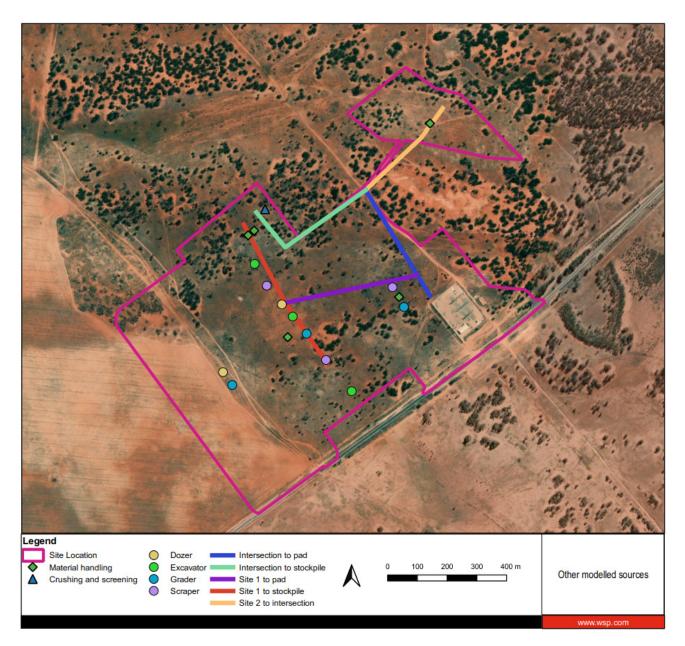


Figure 5.2 Other modelled sources

5.3 MODELLED RECEPTORS

Both gridded and sensitive receptors identified in section 4.3 were included in the modelling. The south-west corner of the uniform grid domain was located at 605550 m E, 6215716 m S (MGA Zone 54H) with a resolution of 200 metres. A total extent of 20 kilometres by 20 kilometres was covered in the modelling.

5.4 PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION

TSP was modelled as particles to output dust deposition, while PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} were modelled as a gas. As site-specific particle size distribution was not available at the time of modelling, general particle size for material handling and processing of aggregate and unprocessed ore was obtained from the USEPA *AP-42*, *Appendix B.2 Generalized Particle Size Distributions* was adopted in this assessment. The configuration of relevant parameters input to CALPUFF are as follows:

- geometric mean diameter (μm): 9.7
- geometric standard deviation (μm): 3.75.

5.5 MODELLING RESULTS

The maximum predicted incremental concentrations for TSP, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and deposited dust for averaging periods consistent with the assessment criteria were extracted at modelled sensitive receptors. Background data were added to incremental concentrations to assess compliance of cumulative concentrations with relevant impact assessment criteria.

5.5.1 TSP

Table 5.8 lists predicted annual average incremental and cumulative TSP concentrations. The contour plot for annual average incremental concentrations is presented in Appendix B.

The modelling results indicate that:

- the cumulative annual average ground level concentrations of TSP are predicted to be below the assessment criterion of 90 μ g/m³ at all sensitive receptors
- the predicted highest incremental annual average TSP concentration of 0.08 μg/m³ occurred at receptor R1 and accounts for 0.09 per cent of the assessment criterion.

Table 5.8 Predicted annual average TSP ground level concentrations

RECEPTORS	INCREMENTAL (μG/M³)	CUMULATIVE (µG/M³)				
R1	0.08	13.8				
R2	0.06	13.8				
R3	0.03	13.7				
R4	0.02	13.7				
R5	0.02	13.7				
R6	0.02	13.7				
Criterion	90					

5.5.2 PM₁₀

24-hour average PM₁₀ time-series concentrations were extracted from modelling results and added to contemporaneous background to assess compliance of the 24-hour average concentrations. Predicted results are summarised in Table 5.9. Contour plots for 24-hour average and annual average PM₁₀ incremental concentrations are presented in Appendix B.

The modelling results indicate that:

- maximum incremental 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentration at all receptors is 8.74 μg/m³ accounting for 17.5 per cent of the assessment criterion, and maximum incremental annual average PM₁₀ concentration at all receptors is 0.46 μg/m³ accounting for 1.8 per cent of corresponding criterion
- one day of additional exceedance is predicted to occur at R1 and R3 over the modelled 365 days, with background accounting for 96.1 per cent of criterion and maximum contribution from the Site accounting for 4.1 per cent of the criterion (refer to Chapter 6 for further discussion of the exceedances).

Table 5.9 Predicted 24-hour average and annual average PM₁₀ concentrations

RECEPTORS			24-HOUR	AVERAGE		ANNUAL AVE	ANNUAL AVERAGE (μG/M³)			
	Maximum II	ncrement (μg/m³))	Additional Exceedances (μg/m³)						
	Date	Incremental	Cumulative	Date	Incremental	Cumulative	Incremental	Cumulative		
R1	26/05/2018	8.74	18.4	21/06/2018	2.1	50.2	0.46	14.2		
R2	26/05/2018	7.32	16.9	None			0.38	14.1		
R3	8/06/2018	2.49	12.1	7/05/2018	2.08	50.2	0.17	13.9		
R4	8/06/2018	2.02	11.6	7/05/2018	1.92	50.0	0.15	13.9		
R5	7/05/2018	1.92	50.0	7/05/2018	1.92	50.0	0.15	13.9		
R6	2/07/2018	2.52	16.7	None			0.12	13.8		
Criteria	50			50			25			

Note: Additional exceedances are highlighted in bold.

5.5.3 PM_{2.5}

24-hour average PM_{2.5} time-series concentrations were extracted from modelling results and added to contemporaneous background to assess compliance of 24-hour average concentrations. Predicted results are summarised in Table 5.10. Contour plots for 24-hour average and annual average PM_{2.5} incremental concentrations are presented in Appendix B.

The modelling results indicate that:

- maximum incremental 24-hour average PM_{2.5} concentration at all receptors is 1.31 μg/m³ accounting for 5.2 per cent of the assessment criterion, and maximum incremental annual average PM_{2.5} concentration at all receptors is 0.07 μg/m³ accounting for 0.9 per cent of corresponding criterion
- no additional exceedances would occur as a result of the Site activities. Cumulative concentration exceedances are all caused by existing background exceedances.

Table 5.10 Predicted 24-hour average and annual average PM_{2.5} concentrations

RECEPTORS			24-HOUF	RAVERAGE			ANNUAL AVE	RAGE		
	MAXIMUM II	NCREMENT (μο	g/M³)	ADDITIONAL I	ADDITIONAL EXCEEDANCES (µg/M³)			(μG/M³)		
	Date	Incremental	Cumulative	Date	Incremental	Cumulative	Incremental	Cumulative		
R1	26/05/2018	1.31	9.9	None		1	0.07	12.62		
R2	26/05/2018	1.10	9.6	None			0.057	12.62		
R3	8/06/2018	0.37	8.9	None			0.025	12.5 ²		
R4	8/06/2018	0.30	8.9	None			0.023	12.5 ²		
R5	7/05/2018	0.29	48.41	None			0.023	12.5 ²		
R6	2/07/2018	0.38	13.4	None			0.018	12.5 ²		
Criteria	25			25			8			

Note 1: Adopted background PM_{2.5} 24-hour concentration of 48.1 µg/m³ on 7 May 2018

5.5.4 DEPOSITED DUST

Predicted maximum monthly incremental dust deposition levels are presented in Table 5.11. There is no background monitoring data for dust deposition at Buronga AAQMS and incremental results only are assessed. The contour plot for the predicted monthly dust deposition levels is presented in Appendix B.

The modelling results indicate that maximum increase in dust deposition levels at all receptors are below the assessment criterion. The highest level of $0.06 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{month}$ was predicted at sensitive receptor R1, accounting for three per cent of the criterion.

Table 5.11 Predicted maximum monthly deposited dust levels

RECEPTORS	INCREMENTAL (G/M²/MONTH)
R1	0.06
R2	0.04
R3	0.02
R4	0.02
R5	0.02
R6	0.01
Maximum increase criterion	2

^{2:} Adopted background PM_{2.5} annual concentration of 12.5 µg/m³ which exceeds the criterion of 8 µg/m³

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The modelling results indicate that:

- TSP: the total annual average TSP concentrations are predicted to be below the impact assessment criterion of $90 \mu g/m^3$ and the highest incremental annual average at receptors is predicted to be 0.09 per cent of the criterion.
- PM₁₀: The highest predicted incremental 24-hour average at all receptors is 17.5 per cent of the criterion and the highest incremental annual average PM₁₀ is 1.8 per cent of the criterion. One day of additional exceedance is predicted to occur at R1 and R3 over modelled 365 days (up to 0.2 μg/m³ above the criterion), with background accounting for 96.1 per cent of criterion and maximum contribution from the Site accounting for 4.1 per cent of the criterion.
- PM_{2.5}: The highest predicted incremental 24-hour average at all receptors is 5.2 per cent of the criterion and the highest incremental annual average PM_{2.5} is 0.9 per cent of the criterion. No additional exceedances would occur as a result of the Site activities. Cumulative concentration exceedances are all caused by existing background exceedances.
- Deposited dust: Maximum incremental monthly dust deposition concentrations at all receptors are below the assessment criterion, with the maximum of 0.06 g/m²/month accounting for three per cent of the criterion.

As summarised above, all incremental concentrations for TSP, PM_{10} , $PM_{2.5}$ and deposited dust at all sensitive receptors are predicted to account for a small portion of the corresponding criteria. There is only one day of additional exceedance over 365 days are predicted for PM_{10} due to elevated background (background accounts for 96.1 per cent of the criterion), and the exceedances are only up to $0.2 \mu g/m^3$ above the criterion.

At this early stage of the proposal, there are many uncertainties in the construction methodology and would be further developed in the detailed design. This assessment was finished in a conservative way and the real impact is likely to be smaller than prediction.

Due to the limited availability of background data, a conservative methodology was used to develop a whole year time-varying background data (i.e. assuming 100 per cent of TSP is PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for 1 January to 10 May). Moreover, the monitoring at Buronga AQMS was not conducted using Australian standard methods. Therefore, the background data can only provide a indicative level of local ambient air quality.

What's more, due to the nature of construction activities, air quality impacts associated with the Site earthworks activities would be transient given the contribution would be for the duration of this particular activity and would not be an ongoing emission source.

In summary, predicted particulate matters impacts at the modelled sensitive receptors associated with crushing, screening and all other contemporaneous operations were predicted to be low.

7 LIMITATIONS

This Report is provided by WSP Australia Pty Limited (WSP) for TransGrid (Client) in response to specific instructions from the Client and in accordance with WSP's proposal dated September 2019 and agreement with the Client dated 31 October 2020 (Agreement) and as agreed under variations up to March 2021.

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- NPI Emission Estimation Technique Manual for Mining Version 3.1.
- US EPA, AP-42 Section 11.19.2: Crushed Stone Processing and Pulverized Mineral Processing.
- US EPA, AP-42 Section 13.2.2: Unpaved Roads.
- US EPA, AP-42 Section 13.2.3: Heavy Construction Operation.
- US EPA AP-42 Appendix B.2: Generalized Particle Size Distributions.

APPENDIX A

MODEL INPUTS



SOURCE		X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
Machinery	Excavator_1	615488	6225875	51	1.5	1.43	1.40
	Excavator_2	615617	6225698	52	1.5		1.40
	Excavator_3	615815	6225447	47	1.5	1.43	1.40
	Scraper_1	615529	6225802	53	2.1	0.91	1.94
	Scraper_2	615728	6225552	50	2.1	0.91	1.94
	Scraper_3	615952	6225796	52	2.1	1.43 1.43 1.43 1.43 0.91 0.91 0.91 0.61 0.65 0.65 1.16 1.16 1.16 1.16 4.19 4.19 4.19	1.94
	Dozer	615382	6225511	46	0.9	0.61	0.79
		615580	6225739	53	0.9	0.61	0.79
	Grader	615413	6225468	46	0.6	0.65	0.58
		615663	6225640	51	0.6	1.43 1.43 1.43 1.43 0.91 0.91 0.91 0.61 0.65 0.65 1.16 1.16 1.16 1.16 4.19 4.19 4.19	0.58
		615990	6225730	52	0.6	0.65	0.58
Material	MH1	615600	6225629	52	3.7	1.16	0.12
handling	MH2	616078	6226347	52	3.7	1.16	0.12
	МН3	615466	6225971	50	3.7		0.12
	MH4	615487	6225987	51	1.75	1.16	1.63
	MH5	615974	6225764	52	1.75	1.16	1.63
Haul roads	S2-Inter	616121	6226398	53	2.55	4.19	2.37
		616048	6226299	52			
		615955	6226211	53			
		615862	6226123	55			
	Inter-Pad	615861	6226123	55	2.55	4.19	2.37
		616078	6225768	51			
	Inter-Stk	615861	6226122	55	2.55	1.43 1.43 1.43 1.43 0.91 0.91 0.91 0.61 0.65 0.65 1.16 1.16 1.16 1.16 4.19 4.19 4.19	2.37
		615591	6225930	53			
		615494	6226048	51			
	S1-Stk	615733	6225540	50	2.55	4.19	2.37
		615591	6225745	53			
		615452	6226008	50			
	S1-pad	616033	6225836	53	2.55	4.19	2.37
		615595	6225745	53			
Crushing and screening	Crus_Scr	615524	6226059	51	3	5.8	0.3

SOURCE		X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
Wind	S1_1	615230	6225927	48	0.1	0.47	0.05
erosion at site 1	S1_2	615274	6225939	48	0.1	24.60	0.05
	S1_3	615279	6225889	49	0.1	23.55	0.05
	S1_4	615297	6225840	49	0.1	4.29	0.05
	S1_5	615345	6226000	49	0.1	18.46	0.05
	S1_6	615335	6225950	49	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_7	615335	6225880	49	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_8	615342	6225815	50	0.1	28.71	0.05
	S1_9	615360	6225762	51	0.1	11.60	0.05
	S1_10	615377	6225993	49	0.1	6.68	0.05
	S1_11	615397	6225943	50	0.1	26.59	0.05
	S1_12	615405	6225880	50	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_13	615405	6225810	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_14	615407	6225742	51	0.1	31.55	0.05
	S1_15	615424	6225683	52	0.1	18.92	0.05
	S1_16	615498	6225921	52	0.1	7.07	0.05
	S1_17	615476	6225878	51	0.1	31.01	0.05
	S1_18	615475	6225810	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_19	615475	6225740	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_20	615475	6225670	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_21	615487	6225607	51	0.1	25.40	0.05
	S1_22	615505	6225558	50	0.1	6.59	0.05
	S1_23	615577	6225989	53	0.1	3.60	0.05
	S1_24	615552	6225943	53	0.1	27.21	0.05
	S1_25	615545	6225880	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_26	615545	6225810	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_27	615545	6225740	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_28	615545	6225670	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_29	615545	6225600	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_30	615550	6225534	51	0.1	29.83	0.05
	S1_31	615568	6225479	49	0.1	13.91	0.05
	S1_32	615594	6225994	53	0.1	9.75	0.05
	S1_33	615610	6225946	54	0.1	29.45	0.05
	S1_34	615615	6225880	53	0.1	32.56	0.05

SOURCE	X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
S1_35	615615	6225810	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_36	615615	6225740	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_37	615615	6225670	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_38	615615	6225600	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_39	615615	6225530	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_40	615616	6225461	50	0.1	32.06	0.05
S1_41	615632	6225400	48	0.1	21.18	0.05
S1_42	615649	6225354	46	0.1	1.61	0.05
S1_43	615656	6225923	53	0.1	6.66	0.05
S1_44	615676	6225873	52	0.1	26.35	0.05
S1_45	615685	6225810	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_46	615685	6225740	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_47	615685	6225670	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_48	615685	6225600	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_49	615685	6225530	49	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_50	615685	6225460	48	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_51	615685	6225390	47	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_52	615693	6225328	45	0.1	26.63	0.05
S1_53	615700	6225284	45	0.1	1.40	0.05
S1_54	615722	6225847	52	0.1	1.40	0.05
S1_55	615740	6225800	51	0.1	21.92	0.05
S1_56	615755	6225740	51	0.1	32.34	0.05
S1_57	615755	6225670	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_58	615755	6225600	51	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_59	615755	6225530	50	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_60	615755	6225460	48	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_61	615755	6225390	46	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_62	615744	6225336	45	0.1	21.05	0.05
S1_63	615806	6225724	51	0.1	16.72	0.05
S1_64	615823	6225668	51	0.1	31.27	0.05
S1_65	615825	6225600	50	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_66	615825	6225530	50	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_67	615825	6225460	47	0.1	32.56	0.05
S1_68	615818	6225400	46	0.1	25.91	0.05

SOURCE		X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
	S1_69	615791	6225355	46	0.1	0.66	0.05
	S1_70	615871	6225648	51	0.1	11.47	0.05
	S1_71	615890	6225596	50	0.1	29.24	0.05
	S1_72	615895	6225530	49	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S1_73	615891	6225466	47	0.1	29.34	0.05
	S1_74	615868	6225420	46	0.1	6.27	0.05
	S1_75	615936	6225572	50	0.1	6.22	0.05
	S1_76	615953	6225525	48	0.1	25.00	0.05
	S1_77	615944	6225485	48	0.1	11.87	0.05
Wind	S2_1	615852	6226412	52	0.1	7.53	0.05
erosion at site 2	S2_2	615842	6226382	52	0.1	19.43	0.05
Site 2	S2_3	615927	6226478	52	0.1	2.75	0.05
	S2_4	615902	6226432	52	0.1	27.13	0.05
	S2_5	615896	6226371	52	0.1	32.29	0.05
	S2_6	615912	6226322	52	0.1	15.74	0.05
	S2_7	615974	6226497	53	0.1	23.19	0.05
	S2_8	615965	6226440	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_9	615965	6226370	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_10	615966	6226317	52	0.1	23.76	0.05
	S2_11	616026	6226494	53	0.1	21.26	0.05
	S2_12	616035	6226440	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_13	616035	6226370	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_14	616037	6226316	52	0.1	24.45	0.05
	S2_15	616073	6226477	53	0.1	2.18	0.05
	S2_16	616103	6226435	53	0.1	29.76	0.05
	S2_17	616105	6226370	52	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_18	616107	6226307	52	0.1	29.14	0.05
	S2_19	616169	6226425	54	0.1	23.14	0.05
	S2_20	616175	6226370	53	0.1	32.56	0.05
	S2_21	616176	6226301	51	0.1	32.40	0.05
	S2_22	616194	6226262	51	0.1	7.59	0.05
	S2_23	616213	6226408	55	0.1	2.63	0.05
	S2_24	616235	6226361	53	0.1	25.00	0.05
	S2_25	616245	6226300	51	0.1	32.56	0.05

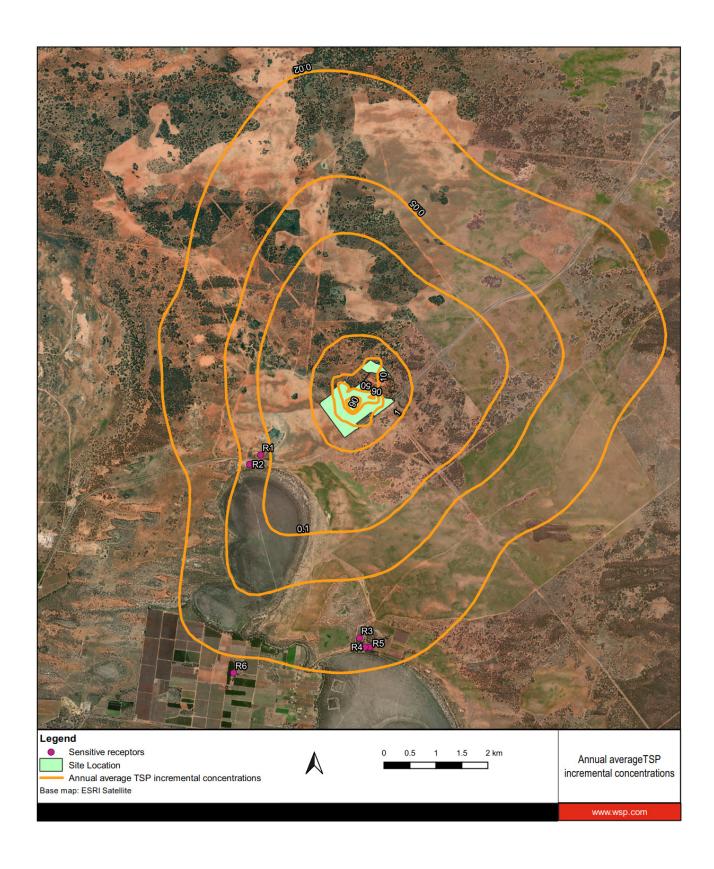
SOURCE		X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
	S2_26	616250	6226256	51	0.1	16.45	0.05
	S2_27	616282	6226337	53	0.1	1.68	0.05
	S2_28	616305	6226290	52	0.1	24.16	0.05
	S2_29	616316	6226254	51	0.1	18.91	0.05
	S2_30	616351	6226266	52	0.1	0.66	0.05
	S2_31	616360	6226249	51	0.1	8.91	0.05
Wind	Pad_1	615757	6225879	52	0.1	5.68	0.05
erosion at substation	Pad_2	615804	6225921	52	0.1	5.96	0.05
pad	Pad_3	615788	6225888	52	0.1	21.51	0.05
	Pad_4	615793	6225845	52	0.1	18.49	0.05
	Pad_5	615806	6225809	51	0.1	5.14	0.05
	Pad_6	615858	6225968	52	0.1	2.50	0.05
	Pad_7	615840	6225935	51	0.1	19.74	0.05
	Pad_8	615835	6225890	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_9	615835	6225840	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_10	615838	6225793	51	0.1	21.48	0.05
	Pad_11	615852	6225753	51	0.1	10.33	0.05
	Pad_12	615892	6225981	52	0.1	17.11	0.05
	Pad_13	615885	6225940	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_14	615885	6225890	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_15	615885	6225840	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_16	615885	6225790	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_17	615886	6225741	51	0.1	22.96	0.05
	Pad_18	615897	6225697	51	0.1	15.45	0.05
	Pad_19	615909	6225664	51	0.1	1.47	0.05
	Pad_20	615921	6225979	52	0.1	12.25	0.05
	Pad_21	615934	6225939	52	0.1	22.36	0.05
	Pad_22	615935	6225890	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_23	615935	6225840	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_24	615935	6225790	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_25	615935	6225740	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_26	615935	6225690	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
	Pad_27	615941	6225645	50	0.1	19.56	0.05
	Pad_28	615955	6225608	50	0.1	6.66	0.05

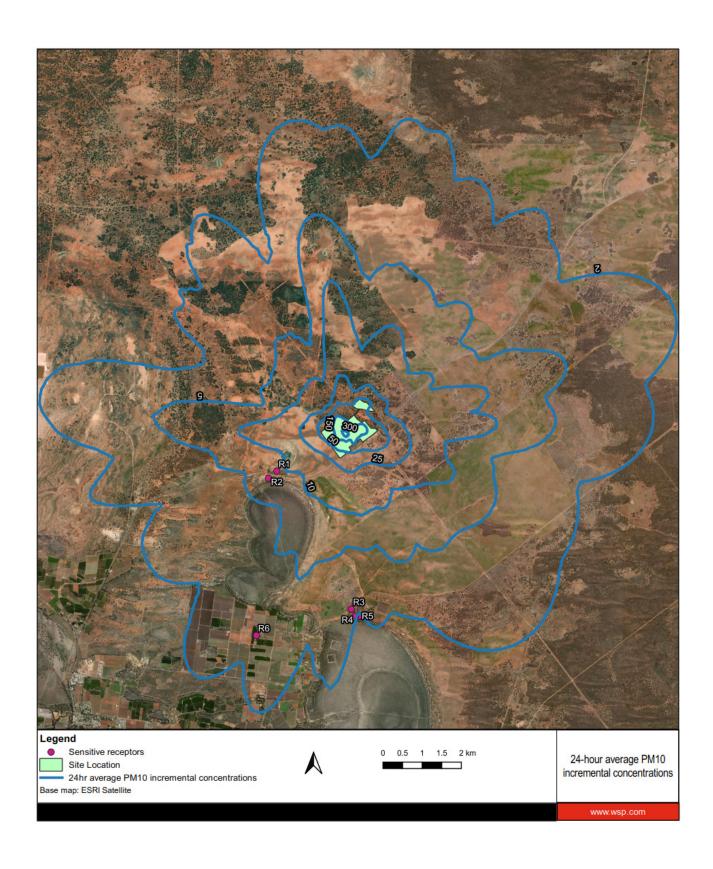
SOURCE	X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
Pad_29	615968	6225925	52	0.1	8.11	0.05
Pad_30	615981	6225887	52	0.1	20.74	0.05
Pad_31	615985	6225840	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_32	615985	6225790	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_33	615985	6225740	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_34	615985	6225690	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_35	615985	6225640	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_36	615988	6225592	51	0.1	22.05	0.05
Pad_37	616000	6225552	50	0.1	11.76	0.05
Pad_38	616041	6225881	52	0.1	17.26	0.05
Pad_39	616035	6225840	53	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_40	616035	6225790	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_41	616035	6225740	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_42	616035	6225690	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_43	616035	6225640	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_44	616035	6225590	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_45	616027	6225554	51	0.1	13.81	0.05
Pad_46	616096	6225926	51	0.1	12.64	0.05
Pad_47	616086	6225890	52	0.1	23.21	0.05
Pad_48	616085	6225840	52	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_49	616085	6225791	52	0.1	22.85	0.05
Pad_50	616078	6225738	51	0.1	19.22	0.05
Pad_51	616085	6225690	51	0.1	23.23	0.05
Pad_52	616085	6225640	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_53	616081	6225598	51	0.1	18.60	0.05
Pad_54	616136	6225966	52	0.1	1.14	0.05
Pad_55	616134	6225936	51	0.1	20.52	0.05
Pad_56	616135	6225890	51	0.1	23.26	0.05
Pad_57	616135	6225841	51	0.1	23.13	0.05
Pad_58	616124	6225803	51	0.1	13.04	0.05
Pad_59	616120	6225681	52	0.1	11.67	0.05
Pad_60	616129	6225641	52	0.1	19.65	0.05
Pad_61	616117	6225611	52	0.1	5.52	0.05
Pad_62	616165	6225921	51	0.1	4.81	0.05

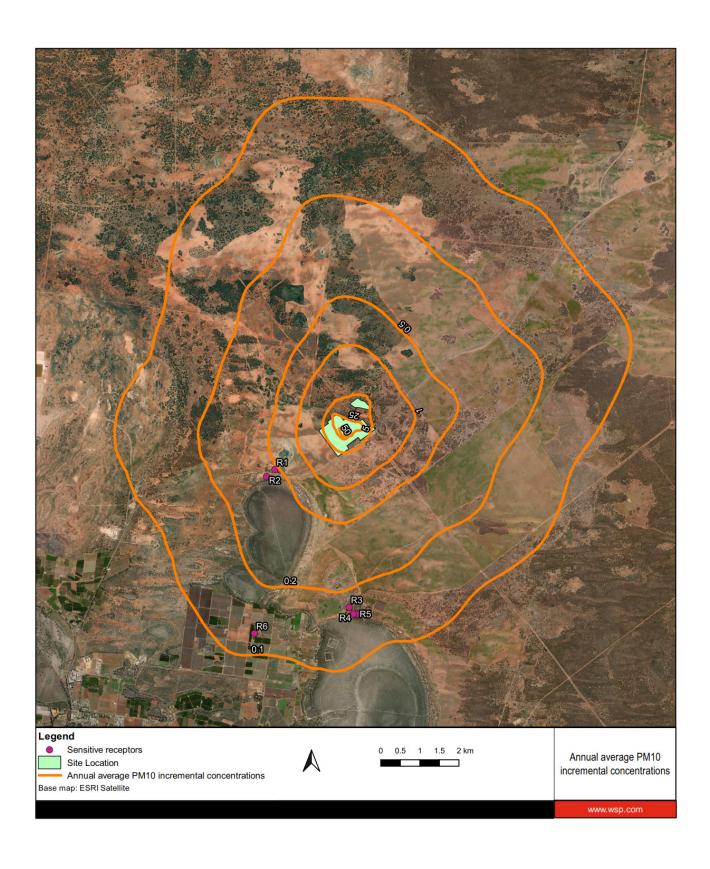
SOURCE		X (M)	Y (M)	BASE ELEVATION (M)	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND (M)	SIGMA Y	SIGMA Z
	Pad_63	616177	6225886	51	0.1	17.85	0.05
	Pad_64	616176	6225851	51	0.1	14.88	0.05
Wind	Stp_1	615459	6225951	51	2.5	2.28	1.16
erosion at	Stp_2	615497	6225974	52	2.5	10.62	1.16
stockpile	Stp_3	615485	6225949	51	2.5	17.95	1.16
	Stp_4	615514	6225970	52	2.5	4.13	1.16
	Stp_5	615516	6225959	52	2.5	5.81	1.16

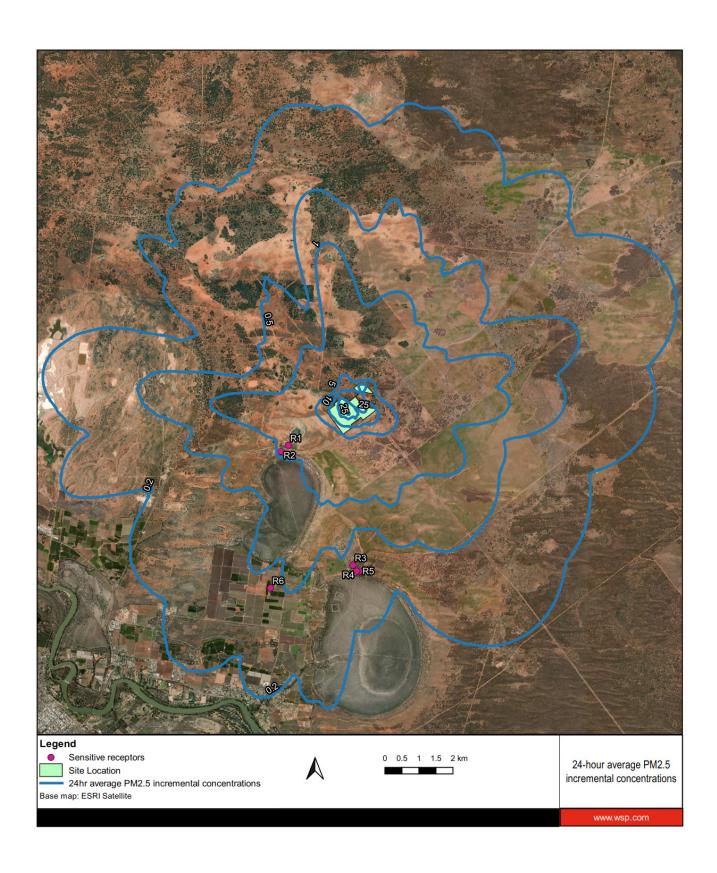
APPENDIX B CONTOUR PLOTS

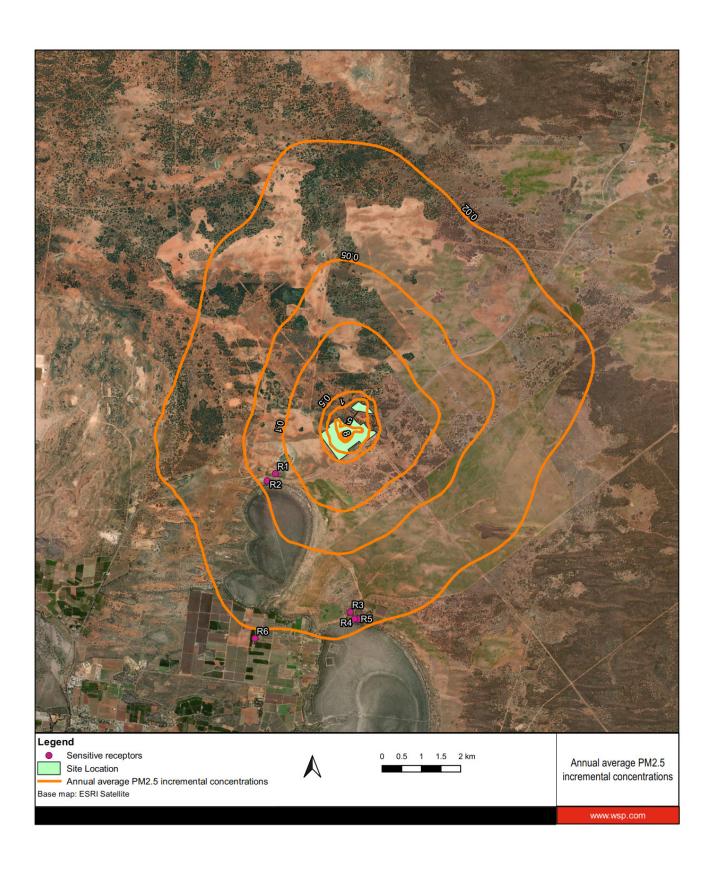


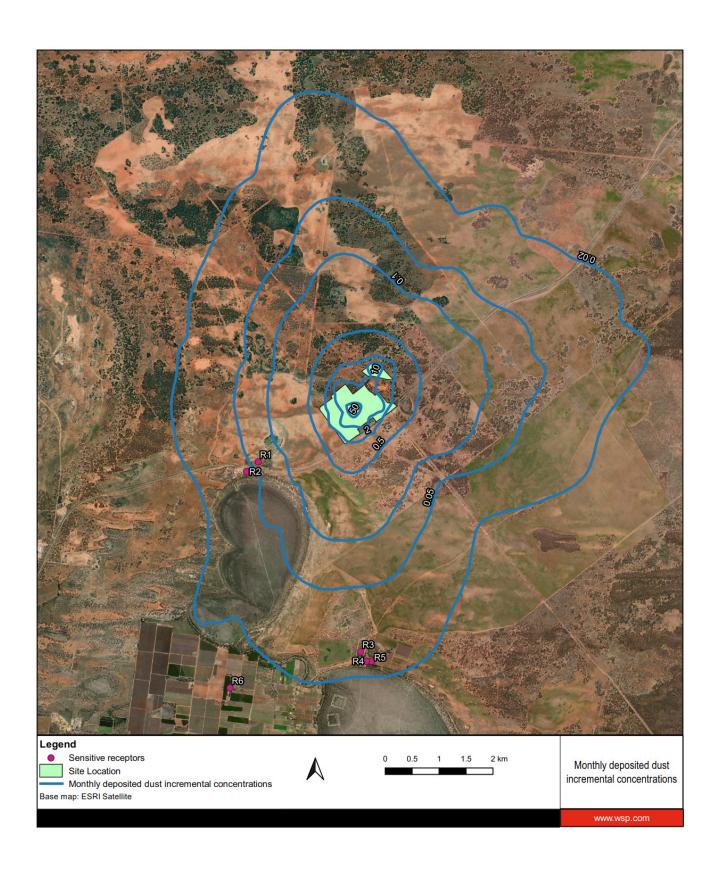












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