

AECOM Australia Pty Ltd 17 Warabrook Boulevard Warabrook NSW 2304 PO Box 73 Hunter Region MC NSW 2310 Australia www.aecom.com +61 2 4911 4900 tel +61 2 4911 4999 fax ABN 20 093 846 925

12 May 2021

Chris Schneider Managing Director National Ceramic Industries Australia PO Box 765 Maitland NSW 2320

Dear Chris,

# Environmental Monitoring for National Ceramic Industries Australia - April 2021

Please find enclosed the documentation for the environmental monitoring carried out for National Ceramic Industries Australia during April 2021. Sampling methodology and adopted assessment criteria are detailed below.

# 1.0 Sampling Methodology

Sampling was performed by AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (AECOM) and sample analysis was carried out by ALS NATA accredited laboratory. All sampling and analysis were carried out in accordance with Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) approved methods with reference to the following Australian Standards:

- Monitoring of fine suspended particulates (PM<sub>10</sub>) on the EPA six-day cycle in accordance with:
  - AS/NZS 3580.9.6 (2015) Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air Determination of Suspended Particulate Matter – PM<sub>10</sub> High Volume Sampler with Size Selective Inlet - Gravimetric Method.
- Monitoring of fluorides in ambient air in accordance with:
  - AS/NZS 3580.13.2 (2013) Determination of fluorides—Gaseous and acid-soluble particulate fluorides—Manual, double filter paper sampling.
- Meteorological monitoring in accordance with:
  - AS 3580.1.1 (2016) Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air Part 1.1 Guide to siting air monitoring equipment; and
  - AS 3580.14 (2014) Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air Part 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring.
- Monitoring of surface water quality in accordance with:
  - AS/NZS 5667.1:1998(R2016) Guidance on the design of sampling programs, sampling techniques and the preservation and handling of samples; and
  - AS/NZS 5667.4:1998(R2016) Guidance on sampling from lakes, natural and manmade.

# 2.0 Assessment Criteria

Suspended particulate loads are assessed against the impact assessment criteria defined in the Project Approval conditions (09\_0006 – National Ceramic Industries Australia Tile Manufacturing Facility Expansion Project, 19 January 2012). The assessment criteria for  $PM_{10}$  (particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 10  $\mu$ m) are:

- 50  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> over a 24-hour period; and
- 30 μg/m<sup>3</sup> as an annual average.

Ambient fluoride concentrations are assessed against the guidelines defined in NSW EPA Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales (NSW EPA (2016)).

The NSW EPA impact assessment criteria for ambient fluoride are:

- 2.9 μg/m<sup>3</sup> over a 24-hour period; and
- 1.7 μg/m<sup>3</sup> over a 7-day period.



Surface waters are assessed in accordance with default trigger values for physical and chemical stressors for southeast Australia in the *Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality* (ANZG, 2018). These values are:

- pH in the range of 6.5 8.5 (Table 3.3.2 NSW Lowland River); and
- Electrical conductivity (EC) in the range of 125 2200 μS/cm (Table 3.3.3 NSW Lowland River).

#### Monitoring Results

Monitoring results for the month of April 2021 are presented in the attachments to this letter. Monitoring results for the preceding two months are also presented to demonstrate quarterly trends in results.

The April 2021 monitoring results show that all ambient  $PM_{10}$  results were below the short-term impact assessment criterion (50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) as defined in the DPIE Project Approval (Schedule 3, Condition 15, Table 2).

The PM<sub>10</sub> rolling annual average concentration at the South East site remains below the Project Approval annual criterion of 30  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> with an average of 15.3  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> following the April monitoring period. The North West annual average is also below the criteria and is sitting at 23.8  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> following the completion of the April monitoring period.

Fluoride results for April remain below the relevant assessment criteria at both the North West and South East monitoring sites with no exceedances of either the 24 hour or 7 day criteria this month.

A catch-up sample was performed at the 24 hour South East location on 29 April following a failed run during the previous month.

The adopted ANZG 2018 guidelines for pH and conductivity are the default trigger values for slightly disturbed aquatic ecosystems in NSW lowland rivers. pH measurements for April were recorded above the ANZG guideline 8.5 upper limit on three occasions (14, 22 and 28 April). Pond 4 was not observed to be flowing offsite on any of these occasions.

All conductivity measurements were within the relevant ANZG guidelines for April. Water temperature was also measured weekly however no guideline is available for assessment.

A figure showing the monitoring locations and monitoring results and plots can be found attached along with the wind rose for April. Laboratory certificates, field sheets and calibration data along with relevant meteorology data can be provided on request.

If you require any further information, please contact Cye Buckland on 0488 777 160.

Yours faithfully,

James Enright Senior Environmental Technician cye.buckland@aecom.com

Direct Dial: +61 2 4911 4829 Direct Fax: +61 2 4911 4999

encl: Monitoring data tables and charts, monitoring locations, wind rose

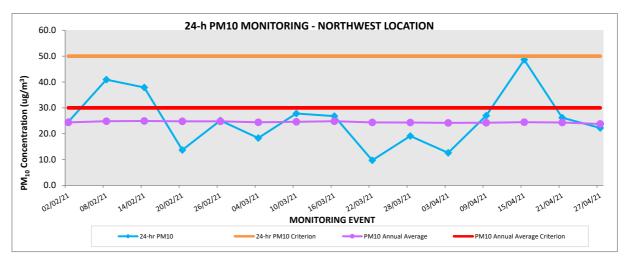
0 h)out

Paul Wenta Principal Scientist - Air Quality paul.wenta@aecom.com

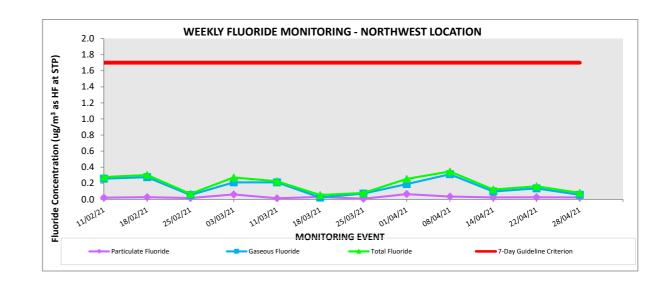
Mobile: +61 438 670 281 Direct Dial: +61 2 4911 4855 Direct Fax: +61 2 4911 4999

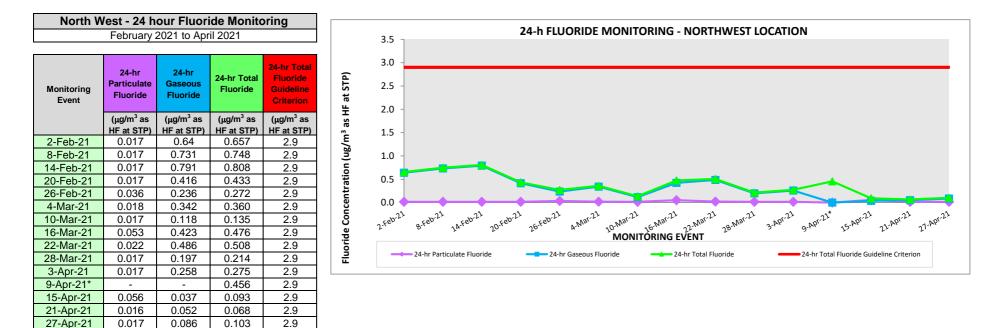
## North West Monitoring Location - 24 hour PM10 Monitoring

North West - 24 hour PM10 Monitoring								
February 2021 to April 2021								
Monitoring Event	24-hr PM <sub>10</sub>	24-hr PM <sub>10</sub> Criterion	PM <sub>10</sub> Annual Average	PM <sub>10</sub> Annual Average Criterion				
	(µg/m3)	(µg/m³)	(µg/m³)					
2-Feb-21	24.6	50	24.4	30				
8-Feb-21	40.9	50	24.9	30				
14-Feb-21	37.9	50	24.9	30				
20-Feb-21	13.7	50	24.8	30				
26-Feb-21	25.1	50	24.8	30				
4-Mar-21	18.3	50	24.4	30				
10-Mar-21	27.8	50	24.6	30				
16-Mar-21	26.8	50	24.8	30				
22-Mar-21	9.7	50	24.4	30				
28-Mar-21	19.1	50	24.3	30				
3-Apr-21	12.6	50	24.2	30				
9-Apr-21	27.0	50	24.3	30				
15-Apr-21	48.6	50	24.5	30				
21-Apr-21	26.2	50	24.3	30				
27-Apr-21	22.2	50	23.8	30				

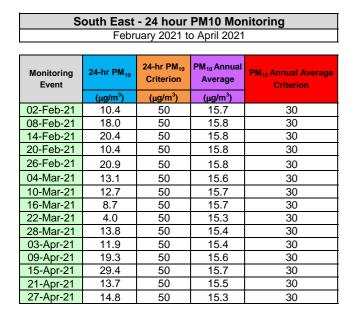


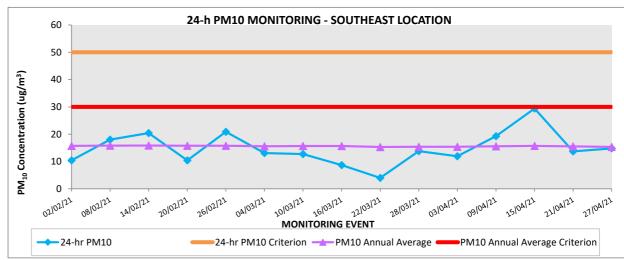
North West - 7 Day Fluoride Monitoring							
February 2021 to April 2021							
Monitoring Event		Particulate Fluoride	Gaseous Fluoride	Total Fluoride	7-Day Guideline Criterion		
Start Date	End Date	(μg/m <sup>3</sup> as HF at STP)					
4-Feb-21	11-Feb-21	0.021	0.257	0.278	1.7		
11-Feb-21	18-Feb-21	0.028	0.276	0.304	1.7		
18-Feb-21	25-Feb-21	0.016	0.053	0.069	1.7		
25-Feb-21	3-Mar-21	0.061	0.211	0.272	1.7		
3-Mar-21	11-Mar-21	0.013	0.212	0.225	1.7		
11-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	0.031	0.023	0.054	1.7		
18-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	0.008	0.072	0.080	1.7		
25-Mar-21	1-Apr-21	0.065	0.190	0.255	1.7		
1-Apr-21	8-Apr-21	0.035	0.312	0.347	1.7		
8-Apr-21	14-Apr-21	0.024	0.098	0.122	1.7		
14-Apr-21	22-Apr-21	0.026	0.137	0.163	1.7		
22-Apr-21	28-Apr-21	0.024	0.057	0.081	1.7		

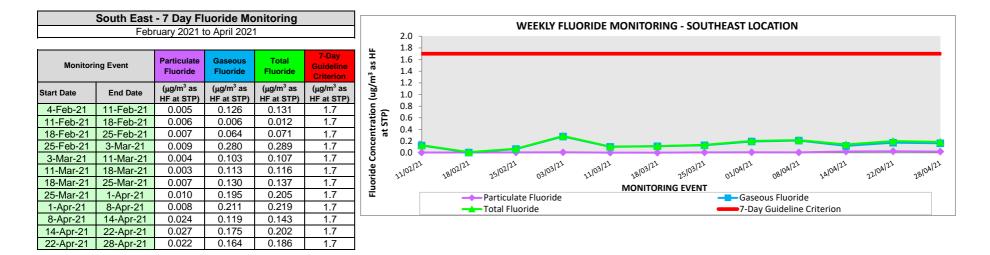


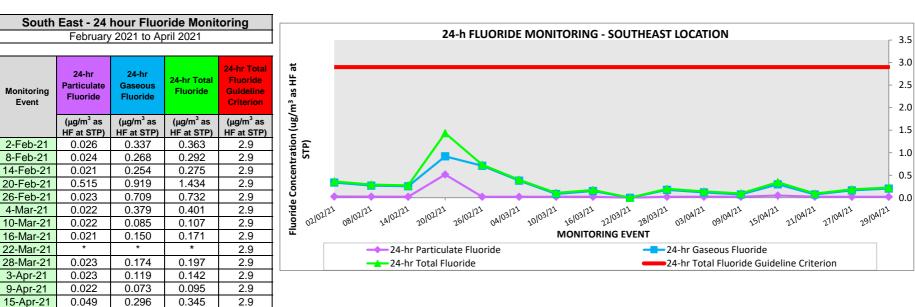


\*Total Fluoride Only









21-Apr-21

27-Apr-21

29-Apr-21

0.022

0.022

0.022

0.072

0.165

0.204

0.094

0.187

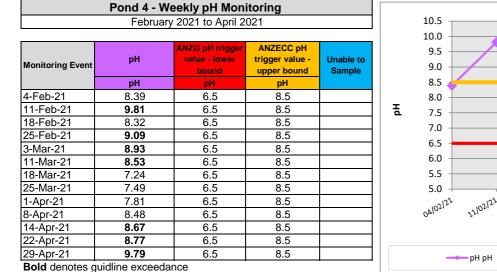
0.226

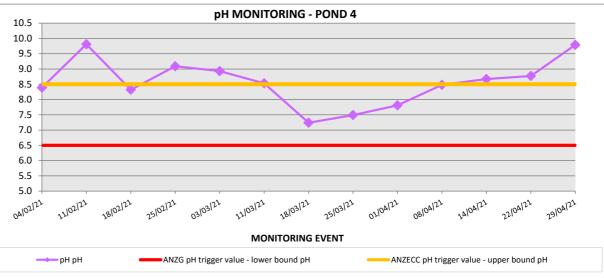
2.9

2.9

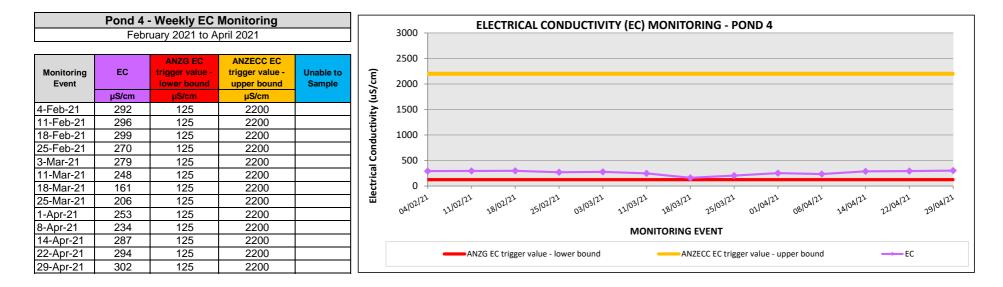
2.9

#### Pond 4 Monitoring Location - Weekly pH Monitoring





## Pond 4 Monitoring Location - Weekly EC Monitoring



## Pond 4 Monitoring Location - Weekly Temperature Monitoring

