



**WHITEHAVEN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT
NOVEMBER 2006 – SEPTEMBER 2007**

Noise Monitoring:

Noise monitoring continues to occur with regard to operational noise and road traffic noise. The following tables provide the results for each of the noise monitoring events undertaken since the previous CCC meeting.

Road Haulage Noise Monitoring:- 28th September 2006

RELATIVE NOISE CONTRIBUTIONS	
Noise Source	Calculated Leq (1 hour)
Coal Trucks	52.2
Mine related light vehicles	37.6
Other light vehicles	41.1
Planes	45.2
Total	53.4

The total measured contribution of WCM related vehicles remained well below the daytime criterion of 60 dB(A) during this monitoring event.

Operational Noise Monitoring – 27th September 2006

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 27th and 28th September 2006 (Day)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq (15 min)
Broadwater	10:12am	32.8	1.0 m/s, 267°	Birds, insects(31), WCM(28)
Wilgai	2:13pm	40.1	3.2 m/s, 127°	Wind(35), Birds(35), WCM(32), Coal Trucks(33).
Merton	9:29am	35.9	1.4 m/s, 243°	WCM(33), birds(32), domestic noise(25)
Gundawarra	9:10am	34.6	0.5 m/s, 243°	Birds and Insects(33), WCM(30)
Bungalow	9:49am	54.0	1.4 m/s, 244°	Birds(54), WCM (Inaudible)

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 27th September 2006 (Evening)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq(15 min)
Broadwater	7:35pm	28.3	0.4 m/s, 273`	Insects(28), WCM(<20)
Wilgai	6:14pm	32.9	1.6 m/s, 104`	Birds(30), WCM(28), Sheep(25)
Merton	6:50pm	36.4	1.1 m/s, 271`	Insects(36), WCM(27)
Gundawarra	6:32pm	38.1	0.9 m/s, 259`	Birds and Insects(38), WCM(25)
Bungalow	7:09pm	38.3	1.0 m/s, 250`	Insects(38), WCM(<20)

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 28th September 2006 (Night)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	dB(A), L1 (1 min)	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq(15 min)
Broadwater	11:45pm	28.1	38.7	0.2 m/s, 92`	WCM(27), Insects(21)
Wilgai	10:30pm	30.0	43.1	0.2 m/s, 226`	WCM(30)
Merton	11:06pm	33.2	40.1	0.5 m/s, 54`	Insects and Birds(32), WCM(27)
Gundawarra	10:50pm	36.9	44.6	Nil	Birds and Insects(36), WCM(28)
Bungalow	11:25pm	29.2	39.6	0.2 m/s, 92`	WCM(27), Insects(25)

The results of the above monitoring event indicates WCM did not exceed the noise criterion of 35 dB(A) at any time during the survey.

Road Haulage Noise Monitoring – 27th March 2007

RELATIVE NOISE CONTRIBUTIONS	
Noise Source	Calculated Leq (1 hour)
Coal Trucks	53.2
Mine related light vehicles	35.7
Other light vehicles	38.5
Galahs	56.7
Total	58.4

The total measured contribution from mine related vehicles was well below the daytime criterion of 60dB(A).

Operational Noise Monitoring – 27th March 2007

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 27th March 2007 (Day)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq (15 min)
Wilgai	2:52pm	41.6	2-3 m/s, S	Wind(41), Coal Trucks(31)
Gundawarra	3:11pm	37.9	2-3 m/s, SE	Wind and Birds(37), WCM(Inaudible)
Merton	3:28pm	34	2-3 m/s, S	Wind and Birds(34), WCM(Inaudible)
Bungalow	3:52pm	37.1	2-3 m/s, S	Wind (37), WCM(Inaudible)
Broadwater	4:29pm	29.9	2-3 m/s, S	Wind(29), WCM (Inaudible)

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 27th March 2007 (Evening)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq (15 min)
Wilgai	7:32pm	38.3	1-2 m/s, S	Wind(35), Coal Trucks(34), WCM(30)
Gundawarra	8:54pm	42.3	1-2 m/s, SE	Wind (42), WCM(Inaudible)
Merton	8:15pm	69.4	1-2 m/s, S	Dogs(69), Wind(35), Coal Trucks(30)
Bungalow	8:45pm	39.7	1-2m/s, S	Wind (39), WCM(<25)
Broadwater	9:20pm	32.6	1-2 m/s, S	Wind(32), WCM (<25)

WCM Noise Monitoring Results 27th March 2007 (Night)

Location	Time	dB(A), Leq	dB(A), L1 (1 min)	Wind Speed/ Direction	Identified Source dB(A), Leq (15 min)
Wilgai	10:00pm	34.2	N/A	0-1 m/s, SE	Wind(41), WCM(Inaudible)
Gundawarra	10:14pm	28.9	N/A	0-1 m/s, SE	Wind (28), WCM(<25)
Merton	10:28pm	26.4	N/A	0-1 m/s, SE	Wind(26), WCM(<25)
Bungalow	10:56pm	32.1	N/A	0-1 m/s, SE	Wind (32), WCM(Inaudible)
Broadwater	11:05pm	36.5	39	0-1 m/s, SE	Wind(35), WCM (31)

The results of the above monitoring event indicates WCM did not exceed the noise criterion of 35 dB(A) at any time during the survey.

Additional noise monitoring has been undertaken commencing the week of the 24th September, the results to be presented at the next CCC meeting.

Whitehaven Coal has also revised the Noise Monitoring Program since the last CCC meeting. Two noise monitoring locations of "Bungalow" and "Wilga" have been removed from the noise monitoring program on the basis of these residences being project-related. The revised noise monitoring program was approved by the Department of Planning on the 5th March 2007.

BLAST MONITORING

Since September 2006 there have been 31 blasts. Of these, an exceedance in peak overpressure was recorded on 1 occasion at a non-project related property, as follows:-

Shot 173

14/12/2006 – Gundawarra (118.6 dBL)

Discussions were held with "Gundawarra" following the exceedance. As operations have continued in a westerly direction in the Canyon area, blasting impacts on "Gundawarra" have reduced, with no blast exceedance occurring since this incident.

As a consequence, exceedance occurred on <5% of the total blasts within the 12 month period, thereby complying with the requirements under the development consent.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Deposited Dust monitoring has continued across all sites. Since the last meeting, the monitor D13A “Womboola” has been relocated to D13B “Wilga” as the Pit has extended into the Canyon area. The results of the monitoring since the last meeting are presented below:

MONTH	D1 Whitehaven	D2 Merton House	D5 Wilga	D7 Wilgai	D8 Gundawarra	D10 Merton	D11 Merton	D12 Whitehaven	D13B Wilga	D15 Merton	D16 Merton	Site Average
Nov 06	1.1	2.0	0.8	1.2	2.0	3.2	3.7	1.1	1.1	15.6	8.7	3.6
Dec 06	1.3	3.1	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.2	3.8	1.3	1.5
Jan 07	0.8	2.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.2	2.0	2.4	1.7	1.7
Feb 07	2.0	2.4	3.4	1.1	2.2	4.0	1.1	18.2	NS	3.0	10.5	4.4
Mar 07	0.7	3.6	1.0	3.2	1.4	2.5	1.7	1.1	3.2	2.9	11.1	2.9
Apr 07	0.6	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.3	2.1	1.2	0.8	2.9	7.0	1.1	1.9
May 07	0.6	1.1	1.5	0.9	2.7	3.2	1.2	0.7	NS	3.2	1.6	1.6
June 07	0.4	1.4	0.9	0.5	0.9	1.2	0.6	0.9	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.9
July 07	0.5	1.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.8	0.5	1.9	0.8	0.8	1.0
Average	0.8	2.1	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.2	1.3	2.9	1.9	4.4	4.1	2.1

Generally, the results indicate a reduction in deposited dust levels since the end of the summer period. All sites remain within the consent criteria of 4g/m²/month with the exception of D15 and D16 which returned substantially high readings on a 3 occasions during the sampling period. The results on these occasions generally indicated a level of contamination of the sample with insects and bird droppings which contributed to the unusually high reading. D15 and D16 will be closely monitored over the coming months to ensure the continuation of normal levels.

WATER MONITORING

Since the last meeting there have been two surface water discharge events from the Whitehaven site, with analysis results presented below.

SAMPLE POINT	DATE	pH	EC	TSS	GREASE/OIL
WW11 – Upstream	11/07/07	6.7	170	48	<2
WW9 – Discharge	11/07/07	6.6	125	65	<2
WW8 – Discharge	11/07/07	7.6	1100	72	<2
WW12 - Downstream	11/07/07	7.9	585	49	<2

SAMPLE POINT	DATE	pH	EC	TSS	GREASE/OIL
WW11 - Upstream	20/08/07	7.6	55	280	<2
WW9 – Discharge	20/08/07	7.2	125	21	<2
WW12 – Downstream	20/08/07	7.7	40	69	<2

The discharge results indicate that water quality parameters and sediment loads exiting the mine site are generally in compliance. The TSS results from the 11/7/07 were slightly elevated in relation to the consent criteria of 50, however, the sediment would have dispersed further given the grassed gradient from the discharge point prior to entry to Driggle Draggie Creek.

Groundwater monitoring continues across the range of monitoring locations with no significant change recorded in groundwater chemistry at any of the monitoring locations. Groundwater standing water levels are presented in the following table.

SAMPLE POINT	DATE	SWL
GW-2 Bungalow	7/11/06	19.35
	7/02/07	19.26
	4/05/07	19.26
	15/08/07	19.27
GW-4 Merton	7/11/06	15.92
	7/02/07	20.2
	4/05/07	21.2
	15/08/07	21.2
GW-5 Merton	7/11/06	21.4
	7/02/07	24.2
	4/05/07	24.3
	15/08/07	24.3
GW-7 Womboola	7/11/06	25.8
	7/02/07	25.5
	4/05/07	25.6
	15/08/07	25.7
GW-8 Wilga	7/11/06	22.2
	7/02/07	21.9
	4/05/07	21.8
	15/08/07	22.1
GW-9 Whitehaven	7/11/06	19.7
	7/02/07	19.6
	4/05/07	19.7
	15/08/07	19.7
VNW-221	7/11/06	11.5
	7/02/07	11.6
	4/05/07	12.8
	15/08/07	12.9
VNW-222	7/11/06	12.7
	7/02/07	12.3
	4/05/07	13.2
	15/08/07	13.2
VNW-223	7/11/06	19.2
	7/02/07	18.5
	4/05/07	18.1
	15/08/07	19.5

The above SWL results indicate only minor variability in terms of the water levels in the specified monitoring bores. GW4 and GW5 at Merton have shown the greatest variability however these levels still remain within the range that has been previously recorded at these sites.

REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation across the site continues to progress with an additional 28 hectares reshaped and topsoiled since the prior meeting. This new area was seeded to establish a cover crop however lack of follow up rain resulted in crop failure. The area was to be reseeded in September following favourable forecasts for rain however this has not eventuated. As a consequence, seeding has been delayed until suitable soil moisture is available.

Tree planting campaigns have been undertaken on a number of occasions with both Rotary and Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council. This has occurred on the western side of the older rehab area to provide a vegetation screen, as well as infill plantings across earlier rehab where seedlings have perished. The most recent campaign was undertaken by Red Chief on the slope above the haul road. Weather conditions have not been favourable to tree planting with insufficient follow up rains resulting in significant losses of seedlings. Whitehaven has now purchased a water tank for fitment to a tray back ute and will undertake supplementary watering of seedlings in an effort to reduce losses.

In total, some 1,500 trees have been planted at Whitehaven since the last CCC meeting. The number of plantings will increase substantially over the next 6 months depending on seasonal conditions.