

Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za>

Thu, Nov 14, 2024 at 2:20 PM

To: Marli Burger <oryxsolutionsafrica@gmail.com>

Cc: Nick Grobler <nick@airshed.co.za>, "gabriel@gomes.co.za" <gabriel@gomes.co.za>, "candis@envirominprojects.co.za" <candis@envirominprojects.co.za>

Good day Marli

I'm well and I hope you are too.

Thank you very much for the feedback on the report. Here are some responses to the concerns.

1. It does not seem like the impact from the trucks on the mine access road were considered in the assessment based on Fig.25 Simulated monthly dustfall levels. (I see it is included in the daily and annual simulation for PM₁₀ and Si). Please provide clarification or update of impacts. The trucks on the mine access road were included in the monthly dustfall levels. The reason why the isopleth in Figure 25 is different is because dustfall deposition as opposed to PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} is accounted for and normalised to a 30-day average (monthly first highest) whereas the PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} show the region where you are likely to encounter daily exceedances (99th percentile). The spread you see in figure 25 is the footprint area where the daily dustfall deposition will be encountered when normalised to a 30-day average.
2. Will an Air Pollution Monitoring Station be installed? When would such a station be required? The concern is with ongoing exposure to Si from the mine and access road throughout the LOM. It is not a mandatory requirement to install one. However, It would be a wise idea for the project proponent to install an air quality monitoring station and from time to time, take gravimetric samples to monitor and analyse for silicates in the ambient air at the nearest air quality sensitive receptor. The station can be installed before operations begin to provide an ambient air quality baseline that can be used for comparison as activities progress. The access haul road will less likely be a source of crystalline silicates compared to crushing and screening, hence if any intervention has to take place, then it will have to be at the crusher.
3. Please clarify what is meant with 50% control efficiency? It sounds like the mine will only be implementing dust control half the time or will only be doing half the implementation. Is the mine only expected to have a 50% control efficiency? In the context of the Australian National Pollution Inventory (NPI), "control efficiency" refers to the effectiveness of a specific control measure or technology in reducing the emission of pollutants from a source. It is expressed as a percentage and represents the proportion of emissions that a control method can successfully capture, remove, or neutralize before they are released into the atmosphere. For example, if a dust control system at a quarry has a control efficiency of 50%, it means that the system can prevent 50% of the particulate emissions generated from activities like crushing or blasting, allowing only 50% to be released into the environment.
4. Was the cumulative impact on air quality considered in light of other facilities in the area having an impact, ex. there are 5 brick manufacturing operations nearby contributing to lower air quality of the area. The cumulative impact was not accounted for due to the lack of ambient monitoring data (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) within the study area. If this data is available, we can perhaps include it in the report otherwise state their exclusion as a limitation. Dustfall data was provided, and an additional isopleth plot will be included to account for the cumulative impact due to nuisance dust.

I hope the responses answered your questions. Feel free to contact me if you have any other questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Kind Regards

Tinashe M. Mukota
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From: Marli Burger <oryxsolutionsafrica@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 1:20 PM

To: Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za>

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Subject: Bundu Rietvalei Mine: Comments on AQIA

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Gabriel Gomes <gabriel@gomes.co.za>

Thu, Nov 14, 2024 at 6:56 PM

To: Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za>

Cc: Marli Burger <oryxsolutionsafrica@gmail.com>, Nick Grobler <nick@airshed.co.za>, "candis@envirominprojects.co.za" <candis@envirominprojects.co.za>

Good Day,

With regard to point 3. Why is it assumed that we can only control 50% of the dust.

Surely there must be case study of more that 50% being controlled?

Regards

Gabriel

On 14 Nov 2024, at 14:20, Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za> wrote:

Good day Marli

I'm well and I hope you are too.

Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 8:46 AM

Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za>

To: Gabriel Gomes <gabriel@gomes.co.za>

Cc: Marli Burger <oryxsolutionsafrica@gmail.com>, Nick Grobler <nick@airshed.co.za>, "candis@envirominprojects.co.za" <candis@envirominprojects.co.za>

Good morning Gabriel

Please find attached are the control efficiencies as prescribed in the NPI.

When we do not have the sufficient information, we recommend mitigation based on industry practice. Let us know if there is any need for adjustment.

Kind Regards

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Subject: Re: Bundu Rietvalei Mine: Comments on AQIA

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Gabriel Gomes <gabriel@gomes.co.za>

Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 2:08 PM

To: Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za>

Cc: Marli Burger <oryxsolutionsafrica@gmail.com>, Nick Grobler <nick@airshed.co.za>, "candis@envirominprojects.co.za" <candis@envirominprojects.co.za>

This looks good thanks.

On 15 Nov 2024, at 08:46, Tinashe Mukota <tinashe@airshed.co.za> wrote:

Good morning Gabriel

Please find attached are the control efficiencies as prescribed in the NPI.

When we do not have the sufficient information, we recommend mitigation based on industry practice. Let us know if there is any need for adjustment.

Kind Regards

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5.3 Control Technologies

There are a number of ways in which dust emissions from mining operations can be controlled. Most dust control techniques involve the use of water sprays to keep surfaces damp, but there are also other methods. Table 4 summarises the methods used and the effect they have on reducing dust emissions (Holmes Air Sciences, 1998). These are drawn from control factors documented in USEPA (1998), discussions with Greenbase and Buonicore and Davis (1992: Table 3, p 794).

Table 4: Estimated control factors for various mining operations

Operation / Activity	Control method and emission reduction ¹
Coal Mines	
Scrapers on topsoil	50% control when soil is naturally or artificially moist
Dozers on coal or other material	No control
Drilling	99% for fabric filters
	70% for water sprays
Blasting coal or overburden	No control
Loading trucks	No control
Hauling	50% for level 1 watering (2 litres/m ² /h)
	75% for level 2 watering (> 2 litres/m ² /h)
	100% for sealed or salt-encrusted roads
Unloading trucks	70% for water sprays
Draglines	Control dust by minimising drop height
Loading stockpiles	50% for water sprays
	25% for variable height stacker
	75% for telescopic chute with water sprays
	99% for total enclosure
Unloading from stockpiles	50% for water sprays (unless underground recovery then, no controls needed)
Wind erosion from stockpiles	50% for water sprays
	30% for wind breaks
	99% for total enclosure
	30% for primary earthworks (reshaping/profiling, drainage structures installed)
	30% for rock armour and/or topsoil applied
Loading to trains	70% for enclosure
	99% for enclosure and use of fabric filters
Miscellaneous transfer and conveying	90% control allowed for water sprays with chemicals
	70% for enclosure
	99% for enclosure and use of fabric filters
Wind erosion	30% for primary rehabilitation
	40% for vegetation established but not demonstrated to be self-sustaining. Weed control and grazing control.

	60% for secondary rehabilitation
	90% for revegetation
	100% for fully rehabilitated (release) vegetation

Metalliferous Mines

	30% for windbreaks
	50% water sprays to keep ore wet
	65% for hooding with cyclones
	75% for hooding with scrubbers
	83% for hooding with fabric filters
	100% enclosed or underground

Pit retention	50% for TSP
	5% for PM ₁₀

Sources: Holmes Air Sciences (1998) and Greenbase (2009)

1 Controls are multiplicative when more than one control is applied to a specific operation or activity. On stockpiles, for example, water sprays used in conjunction with wind breaks give an emission that is

$$(1 - 0.5) \times (1 - 0.7) = 0.15 \text{ of the uncontrolled emission.}$$

The emission control factors as presented in Table 4 can be applied to the uncontrolled emissions as derived using the emission factors and equations presented in Table 2 and Table 3 using Equation 1, as described in Section 5.3 of this manual.

5.4 Vehicle exhaust emissions

For vehicles, emission estimation techniques can be found in the Emission Estimation Technique manual for Combustion Engines. Table 5 lists typical vehicles used on mine sites, and how they are classified in the *Emission Estimation Technique manual for Combustion Engines*.

Table 5: Typical mining vehicle definitions

Mine Equipment	Engine/Vehicle Type (from Combustion Engines EET manual)	Comments
Haul Truck	Off-highway truck	
Water Cart (Small)	Heavy Good Vehicle	
Water Cart (Large)	Off-highway truck	
Loader	Wheeled loader	
Bogger	Wheeled loader	
Dozer	Track Type Tractor	
Wheeled Dozer	Wheeled dozer	
Tractor	Wheeled tractor	
Bobcat	Wheeled loader	
Backhoe	Wheeled tractor	
Excavator	Track type loader	
-Grader	Motor Grader	
Scraper	Scraper	
Drill	Heavy Good Vehicle	