

**Minutes of the Mount Thorley Warkworth  
Community Consultative Committee Meeting Q1 2024**

**Date:** Wednesday 28 February 2024

**Location:** MTW

**Time:** 2pm – 4:00pm

**Attendees**

Colin Gellatly (CG - Chair)  
Joshua van Bezouwen (JVB)  
Robert Carter (RC)  
Cris Shadbolt (CS)  
John Najor (JN)  
Barb Brown (BB)  
Denis Maizey (DM)  
Stewart Mitchell (SM)  
Ian Hedley (IH)  
Neville Hodgkinson (NH)

**Role**

Independent Chairperson MTW CCC  
MTW Environment & Community Advisor  
MTW Environment & Community Advisor  
MTW Acting General Manager  
MTW Mining Manager  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Community Representative

**1. WELCOME**

- CG opened the meeting and welcomed CCC members.

**2. APOLOGIES**

- Gary Mulhearn (MTW Environment & Community Manager)
- David Bennett (MTW General Manager)
- Hollee Jenkins (Singleton Council Representative)

**3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- **Standing Declarations:** CG is engaged by MTW to provide the services of Independent Chairperson.
- CG reminded the CCC on the requirement for members to declare pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests, with details shown on presentation screen, and asked members at the meeting if they have anything to declare. None were declared.
- CG provided the declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest and code of conduct forms per the updated CCC guideline that had been distributed. The declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest form and code of conduct form was provided to the CCC members that had not completed.

**Action 1: CCC members that are yet to complete the updated code of conduct and declarations of interest forms to complete and provide these to Chairperson as required by DPE CCC guidelines.**

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING

##### Action Items arising from the 22 November 2023 Meeting

Refer to **attached** CCC presentation for previous actions, and relevant response / update made by MTW. Other notes of relevance discussed during the meeting in relation to Business Arising are below.

- JVB explained MTW have not identified an independent minute taker and will carry forward the action and will complete prior to the next meeting. BB asked CG about the progress of the independent minute taker, CG confirmed he had spoken to GM earlier in the week and he is finding it hard to find a suitable person though he has committed to having someone for the next meeting. SM raised that it has been over 12 months since this action was raised, JVB confirmed this will be completed prior to the next meeting.
- IH asked if the noise could be affected by the equipment location being onto of the ridge, JVB advised that could be a factor influencing noise and it is up to the site to manage the noise as the mine progresses.
- DM advised he raised the question regarding the blast monitor calibration as over the years they can get a variation due to being a few kilometers away. There has been a huge variation in reading on some blast. JVB advised that the site relies on the monitors being calibrated and maintained to the standard to record data accurately. RC advised that one of the main checks in the geophone being mounted solid to the ground to measure accurately.
- DM explained that he thought there was a lack of vegetation along Putty Road and thought the haul truck park up is too close to the road. DM explained he has previously raised this with GM who explained the parkup is with the approval conditions. DM explained he thinks there needs to be a higher bund to block out the mine. BB advised that they would rather not see it. RC advised around the parkup area the vegetation was left as a visual screen and is approved to be cleared if required. RC advised that a visual bund is scheduled to be constructed this year. IH advised his concerns was that dust is generated off the current earth bund near Putty Road. JN advised there has be stabilisation works on site for similar locations and they will be able to look at those options to do something at the location IH had raised. RC advised the bund that IH had raised was not intended to be a visual bund but a safety bund for the pit crest.
- DM raised concerns for the community response officer calling using no caller identification, he explained that he does not understand what the issue with calling using a number as MTW previously did prior to Yancoal ownership, DM advised he has raised this previously and MTW would not change the call back process.
- DM raised question about the blasting hotline being changed to a road closure hotline. JVB advised that MTW operates 3 systems to notify of blasting and road closures including a website update each day notifying if there is a blast and if any roads will be affected, SMS notification of road closure and a hotline people can call to get information. JVB advised he would need to check the information that is available on the hotline. CS advised other mines sites that he has worked at has had blast notification services but was not familiar with MTW's development consent and requirement and was happy to take an action to check current systems and other notification options.

- SM asked if there had been a change to the road closure process as he had not received a message notifying of a road closure recently. JVB advised the message notification service is currently operating and not every blast requires a road closure due to factors such as location, wind speed and wind direction. JN asked SM if he had been receiving any messages. SM believed that it had stopped in the last few months and raised question why the road needs to be closed. RC advised will catchup with SM to follow up on his question.

**Action 2: MTW to progress identification of an independent minute taker prior to the next meeting.**

**Action 3: Improve nature of recently constructed pit top bund running parallel to Putty Road so that it does not produce wind blown dust.**

**Action 4: MTW to provide an overview of the current systems for blast notification.**

**Action 5: MTW to follow up with SM regarding road closure messages.**

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE

- 19/12/2023 - MTW CCC Q4 2023 - Draft minutes
  - 20/12/2023 - MTW Independent Environmental Audit Report 2023
  - 12/01/2024 - MTW CCC Q4 2023 – Final Minutes endorsed by Chair
  - 15/01/2024 - MTW December 2023 Community Update Newsletter
  - 2/02/2024 – Q1 2024 CCC Reschedule date confirmed
  - 14/02/2024 - MTW CCC Q1 2024 - Weds 28 February 2024 2pm – Agenda
  - 20/11/2024 – MTW 2022 Annual Review report
  - 16/02/2024 - MTW CCC Q1 2024 - Weds 28 February 2024 2pm - Business Papers
  - 22/02/2024 - CCC Action: MTW to provide final landform to CCC
  - 22/02/2024 - MTW Rehabilitation Management Plan - Consultation
- DM and SM raised question regarding consultation to being completed. CG advised that the email regarding the Rehabilitation Management Plan has been distributed to the CCC group for comment.
  - BB raised concerns for CCC with poor internet and not being able to download documents. JVB advised if there is an issue accessing documents, they can print a hard copy out for them. RC suggested to BB a read receipt or similar for emails could be useful.

## 6. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

- Confirmed at the meeting by CG.

## 7. PROPONENT REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

### MTW Operations

*Refer to presentation*

- JN provided business update regarding operations and production.
- IH asked about a dragline bucket sitting in South Pit and if the dragline is going to be moved to operate in that area. JN advised he knows of the dragline he is referring to on the ramp along Putty Road. There is no intention to relocate and operate a dragline in that area, that area gets used as a laydown to store equipment.
- IH asked how big are the additional water carts coming to site. JN advised they will be Cat 777 and there are also some larger 789 coming to site to replace existing water carts. The site will have a total of 9 water carts once the additional arrive on site. JN also advised a new water fill point has been commissioned in the center of the pit to improve efficiency.
- SM asked if MTO is finished coal extraction why is dumping continuing as he has seen the trucks going to the top and continuing dumping, is this allowed under the consent and will it continue. JN advised that the dumping is approved per the development consent and dumping is being completed to the final landform. CS explained that the dumping is happening as they speak and is important that dumping occurs as timely as possible to fill in the void to the final landform.
- SM asked about the dumping at South Pit that he thinks is continuing to get higher. RC explained that all dumping on site is in accordance with the final landform and development consent.
- DM asked if MTW could provide the change in dump height approval from the current to the previous. JVB advised that we can come back to him on his question.
- IH explained that he thought it was common practice for dumps to be over filled to account for settling. CS advised that over dumping does not occur as the dumps do not settle particularly at the higher levels that are highly compacted. The cost to the business is too great to risk over dumping and having to come back and excavate material, dumps are normally constructed below the approved level to allow for variance.
- SM explained that the dump height under the current approval is higher than the previous approval. RC explained this has been explained over the years and the site operates in accordance with the approval

***Action 6: MTW to provide the change in dump heights with the current consent and the previous approval.***

### North Out Of Pit Dam (NOOP)

*Refer to presentation*

- An aerial photograph of the current progress was shown. JN advised main mining due for completion in quarter two of 2024.

### Modification – WML Workshop Modification Update

*Refer to presentation*

- JVB provided update of workshop and advised construction was completed a few weeks prior to the meeting and the workshop is now in use.

## **Exploration**

*Refer to presentation*

- JVB provided an update on exploration for 2024.

## **Monitoring**

*Refer to presentation for data – YTD 2024*

- JVB presented equipment downtime / Community Response Officer (CRO) noise assessments and operational downtime for nights above noise limits, with noise reduced below noise limits within 75 minutes on each occasion.

## **Rehabilitation / Disturbance 2024**

*Refer to presentation*

- JVB advised that 94.4Ha of rehabilitation is planned for 2024, and outlined where the areas are targeted in 2024.
- JVB present a series of photos showing the progression of rehab on site, noting rehabilitation was right up to the edge of active dumps.
- JVB advised aerial seeding was completed on exposed dump slopes in December 2023.

## **Vertebrate Pest Management**

*Refer to presentation*

- JVB advised control programs completed so far in 2023 at MTW and in the biodiversity areas and the upcoming works for 2024.
- BB asked what is done with the animals for the trapping programs. JVB advised that a contractor is engaged to complete the works and if they can they will reuse the animals for things like dog food, if 1080 bait is used the animals are required to be buried and are not able to be reused.

## **Weed Management**

*Refer to presentation*

- JVB provided overview of weed management activities within operational and offset areas.

## **Cultural Heritage & Historic Heritage**

*Refer to presentation*

- RC provided an overview of works completed in Q4 of 2023 and the progress on the annual heritage inspections and the Cultural Heritage Working Group meeting.
- DM asked when they would see actions taken, in the time he has been part of the CCC there has been almost no action taken. DM explained that he would like see something done. RC advised that his comment is fair, and SM would agree after raising the same concerns at the annual heritage inspection late last year. RC advised they were not able to achieve what they set out to do last year.
- SM asked how many Community Heritage Advisory Group (CHAG) meetings would be held during the year. RC advised that as discussed during the meeting, two meetings will be held during the year though each year may not require two meetings and it will be up to Gary Mulhearn to decide. RC advised that if there are any concerns or questions people do not need to wait for the meeting to discuss issues.

- NH stated that the issues have been raised for a number of years, over 7 years. NH advised he is a member of the CHAG as well of a number of other people and they have been waiting for something to happen.
- SM asked if the CHAG is separate from the annual inspections. RC advised yes they are separate and the annual inspections are a compliance requirements.
- CS asked RC what the next steps. RC advised there are 3 key heritage buildings that require action on the Heritage Management Plan and the first step would be stabilisation and re-establishing access to the locations. CG asked what the next step that needs to be taken. NH advised the annual reports need to be reviewed, they are completed each year and no action has been taken. CG asked CS to take an action to progress action on the heritage buildings.
- SM requested an action to have two heritage meetings a year. RC advised we cannot make the commitment for two meetings a year and GM has provided guidance on the meetings. RC explained that he thought what SM is after is to see action taken on the heritage buildings. CG advised he would like to see action at the next meeting and thought two meetings a year is not unreasonable for an advisory committee. CS agreed with CG on the meeting frequency but would not commit on behalf GM who is absent form the meeting.

***Action 7: MTW to provide schedule of works to be completed to preserve the three key heritage buildings.***

#### **Business Papers**

- Business papers were provided to CCC members prior to the meeting, including a summary of; Complaints, Incidents, Environmental Monitoring, Rehabilitation, Website Uploads and Community Investment Update. MTW Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report (MEMR) for September 2023, October 2023, and November 2023 were provided. December to be provided at a later date.

#### **Management Plans / Reporting**

- **Air Quality Management Plan**
  - Update to the Air Quality Management Plan was submitted to DPE 18/01/2024.
- **Rehabilitation Management Plan**
  - On 8 December 2023, the Resources Regulator approved the Final Landform and Rehabilitation Plan (FLRP), and Rehabilitation Objectives Statement (ROBJ) - submitted to the Resources Regulator originally in 2022, and progressed in consultation with the Resources Regulator 2022-2023.
  - The Resources Regulator requested the approved FLRP and ROBJ documents be included in the Rehabilitation Management Plan, and this has been completed and updated 29 January 2024.
  - The updated MTW RMP is being circulated for consultation to stakeholder groups identified by MTW's development consents (CCC, DPE, DPE-Water, BCD, and Singleton Council). CCC comment period ends on 22/03/2024.
- **Warkworth Mining EPL1376 Annual Return**
  - On 25/01/2024, the WML Annual Return was submitted to EPA.

## 8. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

### Dust Management (Ian Hedley)

IH provided a presentation to the CCC regarding dust management.

- IH advised he understood that GM was unable to attend the meeting, though the slides were about a conversation he has had with GM regarding the dust and wanted to present photos of what he has seen.
- IH advised the first slide is an old photo that he thought showed MTW is doing better since that time and he recognises the effort that DB has put in since the last meeting and he has kept in touch with DB.
- IH presented a photo of an air quality monitor that he has installed in Mount Thorley at his business, IH advised he has installed this unit for two reasons, the first to collect data regarding air quality for worker safety and the second is dust to get an understanding of the dust in that area. IH explained the unit captures a range of different parameters and is recording twenty four hours a day and they have got a trend in the data. IH present data for a particular day showing the trend in air quality for the day and explained that the levels dropped when the wind changed.
- IH presented a video of a loading unit and trucks on site and explained what he could see regarding dust and the wind direct. IH presented photos from different locations around the site showing what he had observed and an air quality alarm he had received that he believed coincided with his observations.
- IH explained that he does not agree operating to the consent limits and the site could do better. IH explained that he believes there are particular people who are managing the dust are either not trained or do not care. IH explained that he thinks it is avoidable and there will be days that are hot and windy that are challenging, the site needs to manage the dust using controls such as water carts.
- CG asked IH to confirm if dust management has improved. IH explained that yes there has been an improvement and there are points in time that can still be improved. IH explained that he sees value in people calling up if they see something and people need to be respected, IH explained will only call up if it is really bad. IH explained that he thinks there need to be further improvement with the culture or training and acknowledge the improvement and advised that has been noticed by people in the community.
- JN explained that the site is continuing to better equip the operation. Continuing initiatives such as additional water carts, high-flow fuelling to keeps water carts on the road, sprinklers on site at strategic locations such as coal stockpiles. JN thanked IH for the presenting and bring forward his concerns today though believes there is a solid pipeline of projects to improvement dust management.
- CS explained that the pipeline of work is more then just control measure it is building cadence into the mines systems having regular meetings, talking about and implementing actions. CS explained the importance of dust management projects was passed onto him from DB.
- NH asked IH how he sees himself as part of reporting what he sees to the mine. IH advised he is a business owner in the industrial estate and someone that is driving past. NH explained that he thinks the issue is the mine is operating per the consent limits though occasionally makes dust and IH sees it. NH asked if the regulators are doing the same thing. JVB advised yes the EPA has attended site several times last year completing onsite and offsite inspection. NH thought there is a difference between compliance and the end user. NH explained the believes there is a difference between air quality and dust.
- DM explained about his understanding of air quality after attending the bust the dust information session and if the air quality is bad he has been advised they should stay indoors. DM explained that the site has a lot more number of trucks compare to when he worked in the industry and thought there is concern for emissions from trucks particularly for workers. CS advised that the site completes personnel monitoring of air quality and all people on site are monitored.
- NH advised he is part of the Singleton Shire Health Environment Group and explained the matter of the requirements of the community is more then the compliance required and thought there needs to be steps taken to possibly educate the community. CG advised that the presentation from IH shows that the dust can be managed and controlled.

### **Telstra Mobile Reception (Barb Brown)**

IH provided a presentation to the CCC regarding Telstra Mobile Reception.

- IH provided an update on the campaign that his family has been working on seeking improvement in mobile phone coverage for the Bulga and Milbrodable area.
- IH advised that his daughter Kristy prepared a letter to Telstra with a series of questions. IH provided an overview of the response that was received from Telstra who will be installing new mobile phone communications on the existing NBN tower that is located in Bulga. IH advised that this will provide limited mobile coverage and is not what the community have asked for with significant black spots. IH confirmed that Yancoal has made the offer for Telstra to install mobile comms on MTW's communication tower located on Charlton Ridge that would have been a better option to provide mobile coverage to the community. IH explained that Telstra were not interested in that option and the improvement will be very limited. IH explained the challenges that people are having with limited to no mobile reception.
- JN asked if there was a reason that Telstra did not want to install equipment on the MTW tower. IH advised that Telstra are not interested as they do not deal with individual companies.

## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **General Business MTW – MTW Amenity Resource**

- Amenity works recognising air quality contribution by MTW
  - Invitation to participate remains open
- 2023 works included:
  - 50 tanks cleaned
  - 9 new filtered water taps installed
  - Spare & replacement filters supplied
- Focus during 2024 remains on tank cleaning and filtered drinking water taps
  - 4 tanks cleaned YTD
- Works across 17 residences & 2 community buildings
- Program expected to revert to a staggered 2 year cycle in future years

### **General Business MTW – MTW Voluntary Planning Agreement Funding**

- After January 2024 payment, MTW has contributed \$8.5M (of \$11M total). Singleton Council website includes significant volume of information (application process, application closing dates (March and September each year), VPA committee minutes.

<https://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/Council/Community-Funding-Programs/VPA-Community-Committees>

### **General Business MTW - Community Support Program (CSP)**

*Refer to presentation*

- RC advised the list of 2024 projects are in the presentation, with 19 projects being supported.

## **General Business - CCC Members**

- DM asked biodiversity area out near Merriwa are having success with numbers of the Swift Parrot and Regent Honey Eater population. JVB advised he is not familiar with the numbers and would need to follow up. CG asked if an action can be taken to follow up on DM question.
- DM presented a plan from the environmental impact statement, DM explained that the plan had three boundaries and he had a concern about the boundaries indicated and has not previously been given an answer. RC advised he was not familiar with the particular plan and would be able to figure out where it is from. RC explained that he is able to explain where consent allows mining to occur. DM explained that he is not getting an answer from anyone if things were to change how far mining can go. RC advised there is an exclusion around Bulga for no open cut mining. DM asked if things could change allowing mining. RC again advised that there is an exclusion zone around Bulga and the mine is not looking to change that and beyond that there is a Aboriginal Conservation agreement with the government and open cut mining is excluded in accordance with the conservation agreement. DM asked again what the boundary on the plan indicated. CG asked for a follow up action to catch up with Denis regarding his question.
- BB explained that she has something that may help with reporting community concerns and there are serious issues for the community regarding health issues. BB advised there are members of the community that are sick and thought it is related to the change in air quality. BB thought it was time that there was discussion around cumulative health impacts due to dust. BB thought the chair could help make a difference.
- BB requested time at the next meeting to discuss the cumulative social and health impacts in the community.
- BB explained that she would like to know about the results from the stakeholder perception research study. CG advised he is following up.
- NH advised he attends the meeting to catch up with things that have been going on, and explained that he thought the issues about dust is the same from 2008 with people being sick and thought that things may have become relaxed after COVID. NH explained that he looks at the monitoring network regularly and gets the air quality alerts for PM10 and PM2.5. NH explained that he is trying to understand the health and air quality in the community, NH passed around a dust sample that he explained was from the Illawarra area that is made of coal dust from the coal loader and the steel works from the blast furnace depending on the wind direction. NH explained that the dust travels when the wind picks up. IH explained that he has observed the hot air balloons taking off from Bulga and there is different wind directions at different heights and the monitoring is only done at the one level. CG asked NH what he was trying to explain. NH explained that he is pointing out the difference between air quality and dust, the government and the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue are looking at the air quality levels with the PM10 and PM2.5 levels coming down.
- SM asked Josh when the 2023 Annual Review will be completed and available. JVB explained that the site is still working through completing the Annual Review and are required to submit to the department later that month, once the department has reviewed and approved he will be able to provide a copy. SM questioned if that couple be a couple months. JVB advised yes that is correct.
- IH explained driving over Bulga Bridge the view is blocked by the wattle trees on Yancoal land. RC advised the work is in the work schedule to be completed. JVB advised that a review of the area has been completed and work is to be scheduled.

***Action 8: Provide an overview of the population numbers of Swift Parrot and Regent Honey Eater at the Regional Offsets.***

***Action 9: MTW to follow up with Denis regarding the boundary line on the plan he presented.***

***Action 10: MTW to clear Acacias on Yancoal land approaching Bulga Bridge.***

## 10.NEXT MEETING

Next CCC Meeting: Wednesday 22 May 2024, 2pm

CG thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

**MEETING CLOSED 4:00pm.**

### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

***Action 1: CCC members that are yet to complete the updated code of conduct and declarations of interest forms to complete and provide these to Chairperson as required by DPE CCC guidelines.***

***Action 2: MTW to progress identification of an independent minute taker prior to the next meeting.***

***Action 3: Improve nature of recently constructed pit top bund running parallel to Putty Road so that it does not produce wind blown dust.***

***Action 4: MTW to provide an overview of the current systems for blast notification.***

***Action 5: MTW to follow up with SM regarding road closure messages.***

***Action 6: MTW to provide the change in dump heights with the current consent and the previous approval.***

***Action 7: MTW to provide schedule of works to be completed to preserve the three key heritage buildings.***

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# Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW)

Community Consultative  
Committee (CCC)

Wednesday 28 February 2024

Time:

2pm – 4pm

Location:

MTW Boardroom

Independent Chairperson:

Col Gellatly

Minutes:

MTW

Reaching new horizons together



# Agenda

1. Welcome (Col)
2. Apologies (Col)
3. Declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest / Conflict of Interest Forms / Code of Conduct Forms (Col)
4. Business Arising (Col)
5. Correspondence (Col)
6. Confirmation of the previous meeting's minutes (Col)
7. Proponent reports and overview of activities
  - Progress of the project, environmental monitoring and performance, community complaints
8. Other agenda items
  - Dust Management (Ian Hedley)
  - Telstra (Barb Brown)
9. General business
10. Next meeting

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# Apologies

## Apologies

- David Bennett
- Gary Mulhearn

# Agenda

1. Welcome (Col)
2. Apologies (Col)
3. Declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest / Conflict of Interest Forms / Code of Conduct Forms (Col)
4. Business Arising (Col)
5. Correspondence (Col)
6. Confirmation of the previous meeting's minutes (Col)
7. Proponent reports and overview of activities
  - Progress of the project, environmental monitoring and performance, community complaints
8. Other agenda items
  - MTW CCC Terms of Reference
  - Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Update
  - Dust Management (Ian Hedley)
9. General business
10. Next meeting

# 3. Declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest

**All members must declare interests. *Still awaiting updated declaration forms from CCC members.***

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## 4.11 Declaration of interests

All committee members must sign a declaration of interest form (see toolkit of supporting material) before they join the committee and keep this up to date. Committee members will have an opportunity to declare any new interests, or interests relevant to the agenda, at the start of each committee meeting.

The declarations include any pecuniary or other interest that may affect committee operations.

Examples of pecuniary or other interests include:

- holding a private contract with the proponent
- holding voluntary acquisition or mitigation rights under the proponent's approval or consent
- receiving sitting fees or payments for personal expenses from the proponent
- if the member represents a stakeholder group, the stakeholder group receiving funding or a grant from the proponent.

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## 4.12 Conflicts of interest

A chairperson should advise the department as soon as possible of any potential or actual conflict of interest that may affect their ability to fulfil their role on the committee.

Committee members should notify the chairperson as soon as possible of any change of interest that may affect their ability to fulfil their role on the committee.

The chairperson may decide that an interest is significant enough conflict that a member should withdraw from discussion on a particular issue.

# 3. Code of Conduct

**Code of Conduct Form - All members must sign CoC form. *Still awaiting updated declaration forms from CCC members.***

Department of Planning and Environment



## Community Consultative Committee code of conduct for committee members (excluding chairperson)

### Application of the code

This code of conduct (the code) applies to all committee members of community consultative committees and should be read in conjunction with the *Community consultative committee Guideline: State Significant Projects 2023*.

### Standards of conduct

All committee members must demonstrate appropriate standards of behaviour to support efficient operations of the committee. This code outlines the standards of conduct expected of committee members. It is the personal responsibility of each member to comply with this code.

We have developed this code to ensure members:

- have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities
- act consistently within the scope and purpose of the committee
- communicate and act in a respectful manner towards all members
- act honestly when carrying out their functions as a committee member
- disclose any interest (pecuniary, non-pecuniary or otherwise) that could conflict with the proper performance of their functions.

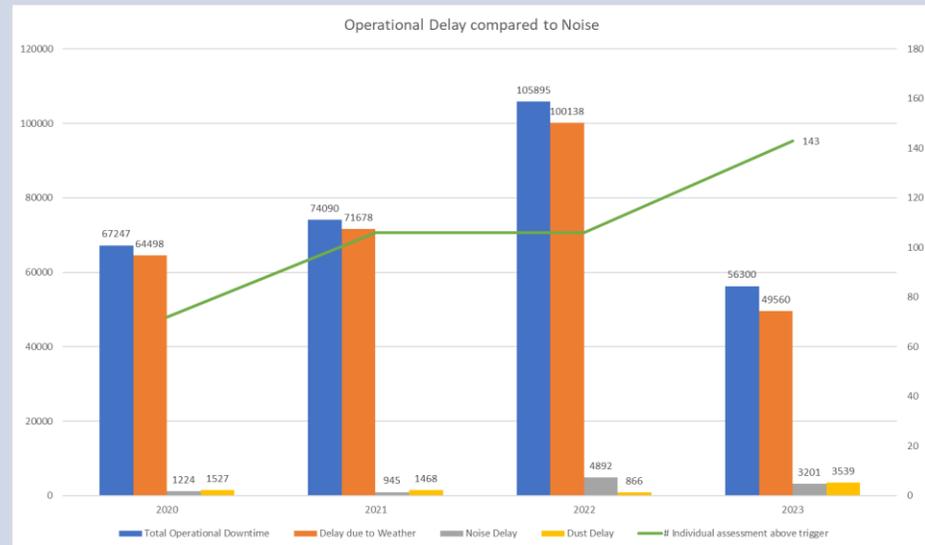
**7** *Source: Community consultative committee guideline, State significant projects (DPE, June 2023)*

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# 4. Business Arising

Action No.	Action	Response/ Update
1	MTW to progress identification of an independent minute taker.	Not completed – carry forward. Will be completed prior to next meeting.
2	MTW to provide final landform to CCC.	Completed. Email sent to CCC 22/2/2024.
3	MTW to investigate trend of increase in noise assessments above trigger level.	Completed. Noise assessments above trigger level compared against all operation delays (weather, noise and dust) over previous years. 2023 had considerably less operational delay with higher equipment availability that is thought to be related to increase in noise assessments nights above trigger level (6 additional nights compared to 2022).



# 4. Business Arising

Action No.	Action	Response/ Update
4	MTW to check blast monitors and calibration of blast monitors in the Bulga area.	<p>Completed. Units are currently calibrated, and are in good condition. Maintenance program for blast monitors include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual calibration of geophone (next due April 2024).</li><li>- Biennial multi point calibration of microphone (next due April 2025).</li><li>- 6 monthly single point calibration of microphone (next due April 2024).</li><li>- Quarterly physical check of condition of monitoring equipment including the mounting of geophone (next due April 2024)</li></ul> <p>An additional physical check of blast monitor condition for Bulga blast monitors (Wambo Road, Bulga Village) were conducted since last meeting by MTW staff, which confirmed monitors are in acceptable condition.</p>
5	MTW to investigate trees along Putty Road in the West Pit crib hut area.	<p>Investigation of trees in the Putty Road/West Pit Crib Hut has been completed. 3 x larger dead trees identified in the area, possibly died since 2015. Cause is not conclusive (e.g. surface drainage changes, rust coloured spore noted on bark in the area, changed weather conditions). Note: Trees are within an area which may be disturbed for mining and are a useful vegetative screen.</p>

# 4. Business Arising

Action No.	Action	Response/ Update
6	MTW to contact Bulga Coal regarding dust management.	Completed. Meeting held 7 February 2024 regarding dust management. Bulga Coal utilise the same methods as MTW in relation to dust management, and consider the controls are well implemented. Bulga Coal advised they do not operate dragline in their fleet. Methods for induction / training for new starters were also discussed.
7	CCC members to provide a signed copy of the code of conduct and updated declarations of interest forms by end of 2023 as required by DPE CCC guidelines.	Still awaiting signed forms from CCC members. Not complete – carried forward.
8	MTW consider text message to near neighbours for all blasts.	Completed. Current SMS system developed by MTW is by subscription and is for Road Closure process only. Current methods described in the Blast Management Plan meet notification requirements. In addition, a December 2023 newsletter to neighbours provided information on availability of how to get blast information and road closure information. No need to modify existing notification methods.

# Agenda

1. Welcome (Col)
2. Apologies (Col)
3. Declaration of pecuniary interests / conflicts of interest / Conflict of Interest Forms / Code of Conduct Forms (Col)
4. Business Arising (Col)
5. **Correspondence (Col)**
6. Confirmation of the previous meeting's minutes (Col)
7. Proponent reports and overview of activities
  - Progress of the project, environmental monitoring and performance, community complaints
8. Other agenda items
9. General business
10. Next meeting

# 5. Correspondence

- 19/12/2023 - MTW CCC Q4 2023 - Draft minutes
- 20/12/2023 - MTW Independent Environmental Audit Report 2023
- 12/01/2024 - MTW CCC Q4 2023 – Final Minutes endorsed by Chair
- 15/01/2024 - MTW December 2023 Community Update Newsletter
- 2/02/2024 – Q1 2024 CCC Reschedule date confirmed
- 14/02/2024 - MTW CCC Q1 2024 - Weds 28 February 2024 2pm – Agenda
- 20/11/2024 – MTW 2022 Annual Review report
- 16/02/2024 - MTW CCC Q1 2024 - Weds 28 February 2024 2pm - Business Papers
- 22/02/2024 - CCC Action: MTW to provide final landform to CCC
- 22/02/2024 - MTW Rehabilitation Management Plan - Consultation

# Agenda

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# MTW Operations

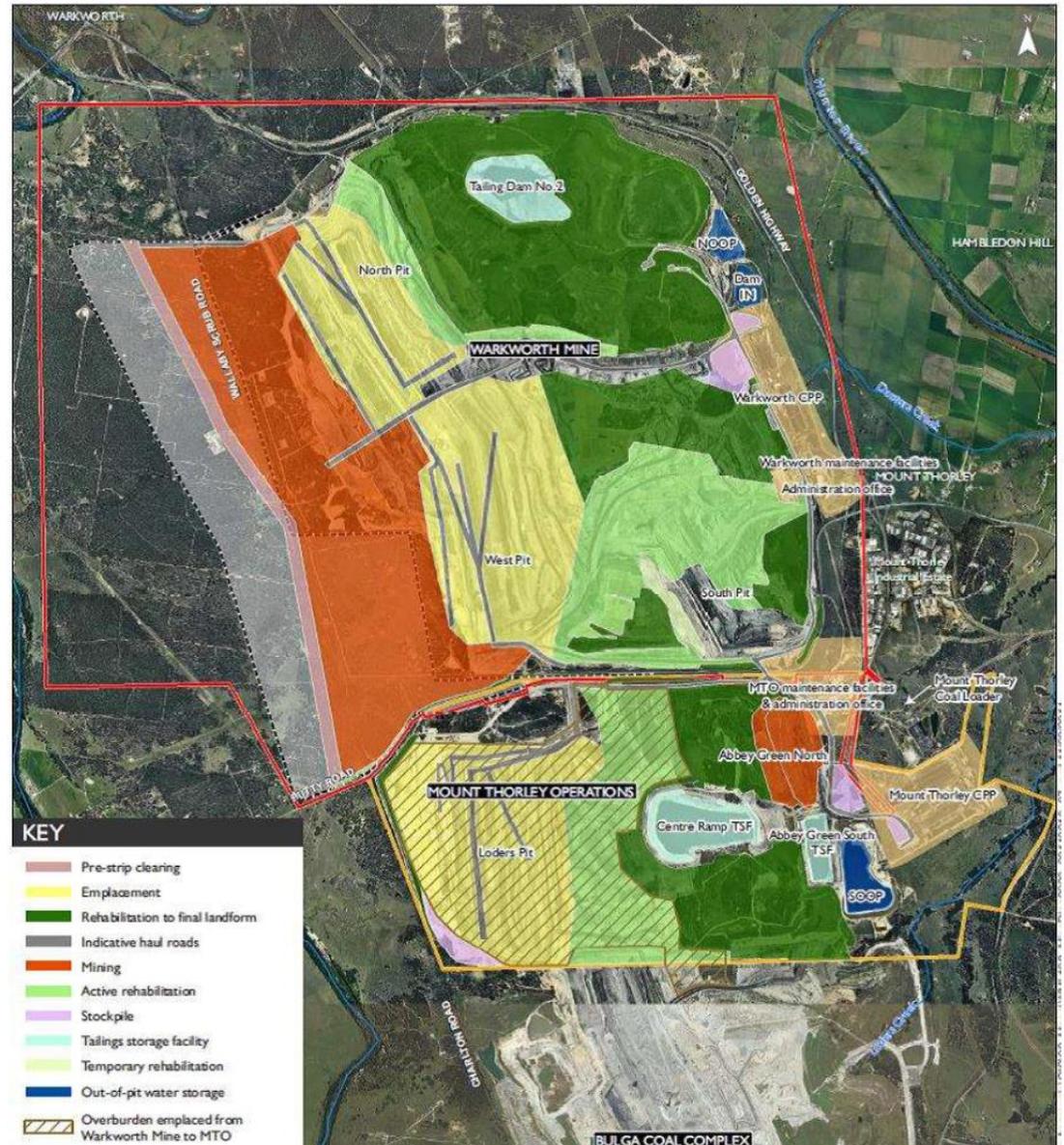
- 2024 mine plan similar to last year from an extraction perspective.
- Current focus is on overburden production, current coal stocks in pit are low.
- MTO – Load and haul waste will continue to be dumped in pit from WML.
- WML – Normal Load and Haul operations have continued, albeit impacted by increased rainfall throughout February.
- WML – DL103 working lower passes North pit, machine currently parked for a period. DL101 working lower passes of West pit.
- Currently running the same fleet as back end of last year, with the exception of two additional water carts due to arrive shortly.
- Coal processing and train loading - normal operations.



# MTW Operations – NOOP Dam

NOOP is an approved dam in Warkworth Continuation Project development consent SSD-6464 and will provide improved water security / balance position at MTW.

- North Out of Pit (NOOP) Dam main mining excavation due for completion early Q2 2024.

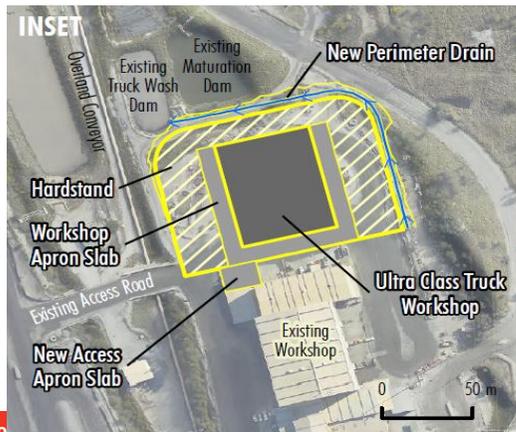


# MTW Operations – NOOP Dam

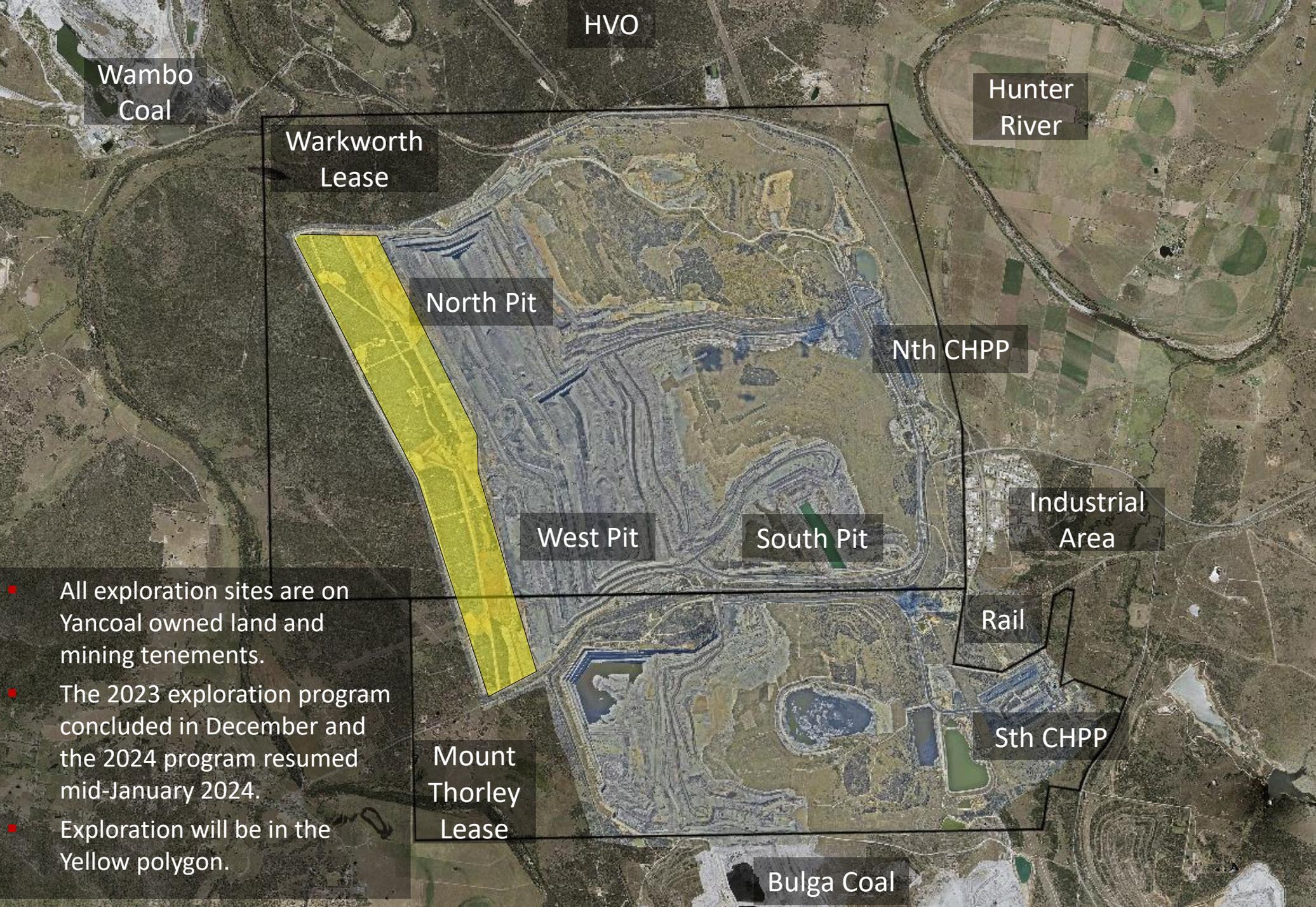
Construction progress 13 February 2024:



# WML Ultra Class Workshop – Complete



- Mechanical – Electrical works completed including fit outs.
- Occupation Certificate received.
- Completion & handover to site 15 February 2024.
- Project completed on time and to budget.



HVO

Wambo  
Coal

Hunter  
River

Warkworth  
Lease

North Pit

Nth CHPP

West Pit

South Pit

Industrial  
Area

Rail

Sth CHPP

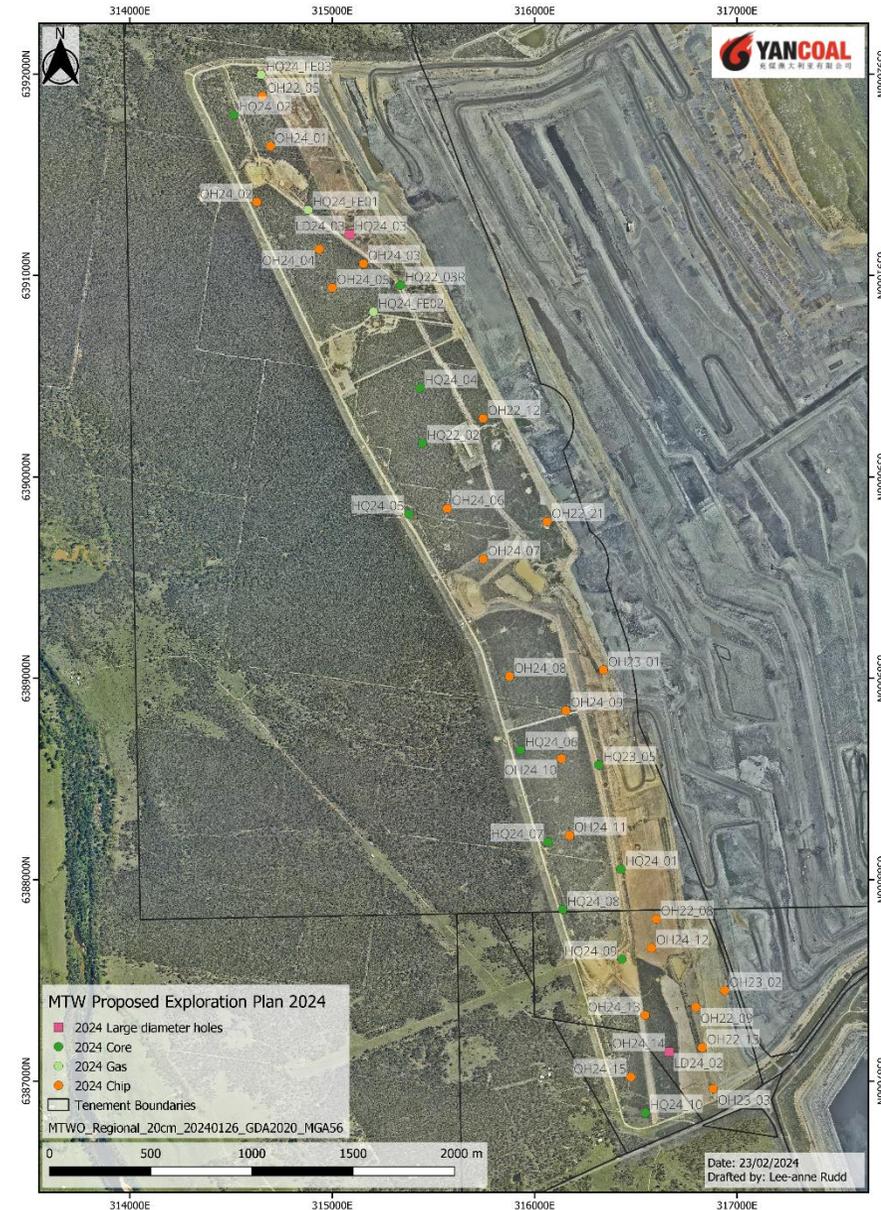
Mount  
Thorley  
Lease

Bulga Coal

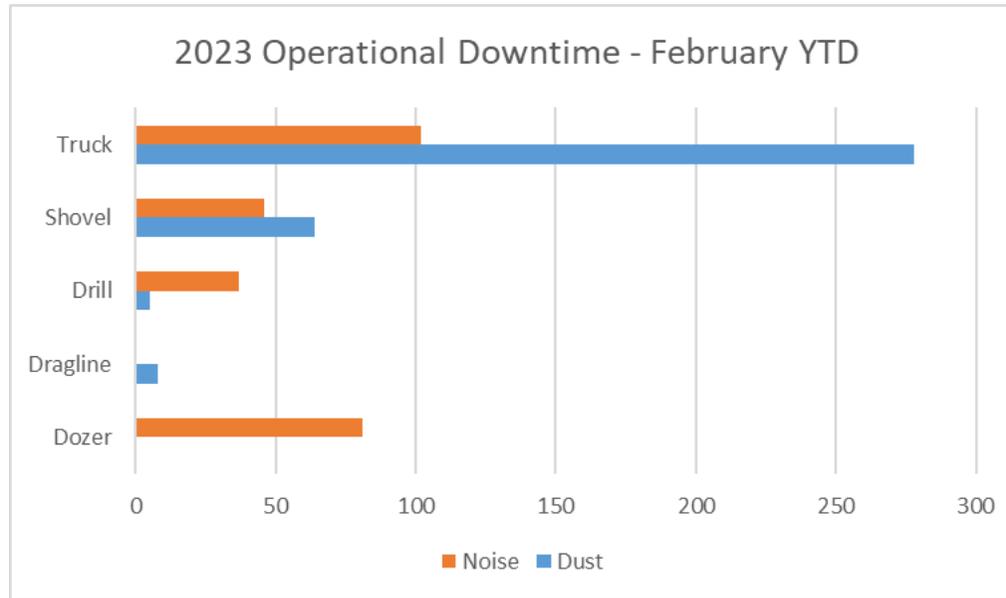
- All exploration sites are on Yancoal owned land and mining tenements.
- The 2023 exploration program concluded in December and the 2024 program resumed mid-January 2024.
- Exploration will be in the Yellow polygon.

# Exploration

- All exploration sites are on Yancoal owned land and mining tenements.
- The 2024 exploration program will consist of:
  - Up to 2 x Large diameter cored holes
  - Up to 16 x HQ cored holes (3 for gas testing)
  - Up to 28 x open holes
  - Includes holes rolled over from the 2023 plan
- As of 23/02/2024, 3 open holes have been drilled
- There will be two drill rigs and associated staff and equipment to facilitate this exploration program.
- The program is schedule to conclude in November 2024.



# MTW Operations



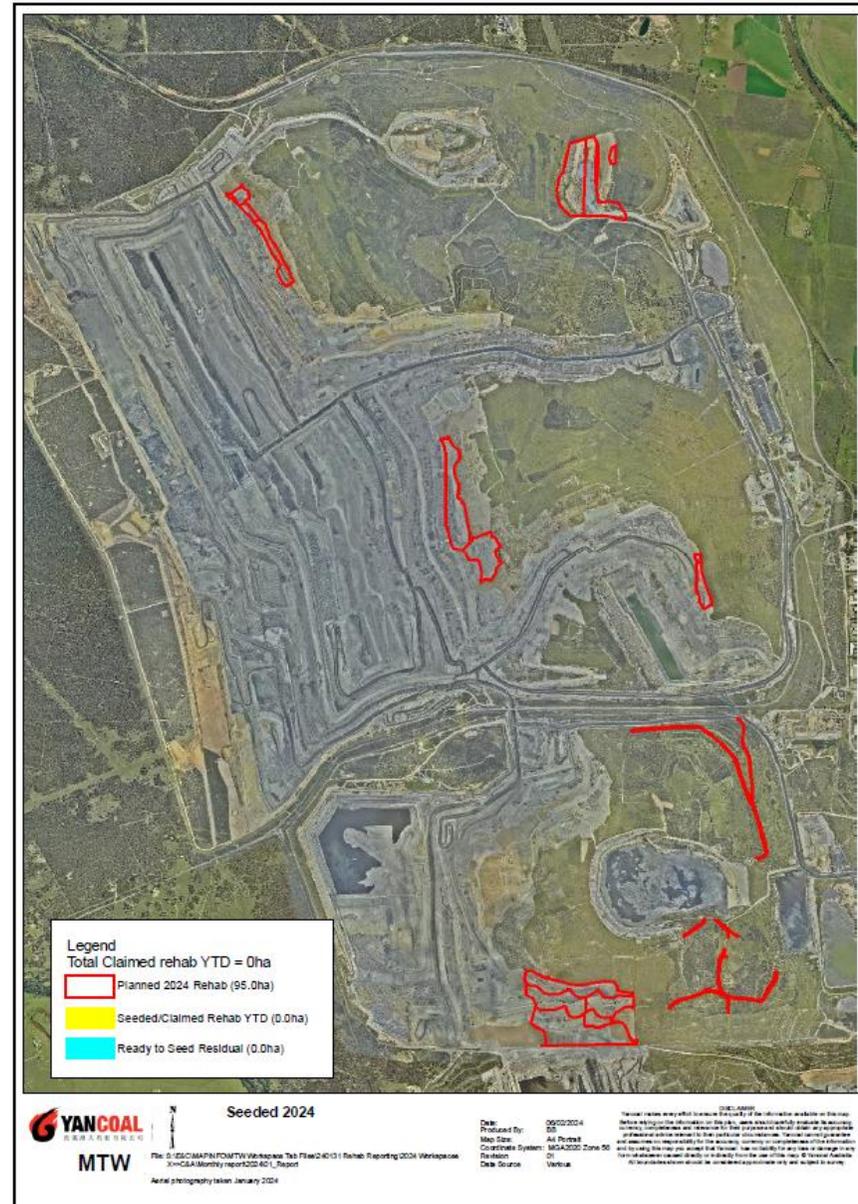
MTW CRO Noise Monitoring YTD			
	# CRO Assessments	# Individual assessment above trigger	# Nights above with assessment above trigger
2024 (YTD)	1087	17	11
2023	7293	143	66
2022	7226	106	59
2021	7043	106	46

# MTW Operations – Rehabilitation/ Disturbance

Rehabilitation reforecast for 2024 – 94.4Ha seeded (shown in red).

Progress to end January 2024:

- 38.9ha of dump released for rehab; and 16.7ha of this area had been progressed to be bulk shaped.
- Topsoil / compost has been spread on 3.2ha
- No seeding completed YTD.



# MTW Operations – Rehabilitation/ Disturbance

24/02/2024 – MTO South Boundary - Seeded in 2023



# MTW Operations – Rehabilitation/ Disturbance

21/02/2024 – MTO Centre Ramp Rehabilitation – Seeded 2023



# MTW Operations – Rehabilitation/ Disturbance

Disturbance forecast for  
2024 – 68.4Ha

Progress to end of January  
2024:

- Disturbed = 18.9 ha



# Aerial Seeding

- Aerial Seeding completed in December 2023 over approximately 71 Hectares of exposed dump slopes.

23/01/2024 – WML Fly Over Haul Road – Aerial Seeding was completed here 19/12/2023



# MTW Vertebrate Pest Management

## 2023 programs undertaken:

- Feral pig ground shoot at Goulburn River Biodiversity Area
- Wild dog soft jaw trapping program at MTW's Southern (SBA) and North Rothbury (NRBA) Biodiversity Areas
- Feral deer ground shot at Bowditch Biodiversity Area
- Aerial shoots (NPWS) at the Goulburn River and Seven Oaks Biodiversity Areas
- 1080 ground baiting programmes targeting wild dogs and foxes at MTW and all Biodiversity Areas
- Noisy Miner program at the Goulburn River and Bowditch Biodiversity Areas
- MTW and local offset pig trapping program

## The following 2024 programs have been scheduled:

- 1080 ground baiting programmes targeting wild dogs and foxes at MTW and all Biodiversity Areas in autumn and spring
- Noisy Miner program at the Goulburn River and Bowditch Biodiversity Areas
- Ground shoot at the Biodiversity Areas (Seven Oaks, Goulburn River, Putty, Bowditch)
- Feral pig baiting at the Goulburn River Biodiversity Area
- Additional programs as required

The 2024 vertebrate pest programs will be coordinated with LLS and other large landholders in the area so programs are undertaken at the same time across the broader Hunter Valley area.

## 2023 Results

Vertebrate Pest Controlled	Total
Wild dogs and foxes	482
Feral pigs	74
Deer	20
Cats	1
Noisy miners	283



Cage trap with Hogeye Camera used on site once pig activity was observed

# MTW and Local BA Weed Management

## Weeds targeted in MTW operational and local Biodiversity Areas in Q4 2023 included:

- Golden Wreath Wattle (*Acacia Saligna*)
- African Olive (*Olea europaea*)
- African Box Thorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*)
- Golden Wreath Wattle (*Acacia saligna*)
- Telegraph Weed (*Heterotheca sp*)
- Blue heliotrope (*Heliotropium amplexicaule*)
- Groundsel Bush (*Baccharis halimifolia*)
- Prickly Pear (*Optunia sp.*)
- African Lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*)
- Coolatai Grass (*Hyparrhenia hirta*)
- Patterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*)
- Green Cestrum (*Cestrum parqui*)
- St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Galenia (*Galenia pubescens*)
- Mother of Millions (*Bryophyllum delagonese*)
- Vipers Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*)
- Evening Primrose (*Oenothera stricta*)
- Mexican Poppy (*Argemone mexicana*)
- Stinking Roger (*Tagetes minuta*)
- Sheep Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*)
- Bidens (*Bidens Pilosa*)
- Inkweed (*Phytolacca octandra*)
- Twiggy Mullein (*Verbascum virgatum*)
- Red Natal Grass (*Melinis repens*)
- Blue and Scarlet Pimpernell (*Anagallis arvensis sp.*)



Spraying of Galenia on Charlton Ridge



Spraying of St John's Wort in LCCA, South CHPP

# Local BA Weed Management Cont.



Low volume spraying around plantings at NBA, targeting various exotic weeds



Low volume spraying pear at NBA



Low volume spraying African Lovegrass at SBA5



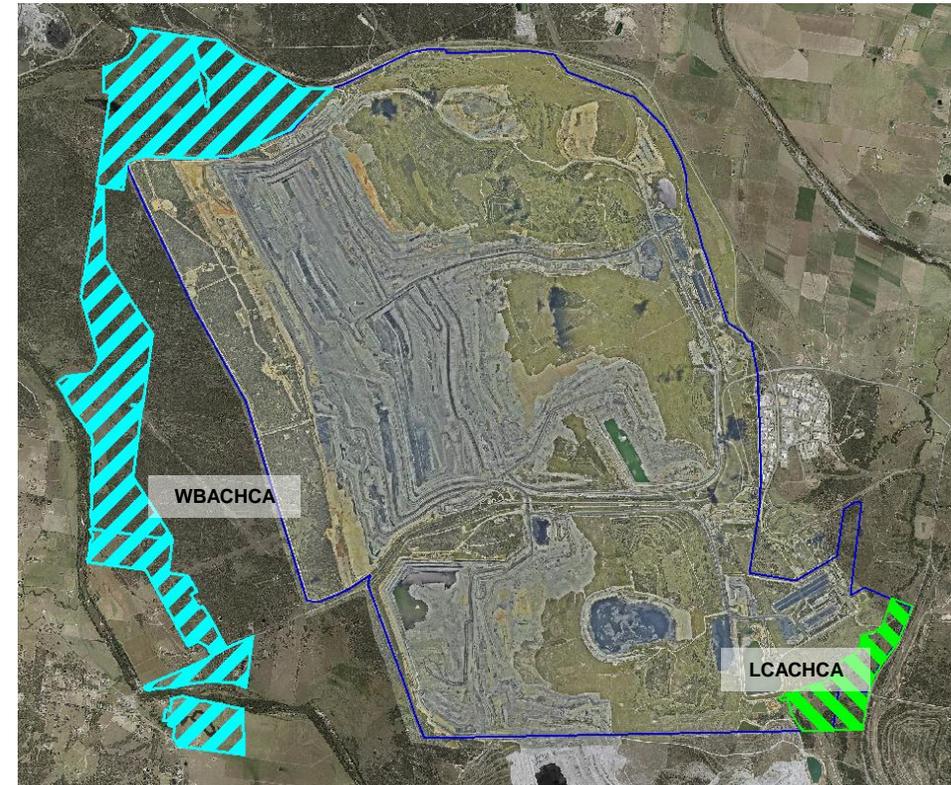
Low volume spraying Green cestrum in SBA5



Low volume spraying targeting Telegraph weed

# Heritage Update

- Cultural Heritage Working Group (CHWG) meeting undertaken on 29/11/23
  - Discussed process for Plan of Management Implementation Group establishment
  - Reviewed Management Plan updates
- Annual Inspections completed December 2023 for AHMP and HHMP
  - Reports will be circulated to CHWG and CHAG group members when finalised and appended to Annual Review
- Meetings of Cultural Heritage Working Group (CHWG) and Community Heritage Advisory Group (CHAG) to be scheduled for 2024



MTW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation Areas

# MTW Operations - Business Papers

- Business papers provided to CCC prior to meeting
- Includes summary of:
  - Complaints, Incidents, Environmental Monitoring, Rehabilitation, Website Uploads, Community Investment Update
- Appendix A, B, C - MEMR for September 2023, October 2023, November 2023
- Appendix D – December 2023 MEMR to be provided at a later date.

# Management Plans / Reporting

## Air Quality Management Plan

- update to the Air Quality Management Plan was submitted to DPE 18/01/2024.

## Rehabilitation Management Plan

- On 8 December 2023, the Resources Regulator approved the Final Landform and Rehabilitation Plan (FLRP), and Rehabilitation Objectives Statement (ROBJ) - submitted to the Resources Regulator originally in 2022, and progressed in consultation with the Resources Regulator 2022-2023.
- The Resources Regulator requested the approved FLRP and ROBJ documents be included in the Rehabilitation Management Plan, and this has been completed and updated 29 January 2024.
- The updated MTW RMP is being circulated for consultation to stakeholder groups identified by MTW's development consents (CCC, DPE, DPE-Water, BCD, and Singleton Council). *CCC comment period ends on 22/03/2024.*

## Warkworth Mining EPL1376 Annual Return

- On 25/01/2024, the WML Annual Return was submitted to EPA.

# Agenda

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  - Dust Management (Ian Hedley)
  - Telstra (Barb Brown)
9. General business
10. Next meeting

# Other Agenda Items

- Ian Hedley – Dust Management
- Barb Brown – Discussion Telstra

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# General Business - Community update

- In December 2023, newsletter update provided to landholders - operations update, NOOP update, Amenity Program offer, CCC information, VPA information, Blasting information, Complaints line, and contact information for MTW and website.
- In Jan 2024, letter provided to community offering first aid training onsite at MTW.
- **MTW Amenity Resource** – Amenity works recognizing air quality contribution by MTW (Tank Cleaning / water filters)
  - Invitation to participate is ongoing (as noted in Dec newsletter)
  - 2023 Amenity Resource works included:
    - 50 tanks cleaned
    - 9 filtered water taps installed
    - Spare & replacement filters supplied
  - Focus during 2024 remains on tank cleaning and filtered drinking water taps
    - 4 tanks cleaned YTD
- **Voluntary Planning Agreement** – After January 2024 payment, MTW has contributed \$8.5M (of \$11M total). Singleton Council website includes significant volume of information (application process, application closing dates (March and September each year), VPA committee minutes.

<https://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/Council/Community-Funding-Programs/VPA-Community-Committees>

# General Business - Community update

## Community Support Program

The Community Support Program has continued. The 2024 round of applications were advertised in Aug-Sep 2023 and closed 29 Sep 2023. There were 22 applications received, and one additional after closing date. The following organisations are being supported in 2024 through the CSP.

Organisation	Project	Sponsorship Amount 2024
Branxton Golf Club	Zero turn mower	\$ 6,000.00
Business Singleton	Business Awards and International Womens Day Luncheon	\$ 10,000.00
Jerrys Plains School of Arts Hall Inc	Stage Curtains	\$ 4,515.00
Miller Park Bowling Club	Acquiring, Replenishing and Rebuilding equipment	\$ 4,326.00
Northern Agriculture Association Inc	Singleton Show and Campdraft 2024	\$ 5,000.00
Ridin 4 Mates - MHF	Ridin 4 Mates - MHF	\$ 2,000.00
Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter	Singleton Art Prize 2024	\$ 10,000.00
Samaritans Foundation - Diocese of Newcastle	Christmas Lunch in Singleton 2024	\$ 4,000.00
Singleton Council	Christmas on John Street 2024 - Fireworks	\$ 7,270.00
Singleton Council	Singleton Public Library-School Holidays 2024	\$ 3,675.00
Singleton Fire Brigade Social Club	Santa's Lolly Run 2024	\$ 500.00
Singleton Golf Club - Ladies Sub Committee	Ladies Golf Open Day 2024	\$ 500.00
Singleton Heights Pre-School Inc	Safe Surfacing around our Sandpit	\$ 7,000.00
Singleton Junior Rugby Club	Training equipment update	\$ 6,250.50
Singleton Rugby Club	First aid kit and equipment for game day trailer	\$ 943.35
Towns With Heart Inc	Kurri Kurri Nostalgia Festival 2024	\$ 5,000.00
NSW Rural Fire Service - Hunter Valley Support Brigade	Bulk Water Tanker Rebuild	\$ 10,000.00
University of Newcastle	Science & Engineering Challenge (Year 2 of 3 year agreement)	\$ 12,494.00
University of Newcastle	SMART Science School Tour (Year 2 of 3 year agreement)	\$ 19,249.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 118,722.00</b>



# General Business

**General Business – other?**

# Agenda

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# Future Dates

## **Next Meeting Date**

**Date:** Wednesday - 22 May 2024

**Time:** 2:00PM - 4:00PM

**Location:** Boardroom, North Warkworth Building



# Mount Thorley Warkworth Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

BUSINESS PAPERS February 2024

## Contents page

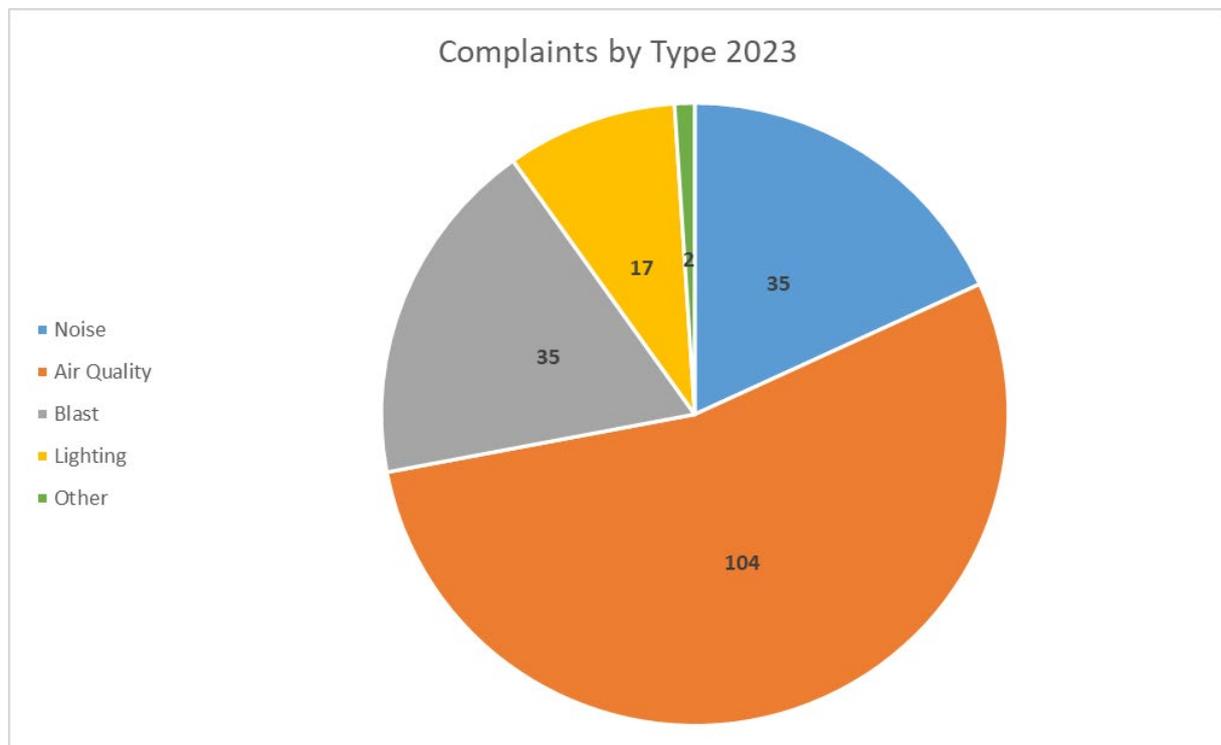
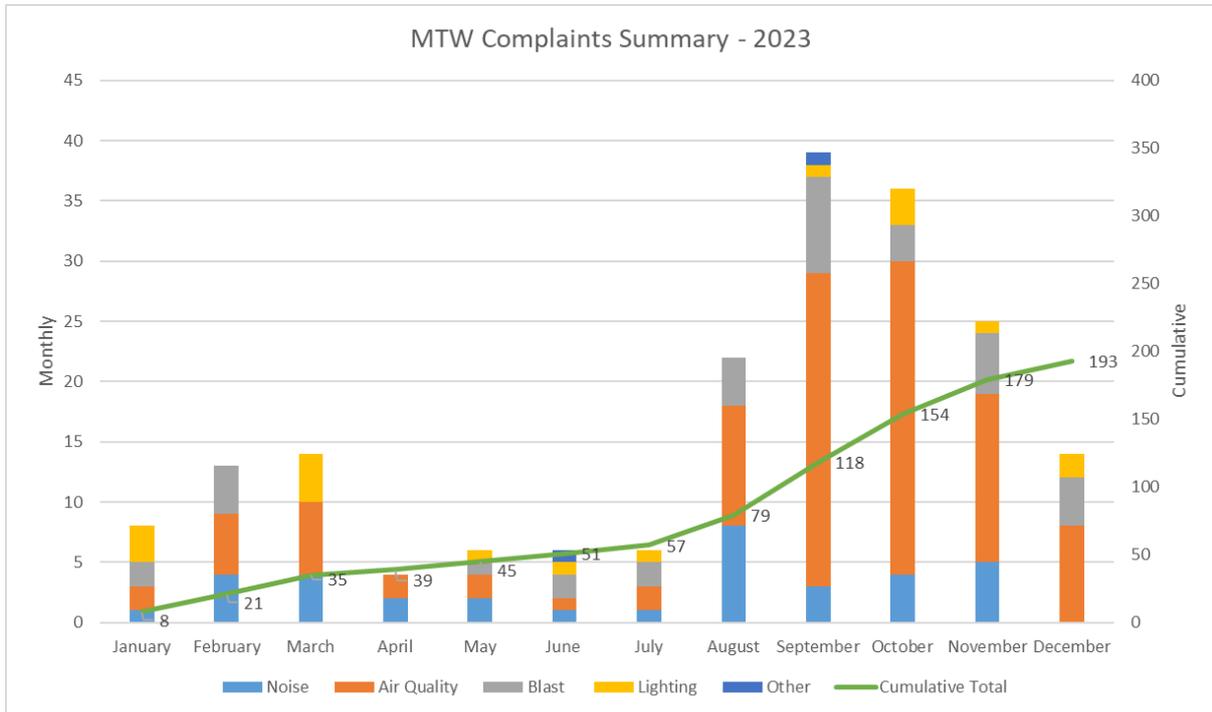
1	Complaints.....	3
2	Incidents .....	5
3	Environmental Monitoring.....	6
4	Rehabilitation Plan .....	7
5	Yancoal Community Support Program.....	15

### Appendices

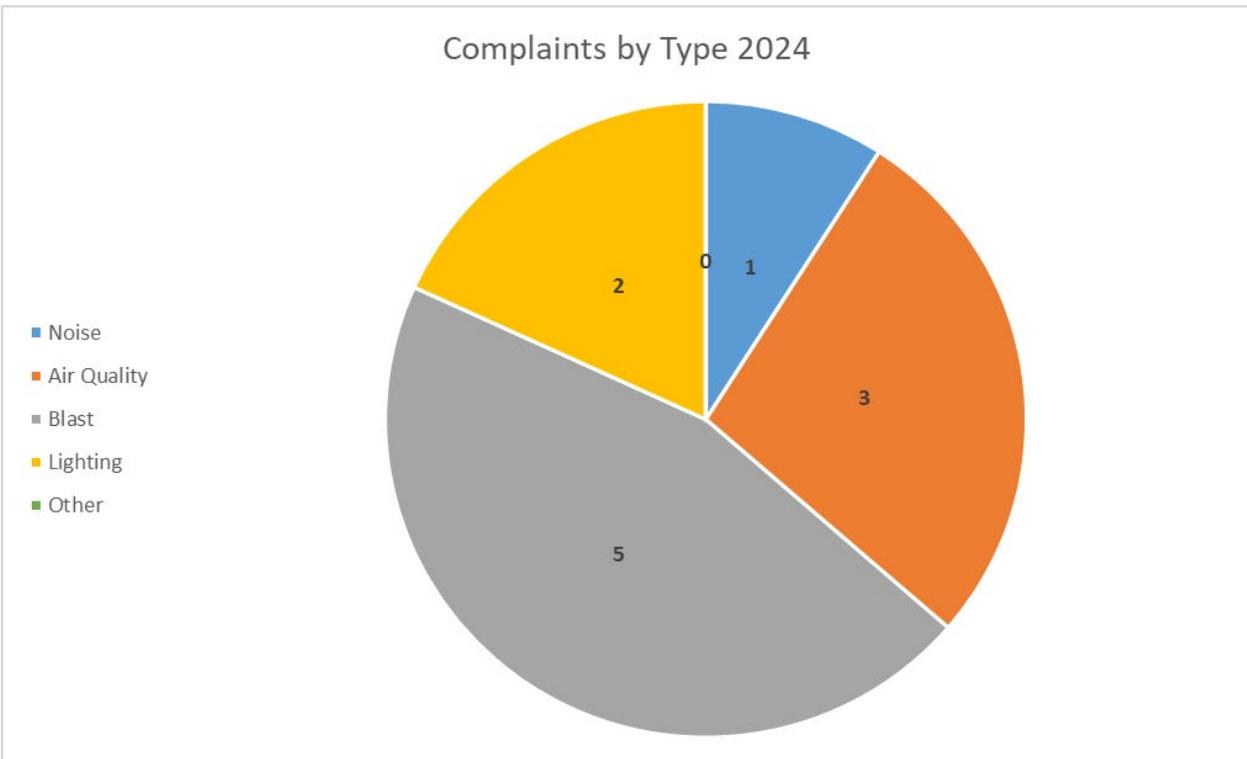
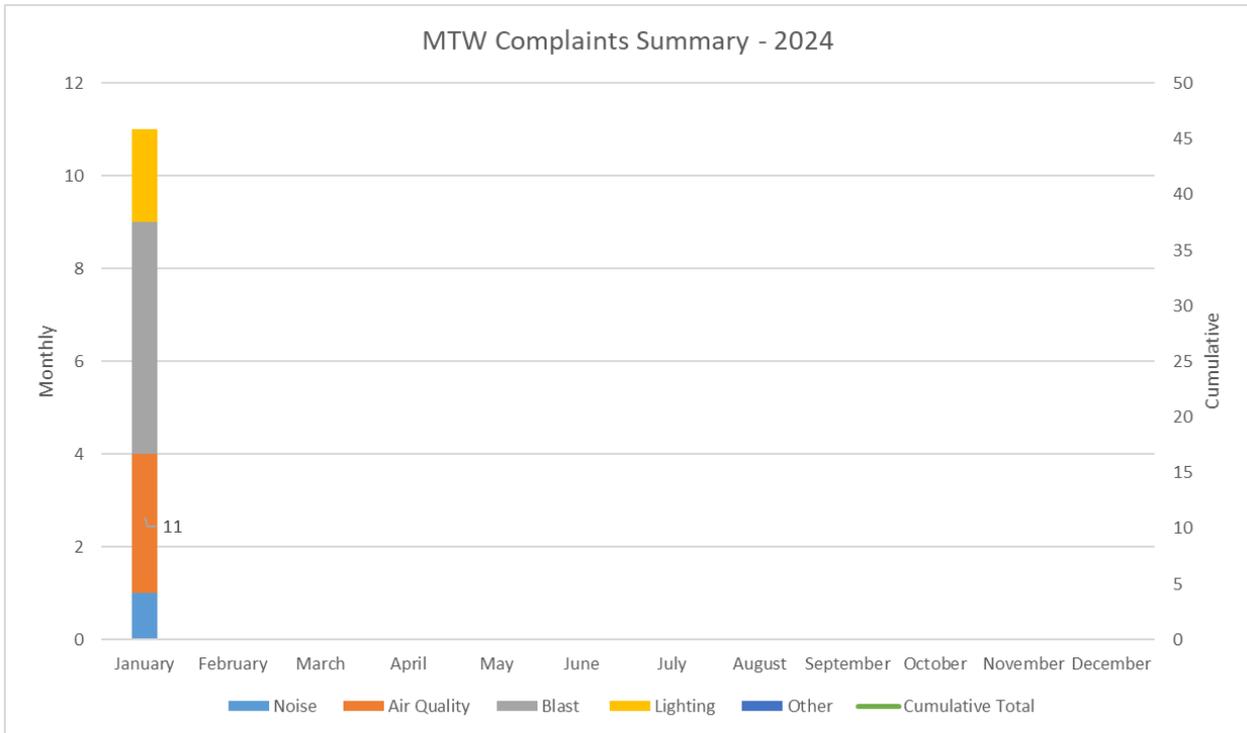
- Appendix A – Environmental Monitoring Report September 2023 (included as not provided subsequent to November 2023 CCC Meeting)
- Appendix B – Environmental Monitoring Report October 2023
- Appendix C – Environmental Monitoring Report November 2023
- Appendix D – Environmental Monitoring Report December 2023 (to be provided at a later date)

# 1 COMPLAINTS

## Complaints overview for period – 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023



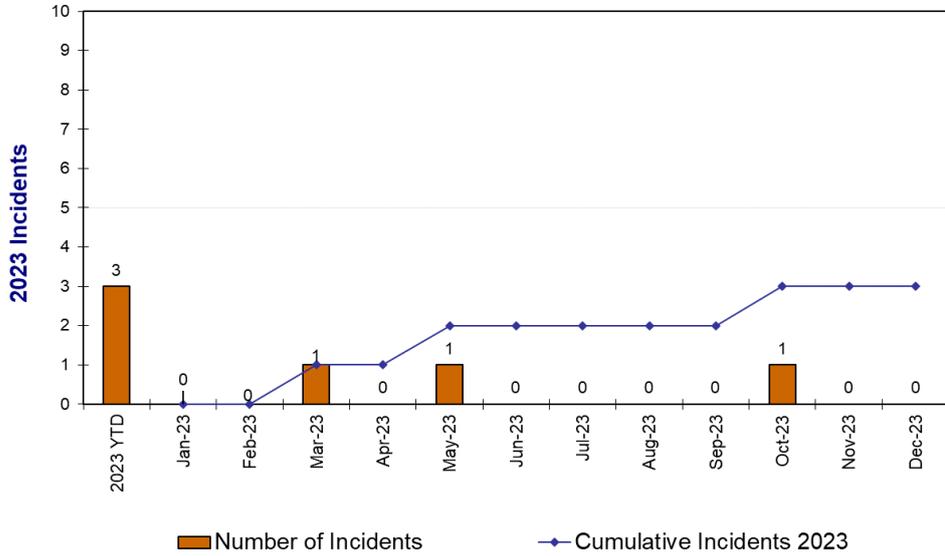
**Complaints overview for period – 1 January 2024 to 31 February 2024**



## 2 INCIDENTS

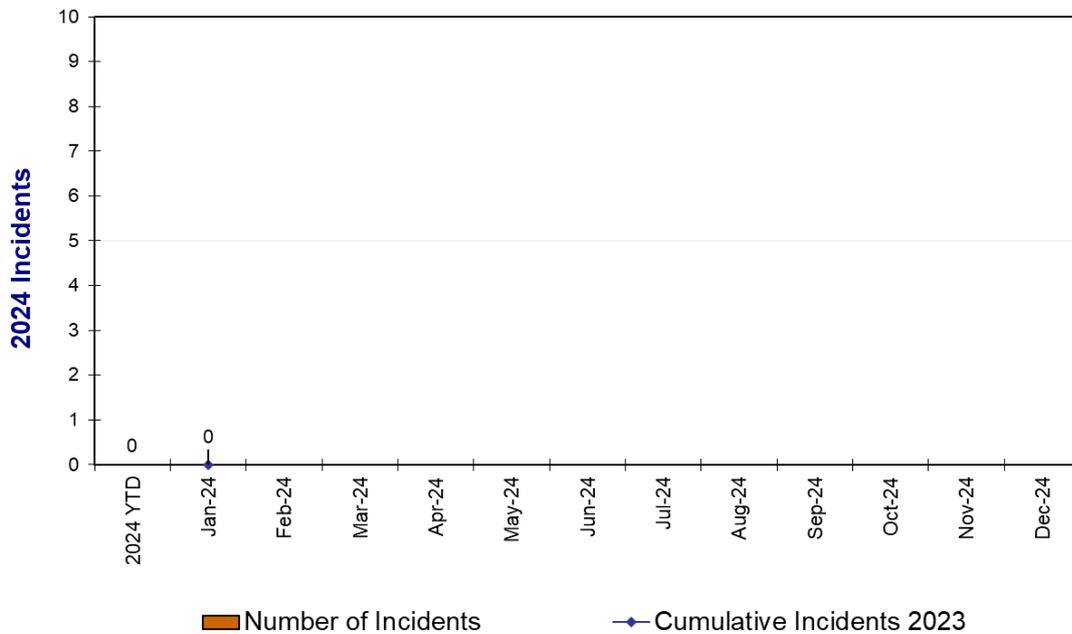
Environmental incidents overview for period – 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

### MTW Environmental Incidents 2023



Environmental incidents overview for period – 1 January 2024 to 31 February 2024

### MTW Environmental Incidents 2024



### Incident Summary for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
16/10/23	Community complaints register not updated within required timeframe on MTW website	Public version of complaints register updated to include details of all complaints to end of September 2023, and this was uploaded to website on 18 October 2023	Reporting

---

### Incident Summary for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 January 2024

Date	Details	Key Actions	Aspect
	Nil Incidents		

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## 3 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

### Monthly summaries of environmental monitoring:

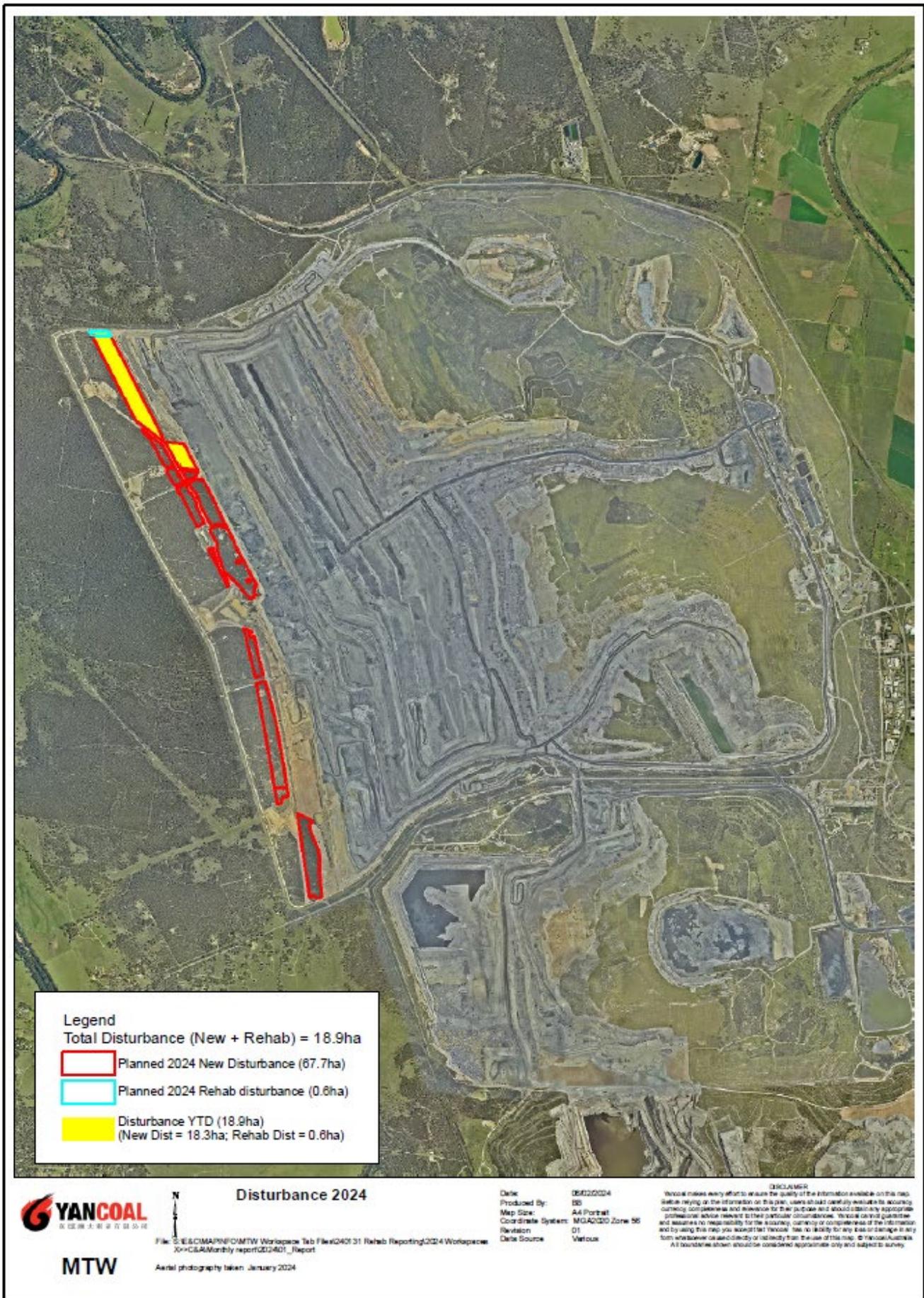
- **September 2023** - Attached as **Appendix A** (included as not provided subsequent to November 2023 CCC Meeting)
- **October 2023** - Attached as **Appendix B**
- **November 2023** - Attached as **Appendix C**
- **December 2023** – **Appendix D** (to be provided at a later date)

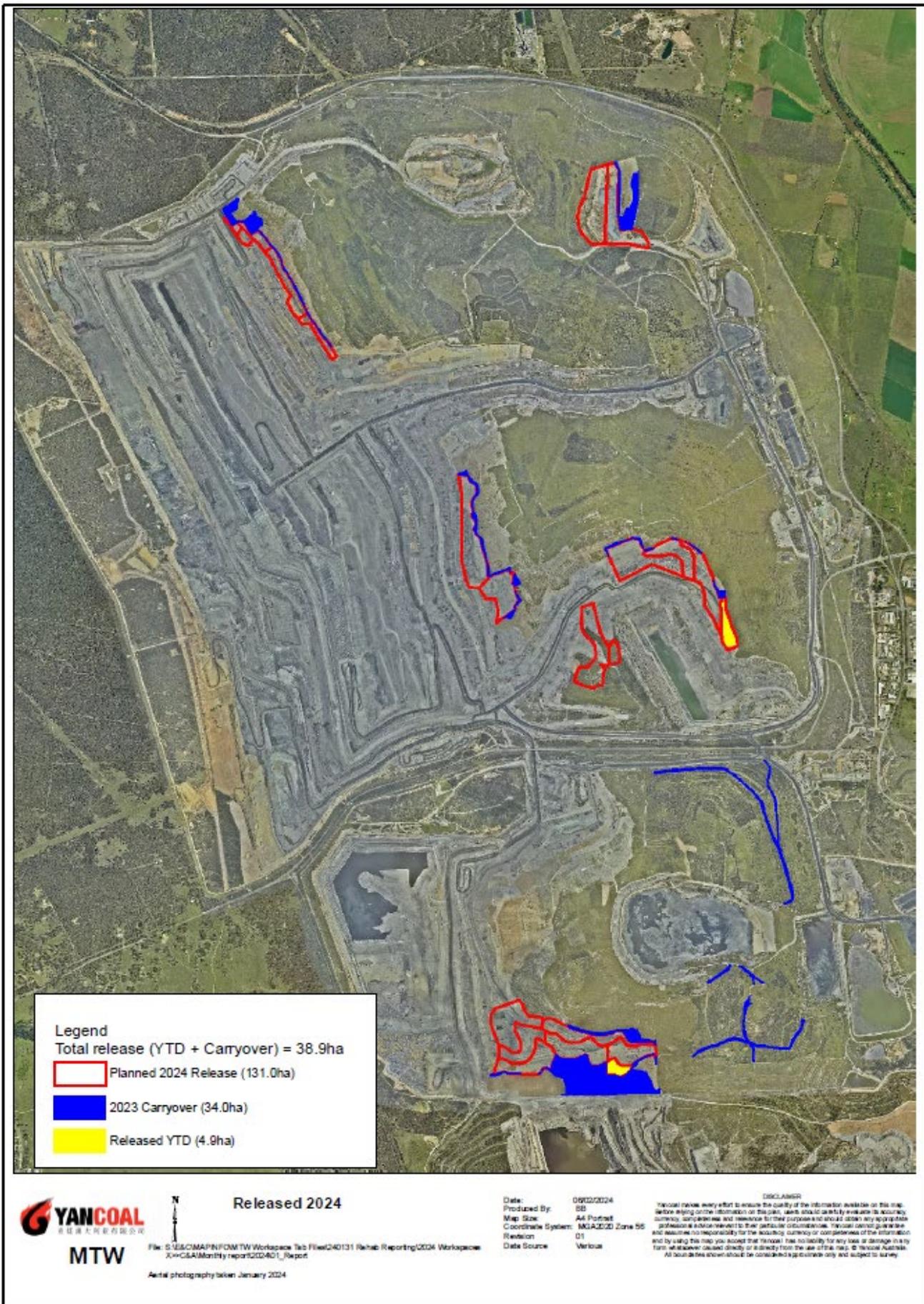
#### **4 REHABILITATION PLAN**

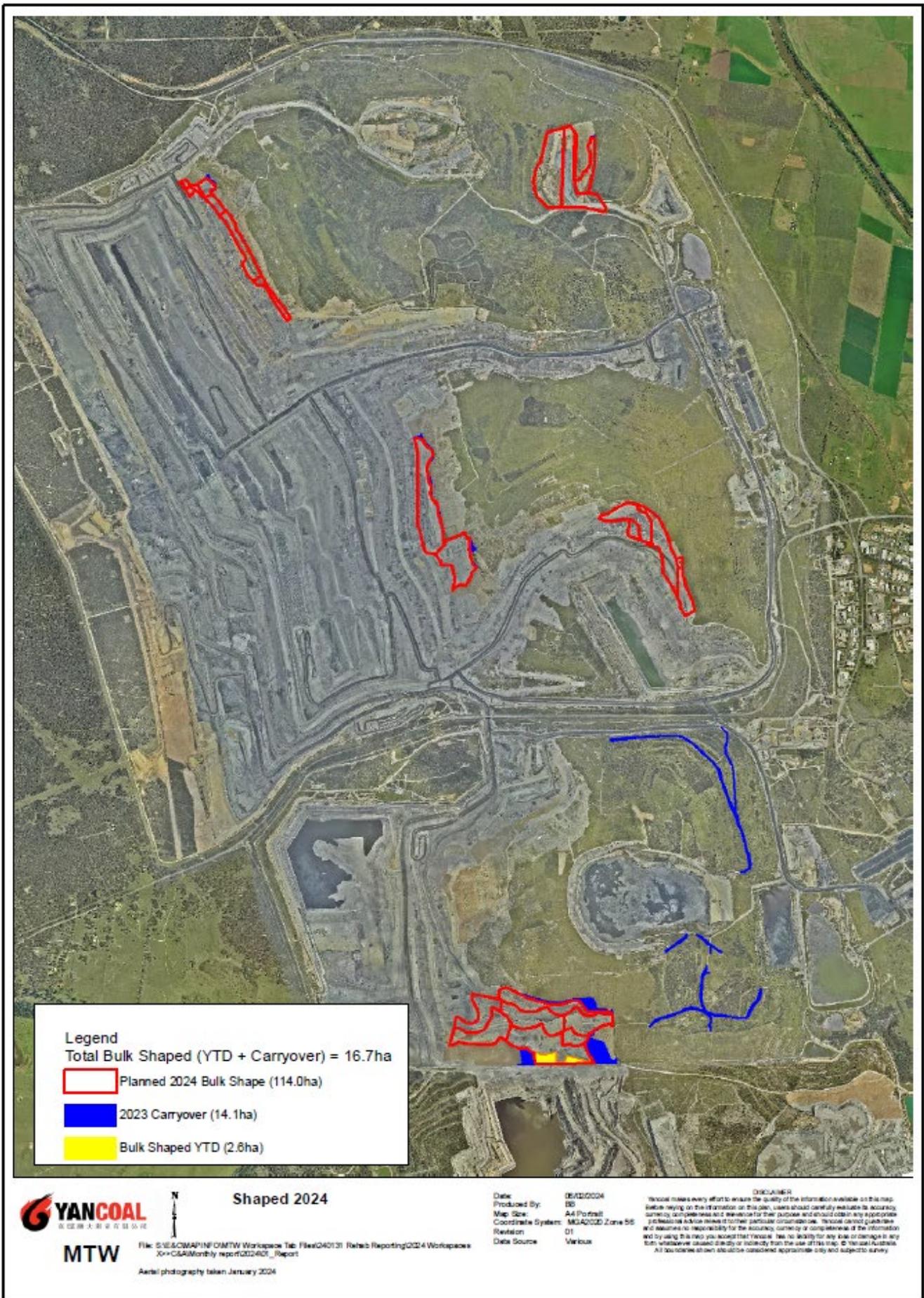
The rehabilitation planned for 2024 is 95ha which is consistent with the Rehabilitation Management Plan target for 2024 (94.4ha). The planned total disturbance is 68.3ha.

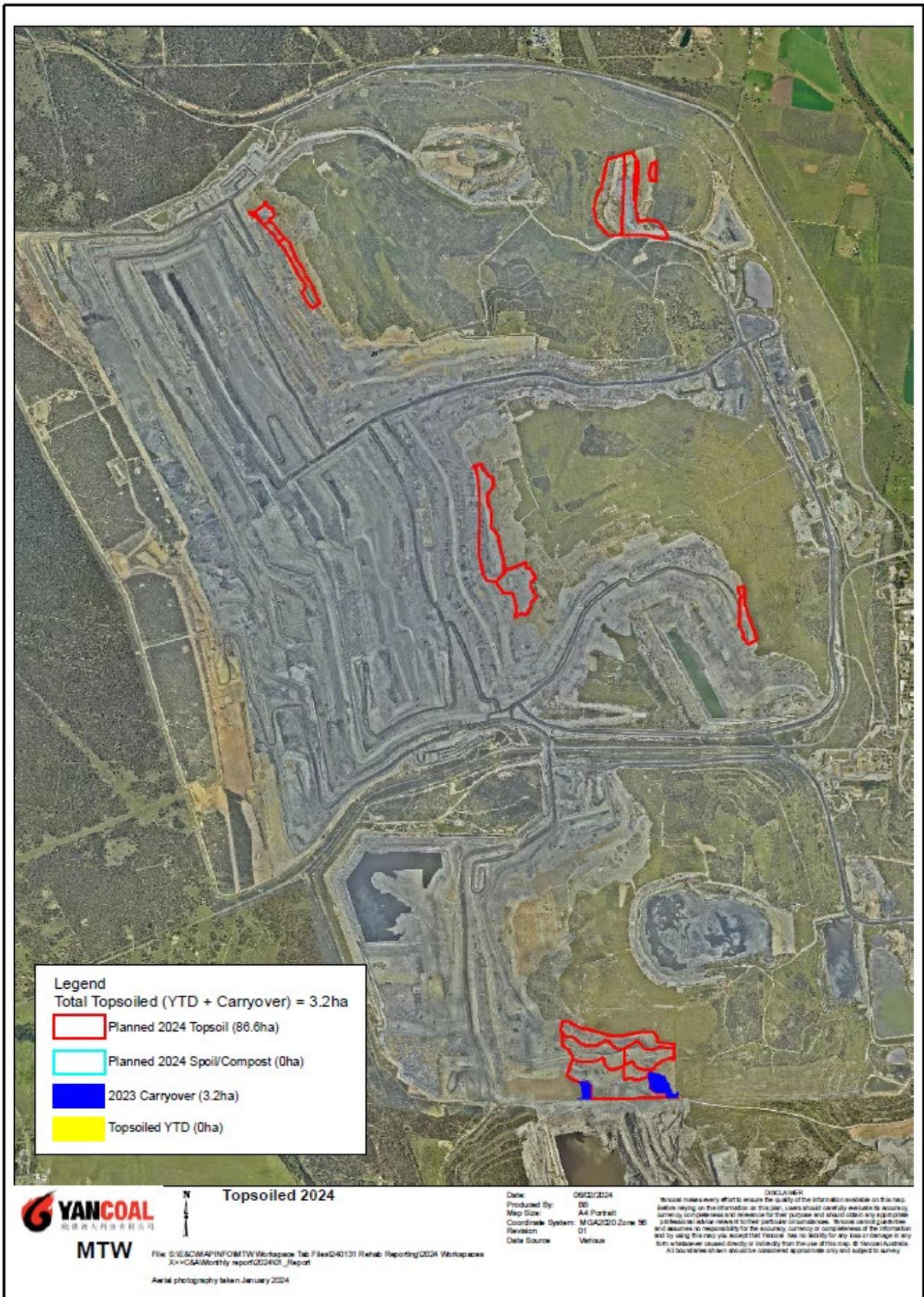
The rehabilitation and disturbance progress to the end of January 2024 are presented in the maps below. There is currently 38.9ha of dump released for rehab; and 16.7ha of this area had been progressed to be bulk shaped. Topsoil has been spread on 3.2ha and is awaiting soil ameliorants to be applied to be ready for seeding.

To the end of January 2024, 19ha of land has been disturbed to allow for mine progression in North and West Pits in Warkworth.

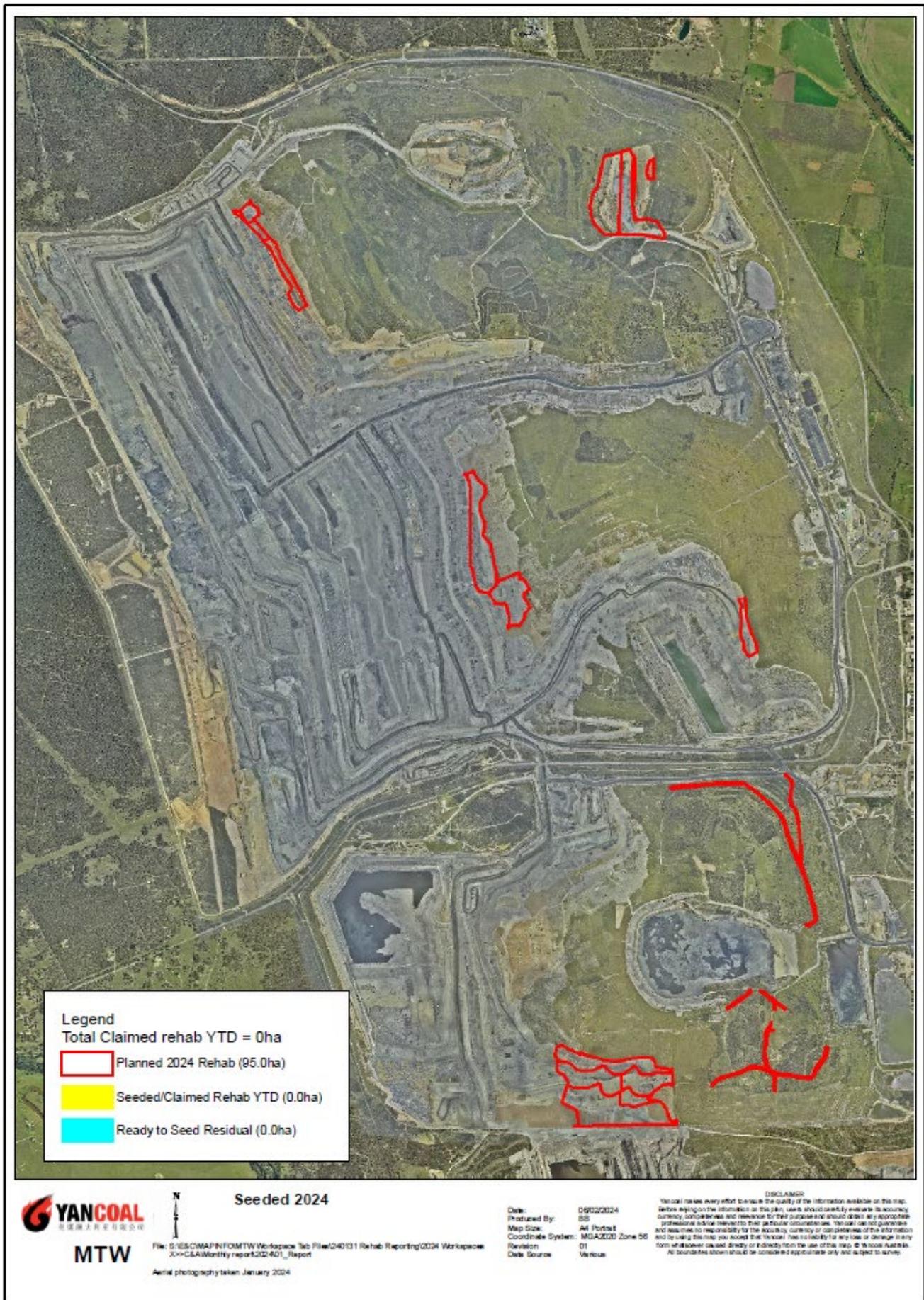












### Website Uploads

The table below is a list of all new documents uploaded to the MTW's website from 9 November 2023 to 8 February 2024. Please refer to MTW's new website: <https://www.mtwcoal.com.au/>

Document Title	Upload
Mount Thorley Warkworth 2023 Independent Audit - Audit Report	27/11/2023
Mount Thorley Warkworth 2023 Independent Audit - Response to Recommendations	27/11/2023
Mount Thorley Warkworth Environment Protection Licence 1376 1976 Monitoring Data October 2023	27/11/2023
MTW Complaints register 2023 (to October)	30/11/2023
MTW Complaints register 2023 (to November)	30/12/2023
Mount Thorley Warkworth Environment Protection Licence 1376 1976 Monitoring Data November 2023	29/12/2023
MTW Community Consultative Committee - August 2023 - Minutes, Presentation & Business Papers	12/01/2024
Mount Thorley Operations Environmental Protection Licence 1976	17/01/2024
Mount Thorley Warkworth Environment Protection Licence 1376 1976 Monitoring Data December 2023	25/01/2024
MTW Complaints register 2023 (to December)	31/01/2024

## 5 YANCOAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The CSP invests in community groups working in the areas of health, social and community, environment, education and training. The following organisations are being supported in 2024 through the CSP.

Organisation	Project
Branxton Golf Club	Zero turn mower
Business Singleton	Business Awards and International Womens Day Luncheon
Jerrys Plains School of Arts Hall Inc	Stage Curtains
Miller Park Bowling Club	Acquiring, Replenishing and Rebuilding equipment
Northern Agriculture Association Inc	Singleton Show and Campdraft 2024
Ridin 4 Mates - MHF	Ridin 4 Mates – Mark Hughes Foundation fundraiser
Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter	Singleton Art Prize 2024
Samaritans Foundation - Diocese of Newcastle	Christmas Lunch in Singleton 2024
Singleton Council	Christmas on John Street 2024 - Fireworks
Singleton Council	Singleton Public Library-School Holidays 2024
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Towns With Heart Inc	Kurri Kurri Nostalgia Festival 2024
NSW Rural Fire Service - Hunter Valley Support Brigade	Bulk Water Tanker Rebuild
University of Newcastle	Science & Engineering Challenge (Year 2 of 3 year agreement)
University of Newcastle	SMART Science School Tour (Year 2 of 3 year agreement)

For information please visit our website at <https://www.mtwcoal.com.au-page-community-community-support-program-> or email [mtw.csp@yancoal.com.au](mailto:mtw.csp@yancoal.com.au)

# **Appendix A: September 2023 Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report**

# **Appendix B: October 2023 Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report**

# Appendix C: November 2023 Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report

# Appendix D: December 2023 Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report

*\*This Appendix will be provided at a later date.*