

ELAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Air Quality Assessment

Prepared for Strategen By Sigma Theta Date: 1 July 2016

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

Elan Energy Management proposes to develop a Tyre Resource Recycling Facility (TRRF) to recover carbon black, wire and oil from processing of used tyres. The TRRF will be operated at Lot 60, 9 Fargo Way, Welshpool, for 24 hrs per day, 7 days per week.

The TRRF will process shredded waste tyres using an indirect fired Thermal Conversion Unit (TCU) to produce char, steel wire, oil and gas; with the char upgraded to carbon black. Recovered products will be sold to Australian or international markets.

The process gas stream containing hydrogen, carbon monoxide and methane will be combusted in a high efficiency thermal oxidiser (SACTO) with heat recovery installed to preheat combustion air for the TCU operation. Exhaust gases from the SACTO and the TCU combustion chamber will be discharged to atmosphere via a 15 m tall stack. The impacts from those emissions at nearby residential areas have been assessed using air dispersion modelling.

1.2. Purpose of this Report

This report presents the assessment of the potential air quality impacts arising from atmospheric emissions from the proposed development of the TRRF, including the approach, methodology and results of the air dispersion modelling. During operation, the project could emit to the air trace components of SO₂, NO_x, HCl, heavy metals and dioxins. Material handling operations occur inside the closed building and emissions from the stack have been considered in isolation.

1.3. Site Description

The site is in a light industrial area of Welshpool bound by Roe and Leach highways to the east and west and Welshpool Road to the south. The nearest residential areas are approximately half a kilometre to the southeast and one kilometre to the south-west, (Google Earth, 2016).

1.4. Topography

The site is situated approximately two kilometres from the base of the Perth hills. The topography is flat in the immediate vicinity of the site and there are no expected impacts from topography-induced wind-flows.

1.5. Climate and Meteorology

The nearby BOM site at the Perth airport is assumed representative of the climatology of the region. Coastal wind patterns influence local meteorological conditions creating a diurnal flow. Winds vary each season in direction and strength. Summer is the windiest, with westerly winds dominant in summer, and to a lesser extent in spring and autumn.

1.6. Flora/Fauna

Residential development has displaced the natural vegetation of the area. As such, no threatened species are expected in the immediate vicinity. However, there may be small colonies in the nearby, "bush forever", region along the Perth hills escarpment.

1.7. Project Description

Figure 1 depicts an overview of the site in relation to its neighbours. Batch loads of tyres and product will be supplied and collected at irregular intervals. Delivery vehicles drive on bitumen and are therefore not considered large dust sources. All material handling will be done indoors and hence the only significant emission source is predicted from the stack emissions.

The proposed stack height of 15 m is slightly smaller than the "Good Engineering Practice" (US-EPA, 1981) guidance given the height of the existing buildings. Raising the stack height is not deemed feasible given the site location in relation to the airport and this required building downwash to be included in the modelling.

The process is planned to run continually except for the occasional maintenance (or accidental) start-up and shutdown activities. Emission estimates were generated from information supplied by Strategen on 19 June 2016.

2. Air Quality Criteria

2.1. Ambient Air Quality Guidelines

In June 1998, the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) set uniform standards for ambient air quality to allow for the adequate protection of human health and wellbeing. This was achieved via the creation of the National Environmental Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure (NEPM) (NEPC, 2003) which defined ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants, including (but not limited to) NO₂, CO, SO₂ and particulates (as particles less than 10 μ m in equivalent aerodynamic diameter, PM₁₀). Amendments were made to the Ambient Air Quality NEPM in 2015 to include advisory reporting standards for particles less than 2.5 μ m in equivalent aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}) (NEPC, 2015).

The Western Australian State Government has recommended the adoption of these NEPM standards for ambient air quality as part of the draft State Environmental (Ambient Air) Policy 2009 (WA-EPA, 2009). The NEPM standards are presented in Table 1.

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Standard	Units ^[1]	Goals ^[2]
NO ₂	1-hour	0.12	ppm	1 day a year
	Annual	0.03	ppm	none
СО	8-hour	9.0	ppm	1 day a year
SO2	1-hour	0.20	ppm	1 day a year
	24-hour	0.08	ppm	1 day a year
	Annual	0.02	ppm	none
PM ₁₀	24-hour	50	μg/m ³	5 days a year
PM _{2.5} ^[3]	24-hour	25	μg/m³	

Table 1: NEPM Ambient Air Quality Standards and Goals

Notes

- 1. $\mu g/m^3$ referenced to 0°C, and 101.3 kPa.
- 2. Maximum number of allowable exceedances.
- 3. Advisory reporting standards.

2.2. Acid Gas, Metal and Dioxin Guidelines

In addition to the NEPM, various guidelines exist for other compounds and these are depicted in Table 2. This includes the WA Health Guideline (2007) concentrations, which are based on a Department of Health internal document (*Acid Gas Criteria, Internal document, Toxicology WA Department of Health*, Shenton Park, WA (DOH, 2007)) (see (DER-W5925/2015/1, 2015)) which has been previously referenced in other air quality assessments submitted to DER.

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V 24 hour 1 WHO guidelines for air quality (WHO 2000)	
TSP 24 hour 90 Kwinana Environmental Protection Policy 1992 (TSP Area C) (WA Goverment, 1992)	
PM ₁₀ 24 hour 50 AAQ NEPM (NEPC 2003), WHO AQ guidelines global update (WHO 2005)	
PM _{2.5} 24 hour 25 AAQ NEPM (NEPC 2003), WHO AQ guidelines global update (WHO 2005)	
Annual 8 AAQ NEPM (NEPC 2003)	
Dioxins (TEQ) 1 hour 0.000001 Air guideline values for selected substances (Toxikos 2010)	

Table 2: Air Quality Assessment Criteria

3. Modelling Methodology

3.1. Air Dispersion Model

The air dispersion modelling has been conducted using the American Meteorological Society/Environmental Protection Agency Regulatory Model (AERMOD) version 15181 (US-EPA, 2015). AERMOD is a United States Environmental Protection Agency (US-EPA) recommended air dispersion model that has been designed to support regulatory modelling programs in the United States. It is widely used throughout Australia and internationally for regulatory modelling applications.

AERMOD is a current-generation air dispersion model that incorporates concepts such as planetary boundary layer theory and advanced methods for handling complex terrain. AERMOD incorporates the Plume Rise Model Enhancements (PRIME) building downwash algorithms, which provide a more realistic handling of downwash effects than previous approaches.

3.2. Meteorological Data

The Bureau of Meteorology supplied five years of meteorological data (2010 to 2015) for the Perth Airport site situated approximately 20 km to the north (BOM, 2016). Figure 3 presents the wind roses for each season and a total combined annual rose. These were derived from the regional hourly average wind speed and direction data. Winds in the region are predominantly east and westerly winds as depicted in the wind roses. Figure 3, also shows the seasonal wind fluctuations. During summer and spring, the winds are predominantly from the southwest and east, and relatively strong. In contrast, during winter, the winds are predominantly from the northeast, and winds tend to be lighter in strength.

3.3. Modelling Approach

Air dispersion modelling was used to predict ground level concentrations (GLCs) across the model domain. The air quality impacts associated with emissions from the TRRF were considered in isolation.

3.4. Model Parameterisation

AERMOD (Version 15181) was used to predict GLCs across the model domain. Owing to the distance to the nearest residences, a fine grid of 5 km x 5 km x 100 m was used. Terrain elevation data, 30 m resolution, for the model domain was obtained from the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM3/SRTM1), and incorporated into AERMOD using the AERMAP terrain processor.

Urban dispersion coefficients were used in the AERMOD simulation because of the proximity of residential houses in the immediate area. Three specific sensitive receptors sites, as depicted in Figure 2, were selected from an initial screening model run which identified where the maximum concentrations was predicted to occur in the residential area.

4. Atmospheric Emissions

This study has considered emissions from the TRRF under the proposed operating conditions. The emission information and stack release parameters used as inputs to the modelling (Table 5) were supplied by Strategen. No nearby significant sources of HCl or HF were identified in the National Pollution Inventory database. Therefore, this study, has considered the proposed stack in isolation.

Table 3: Stack Parameters

Parameter	Value	Units
Height	15	m
Internal diameter	0.8	m
Velocity	15.4	m/s
Temperature	400	deg C

Table 4: Stack Emission Rates

Element/Compound	Units	Value
NO _x	g/s	2.84E-01
SO ₂	g/s	6.83E-01
СО	g/s	1.20E-01
HCI	g/s	3.58E-02
HF	g/s	3.65E-04
Нg	g/s	2.72E-06
Cd	g/s	2.11E-05
TI	g/s	0
Sb	g/s	1.39E-05
As	g/s	6.08E-06
Cr	g/s	2.84E-05
Со	g/s	8.93E-05
Cu	g/s	1.10E-04
Pb	g/s	5.60E-04
Mn	g/s	1.49E-05
Ni	g/s	1.82E-04
V	g/s	6.94E-06
Particulates	g/s	1.92E-02
Dioxins	g TEQ/s	6.43E-13
Ethane	g/s	7.38E-03
Propane	g/s	3.81E-03
Butane	g/s	5.00E-03
Pentane	g/s	6.19E-03
Hexane	g/s	4.28E-03
Benzene	g/s	5.00E-06
Toluene	g/s	8.09E-06

5. AERMOD Results

The ground level concentrations for the pollutants of interest are compared to standard criteria in Table 2 for the proposed stack. With the exception of the ten-minute SO_2 , 24-hourly SO_2 and annual Cr (VI) and Ni all other pollutants are significantly below guideline limits at all grid points for all periods. Isopleths of the predicted concentrations from the proposed stack are presented in Figure 4 to Figure 36.

A detailed investigation of the isopleths noted that four pollutants/periods were predicted to have high concentrations at the immediate grid points nearest the stack. These four isopleths identify that approximately 20% of the guideline could be reached at the grid points nearest the stack (100 m), but the concentrations are predicted to drop rapidly reaching about 1 % of the guidelines at the nearest residential areas which are about 500 m away. As such, the predicted highs are related to problems with modelling near-source receptors and would usually be contained (and ignored) within the site boundaries. However, in the light-industrial region, there is no buffer and buildings extend to the property boundary.

Pollutant	Period	µg/m³	%	Criteria (µg/m3)	Thumbnails ¹
NO ₂	1-hour	28.6	11.6%	246	
1102	Annual	2.45	4.0%	61.6	
	10-min	98.5	19.7%	500	
	1-hour	68.9	12.0%	571.8	
SO2	24-hour	46.9	20.5%	228.7	
	Annual	5.88	10.3%	57.2	
со	15 min ²	15.9	0.0%	100000	
	30 min	13.9	0.0%	60000	
00	1-hour	12.1	0.0%	30000	
	8-hour	10.1	0.1%	11249	
HCI	1-hour	3.61	3.6%	100	

Table 5: Maximum Predicted Ground Level Concentrations (μg/m3)

(EPA-Vic)

¹ Only isopleths of potential concern (i.e. near-source) are shown in the thumbnails

² Sub hourly Concentration = $C_{Hour} X (60/Minutes)^{0.2}$

		0.0000	0.00/	400	
HF	1-hour	0.0368	0.0%	100	
	1-hour	0.000613	0.7%	0.09	
As	24-hour	4.17E-04	1.4%	0.03	
	Annual	5.24E-05	1.7%	0.003	
Cd	1-hour	0.00213	11.8%	0.018	
	Annual	0.000182	3.6%	0.005	
Со	24-hour	0.009	9.0%	0.1	
Cr ^{vi}	Annual	0.0000245	12.3%	0.0002	AE08 BE06 8E-06 4E-06
Cr ^{III}	1-hour	0.00286	0.0%	10	
U	24-hour	0.00195	3.9%	0.05	
Cu	24-hour	0.00755	0.8%	1	
Ца	1-hour	0.000274	0.0%	1.8	
Hg	Annual	2.34E-05	0.0%	0.2	
Mn	1-hour	0.00152	0.0%	18	
IVIII	Annual	0.000128	0.1%	0.15	
	1-hour	0.0184	10.2%	0.18	
Ni	Annual	0.00157	52.3%	0.003	3.0E-05 9.0E05 9.0E05 30E05 30E05
Pb	Annual	0.00482	1.0%	0.5	
Sb	1-hour	0.0014	0.0%	9	
TI	1-hour	0	0.0%	1	
	Annual	0	0.0%	0.1	
V	24-hour	4.76E-04	0.0%	1	
TSP ³	24-hour	1.32	1.5%	90	
PM ₁₀	24-hour	1.32	2.6%	50	
PM _{2.5}	24-hour	1.32	5.3%	25	
1 1012.5	Annual	0.165	2.1%	8	
Dioxins (TEQ)	1-hour	6.48E-11	0.0%	0.000001	

 $^{^3}$ TSP, PM_{10} and PM_{2.5} have all been conservatively modelled as 100% TSP

6. Conclusions

Air dispersion modelling has been completed to assess the potential air quality impacts associated with emissions from the TRRF. The air dispersion model, AERMOD, has been used to predict GLCs across the model domain using the proposed stack configurations for the modelling assessment.

Near-source modelling abnormalities (i.e. within about 100 m from source) as noted for SO_2 (ten minute and daily) and annual Cr and Ni are predicted to be about 20% of the applicable guideline, but this drops rapidly to about 1 % of the guideline at the nearest residential areas about 500 m away. With the exception of the near-source abnormalities, the results of the modelling indicate that the air quality impacts due to emissions from the TRRF, in isolation, are predicted to be well below the relevant ambient criteria at all grid locations for all pollutants and all averaging periods.

7. References

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8. Limitations

Sigma Theta prepared this report in accordance with the scope of work as outlined in our proposal to Strategen dated 24 February 2016 and in accordance with our understanding and interpretation of current regulatory standards.

The conclusions presented in this report represent Sigma Theta's professional judgment based on information made available during the course of this assignment, are true and correct to the best of Sigma Theta's knowledge, as at the date of the assessment.

Sigma Theta did not independently verify all of the written or oral information provided to Sigma Theta during the course of this investigation. While Sigma Theta has no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information provided to it, the report is complete and accurate only to the extent that the information provided to Sigma Theta was itself complete and accurate. This report does not purport to give legal advice. Qualified legal advisors can only give this advice.

8.1. User Reliance

This report has been prepared exclusively for Strategen and may not be relied upon by any other person or entity without Sigma Theta's express written permission.

Appendix A: Figures



Figure 1: Overview of the proposed site

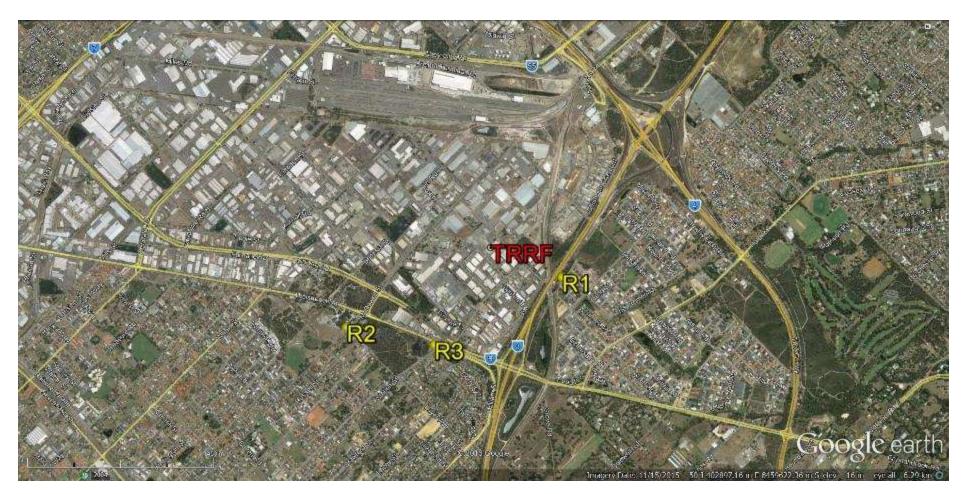


Figure 2: Aerial Overview of the Region

Source: (Google Earth, 2016)

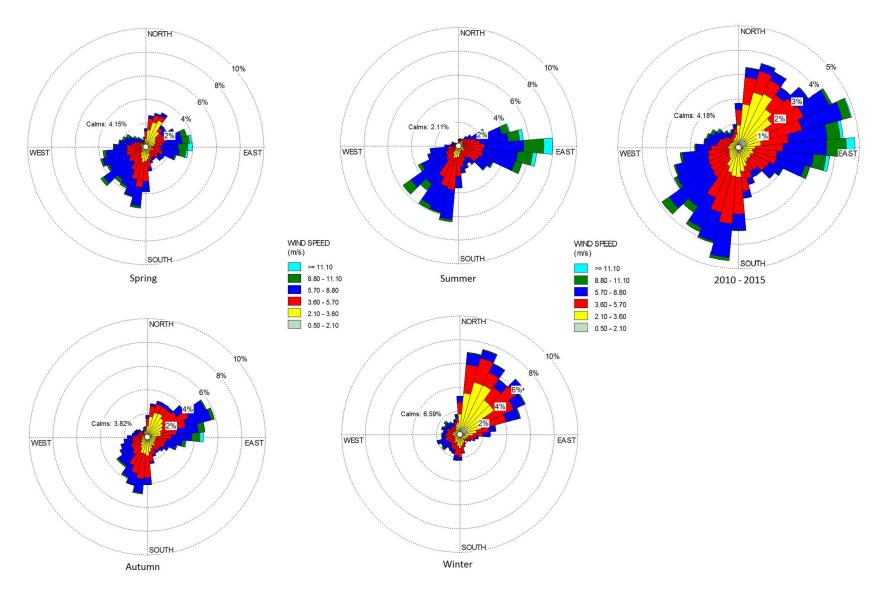


Figure 3: Wind Rose Perth Airport: Seasons and Annual



Figure 4: Maximum NO₂ 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 246 μ g/m³)

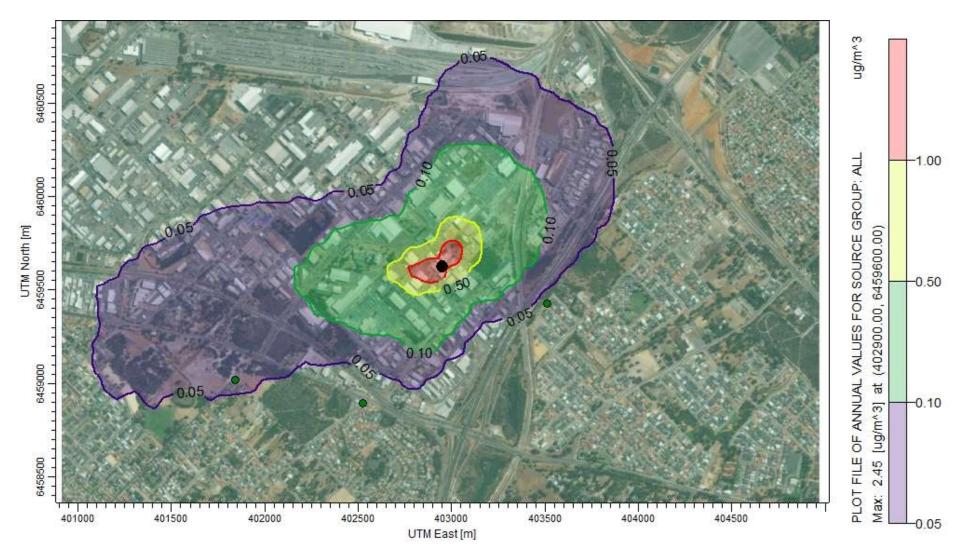


Figure 5: NO₂ Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 61.6 $\mu g/m^3$)

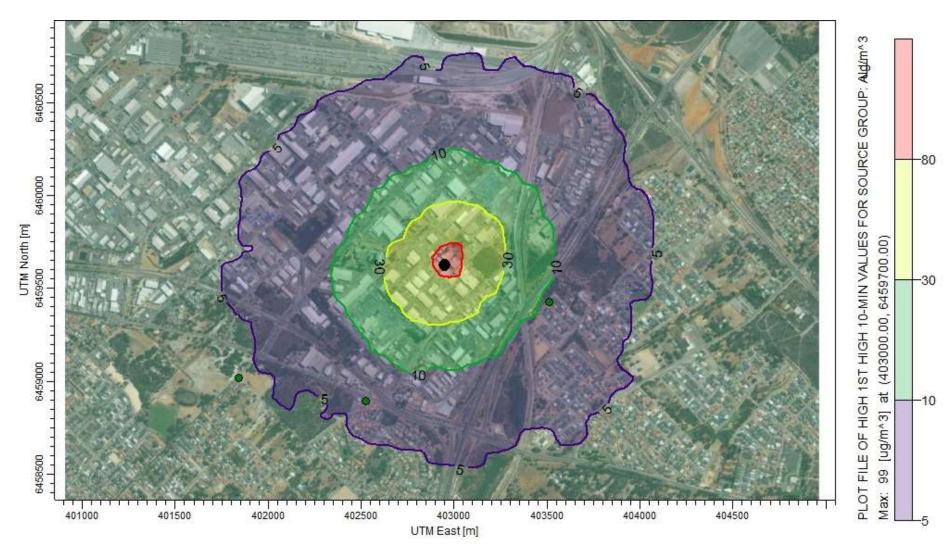


Figure 6: Maximum SO₂ 10-Min Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 500 μ g/m³)

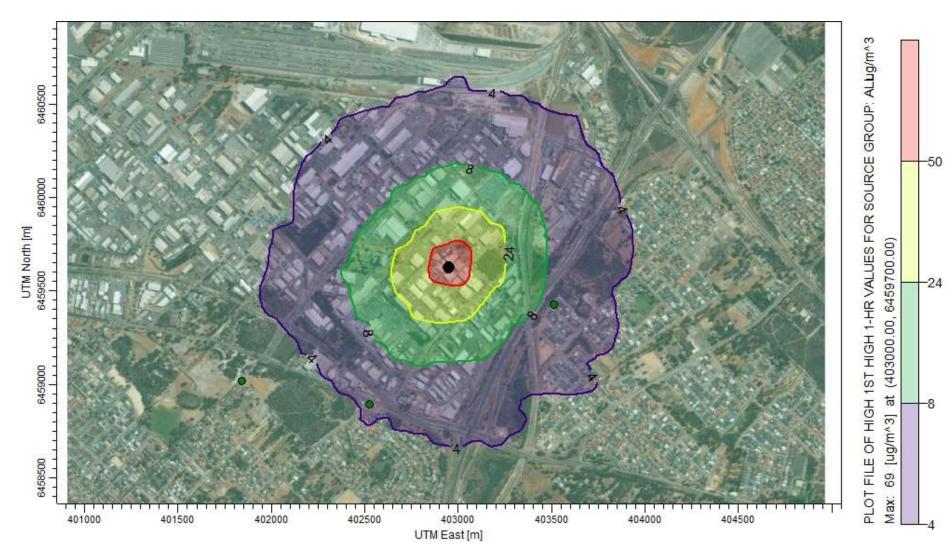


Figure 7: Maximum SO₂ 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 571.8 μ g/m³)

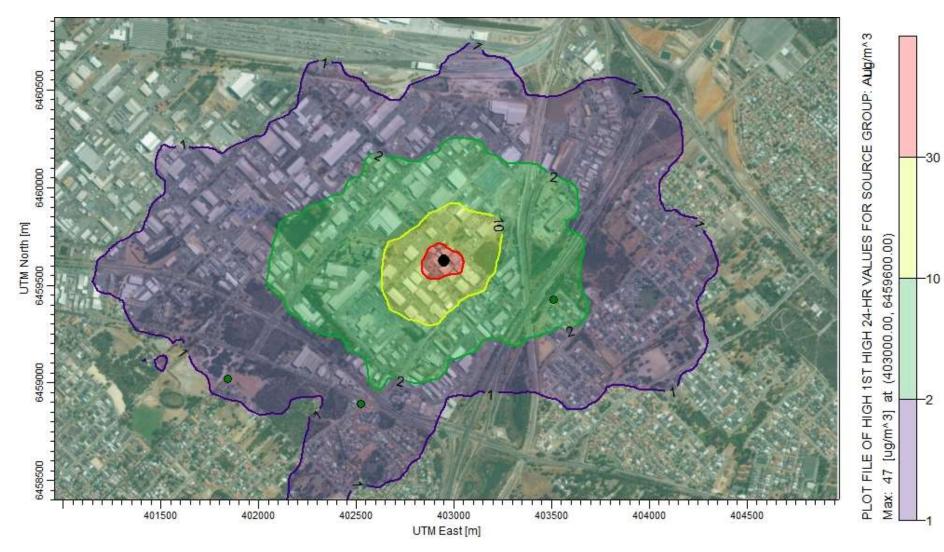


Figure 8: Maximum SO₂ 24-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 228.7 μ g/m³)

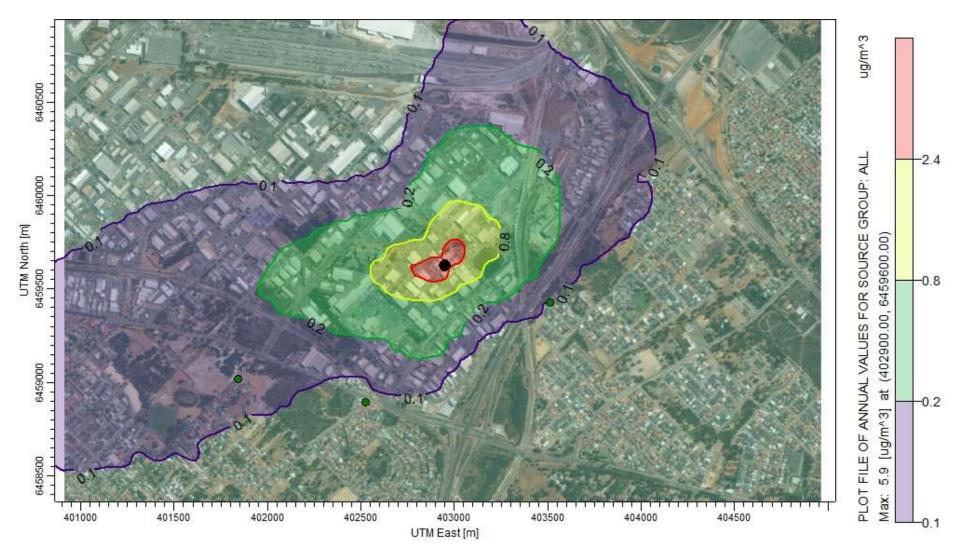


Figure 9: SO₂ Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 57.2 $\mu g/m^3$)

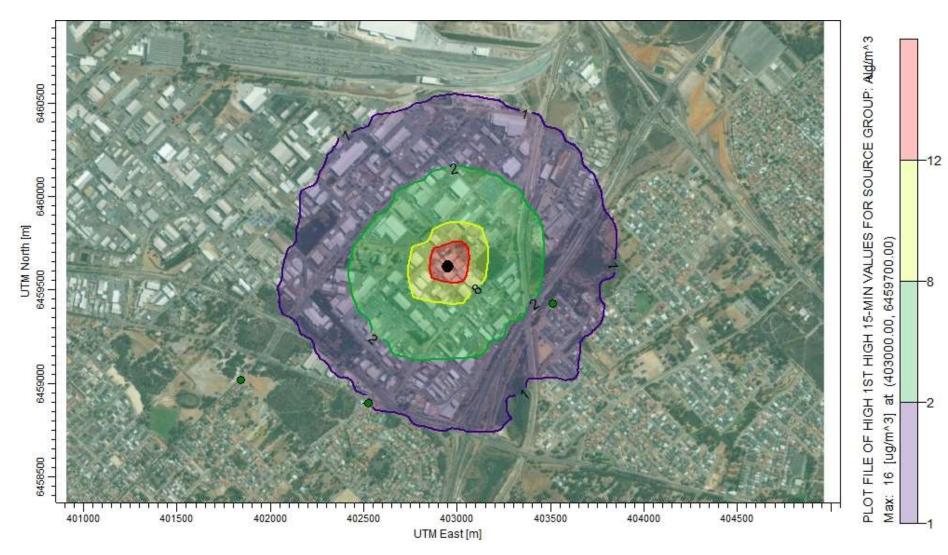


Figure 10: Maximum CO 15-Min Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 100,000 $\mu g/m^3$)

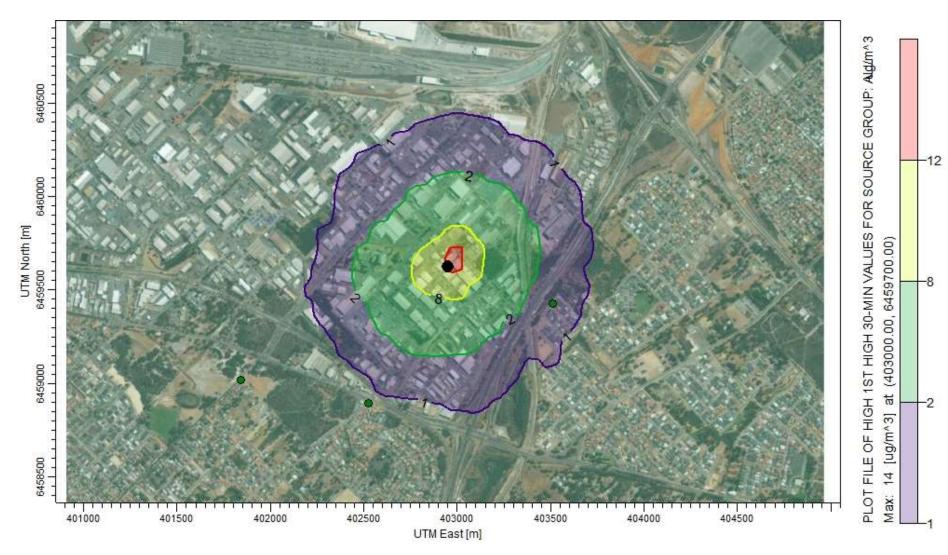


Figure 11: Maximum CO 30-Min Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 60,000 $\mu g/m^3$)

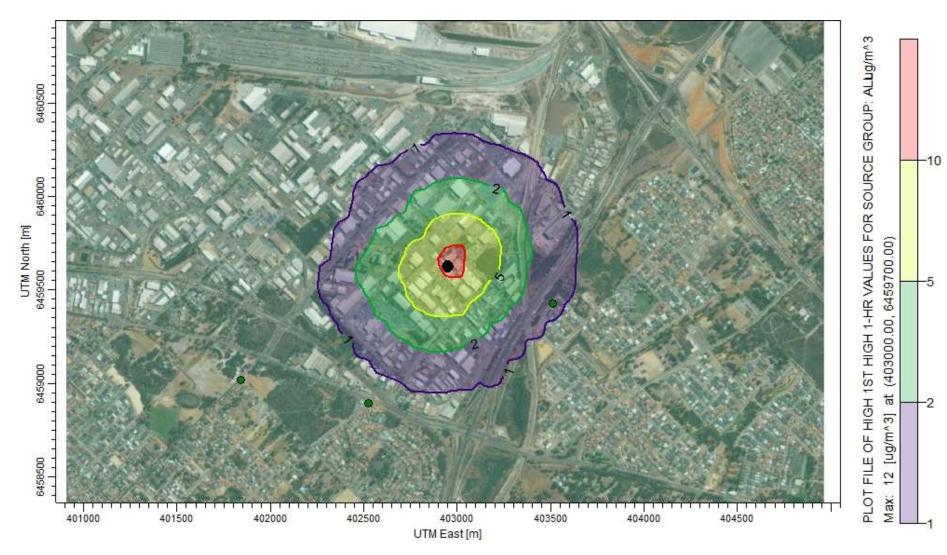


Figure 12: Maximum CO 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 30,000 $\mu g/m^3$)

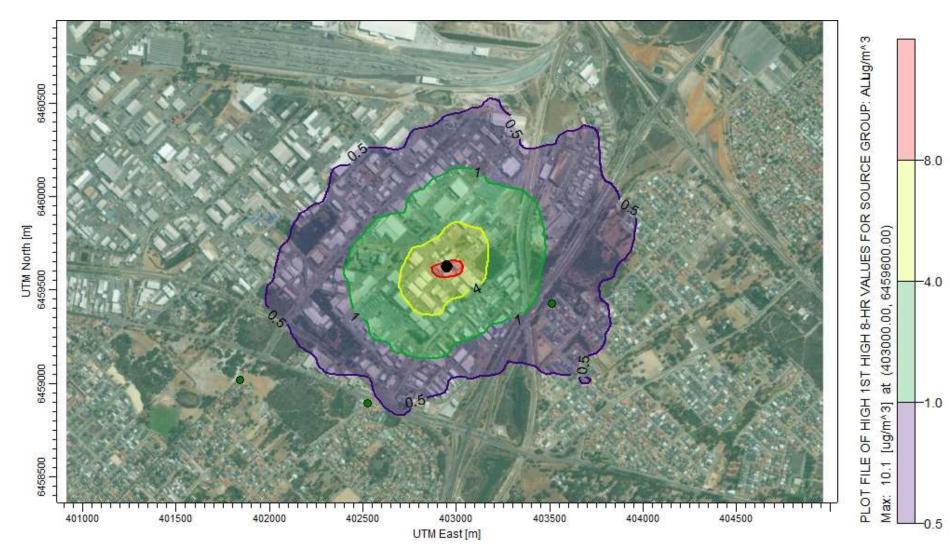


Figure 13: Maximum CO 8-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 11,249 μ g/m³)

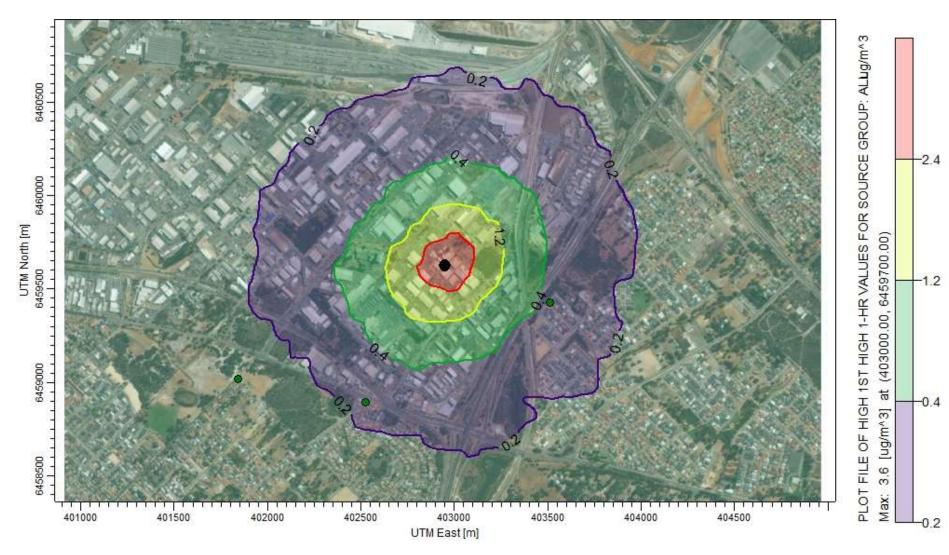


Figure 14: Maximum HCl 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μg/m³ (standard 100 μg/m³)

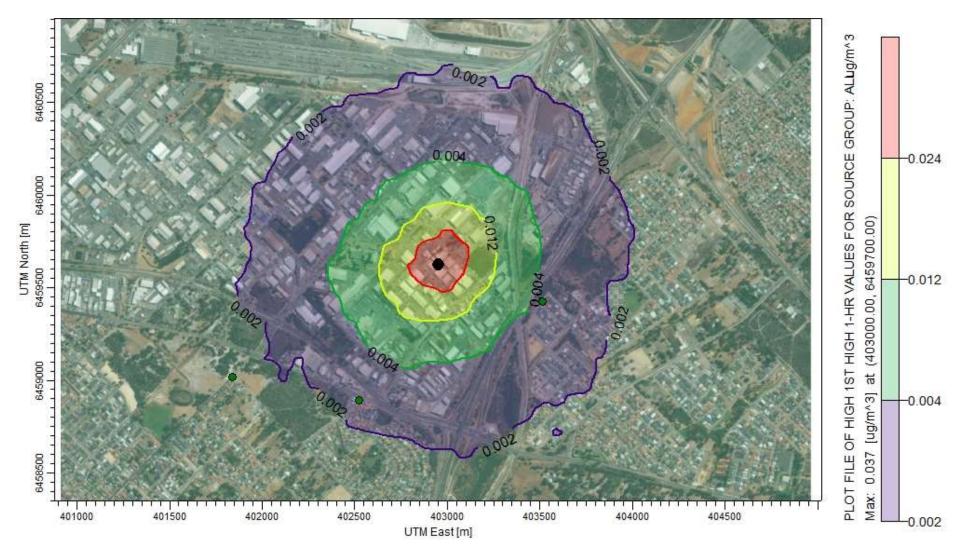


Figure 15: Maximum HF 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 100 $\mu g/m^3$)

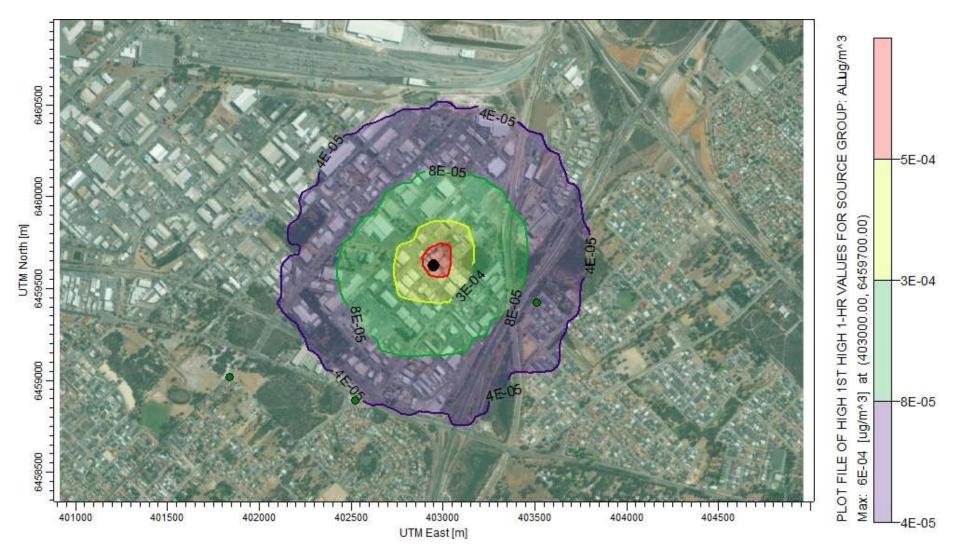


Figure 16: Maximum As 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.09 $\mu g/m^3$)

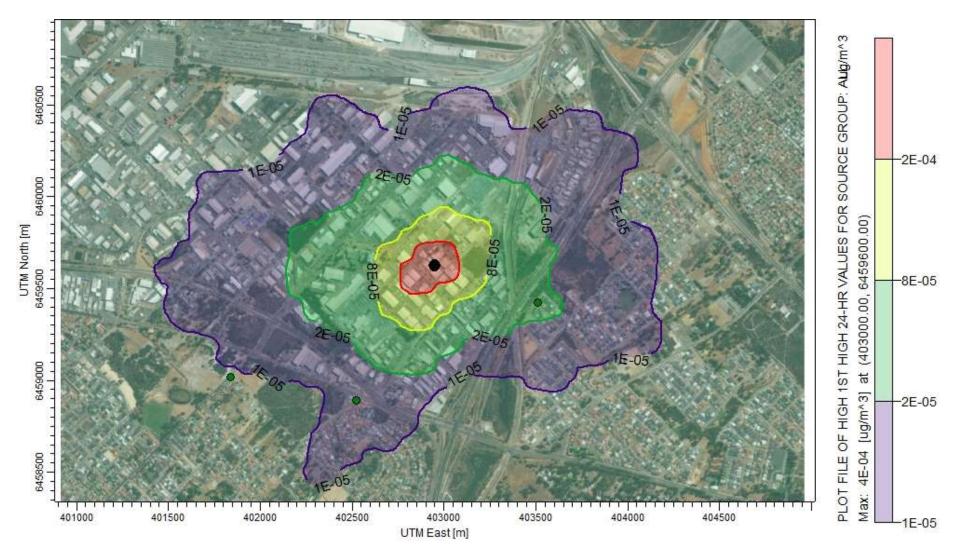


Figure 17: Maximum As 24-hr Ground Level Concentration μg/m³ (standard 0.03 μg/m³)

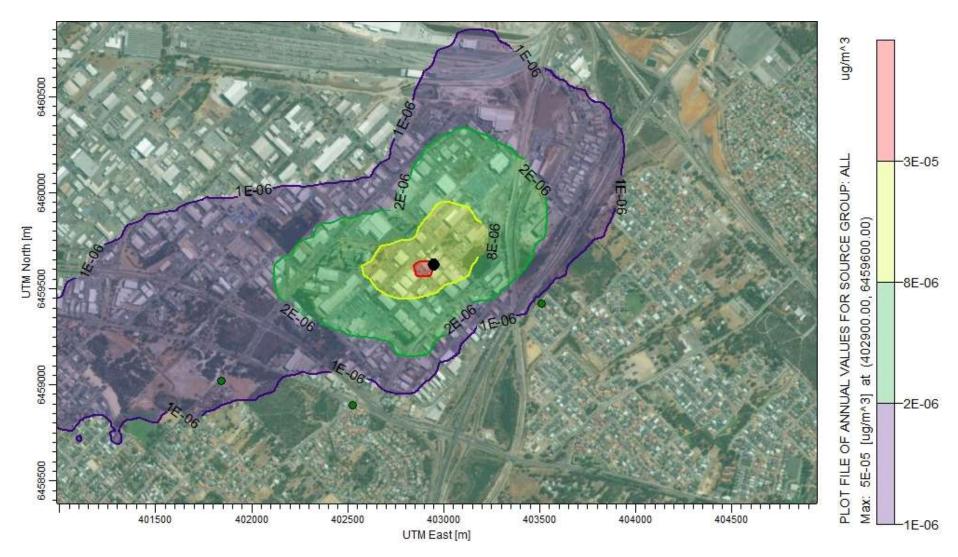


Figure 18: As Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.003 $\mu g/m^3$)

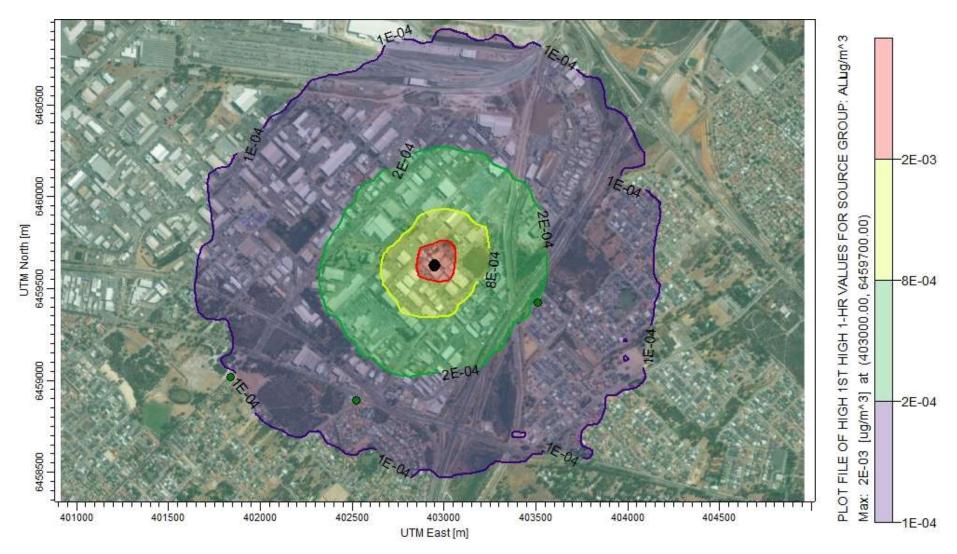
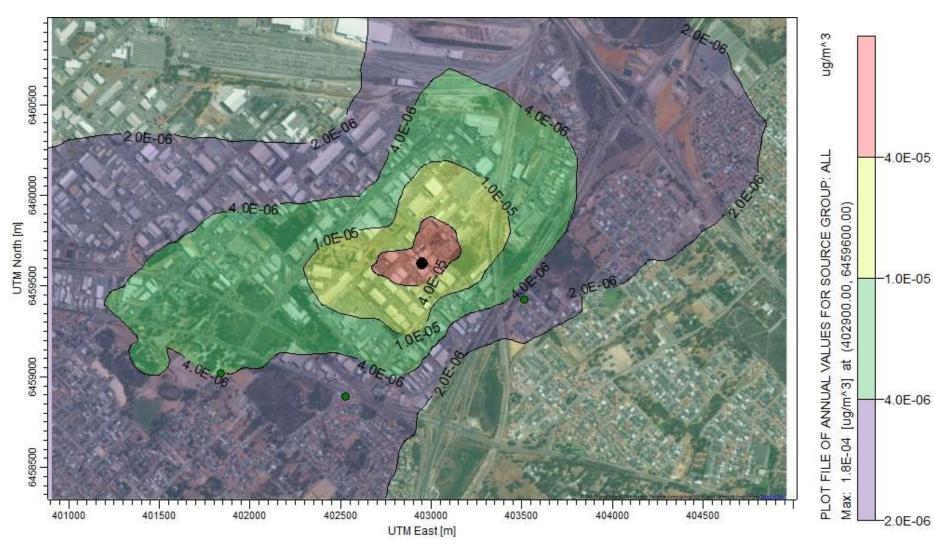


Figure 19: Maximum Cd 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 0.018 μ g/m³)



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Figure 20: Cd Annual Average Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 0.005 μ g/m³)

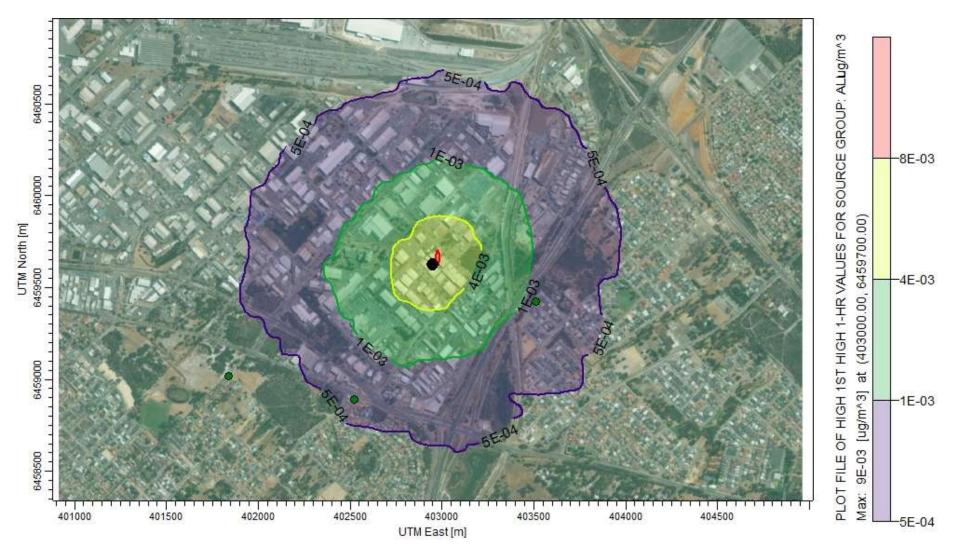


Figure 21: Maximum Co (Cobalt) 24-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 0.1 μ g/m³)

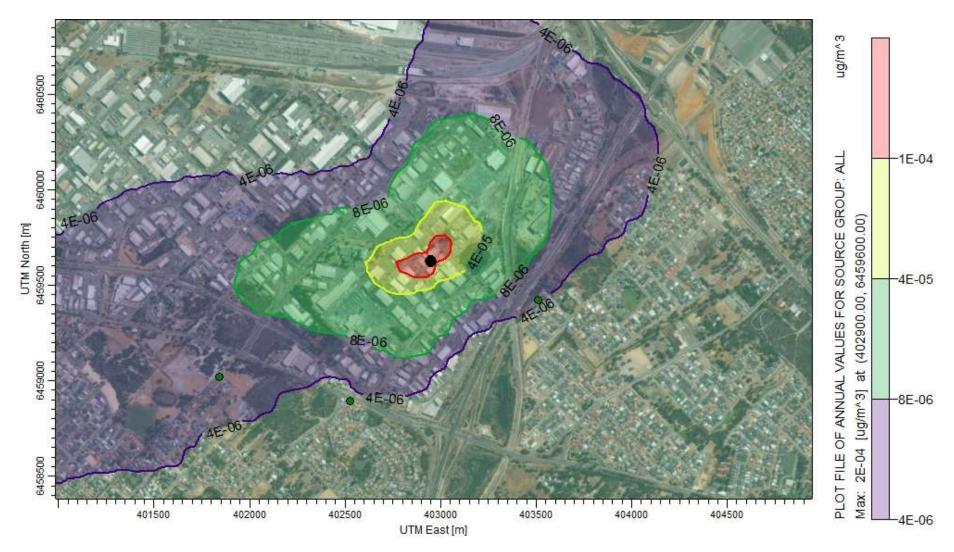


Figure 22: Cr (VI) Annual Average Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 0.0002 μ g/m³)

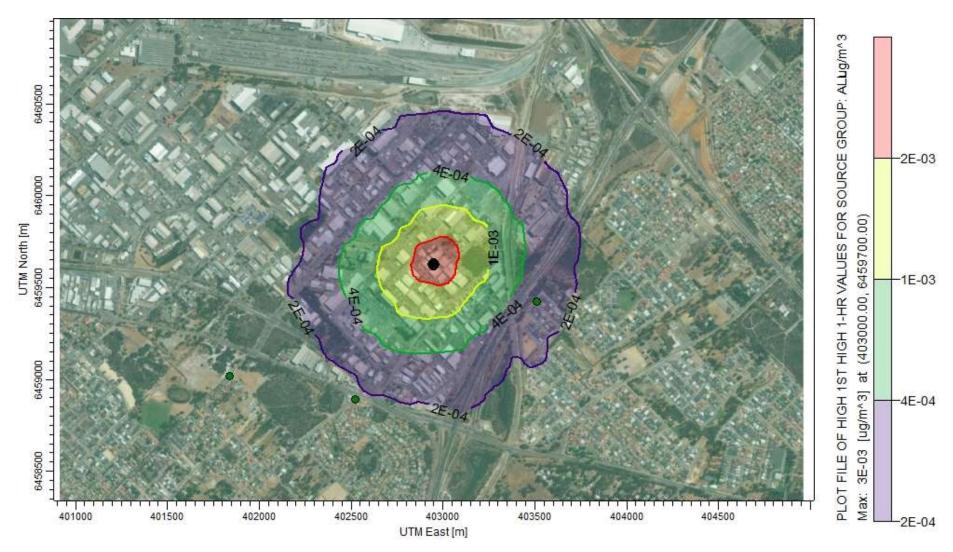


Figure 23: Maximum Cr (III) 1-hr Ground Level Concentration µg/m³ (standard 10 µg/m³)

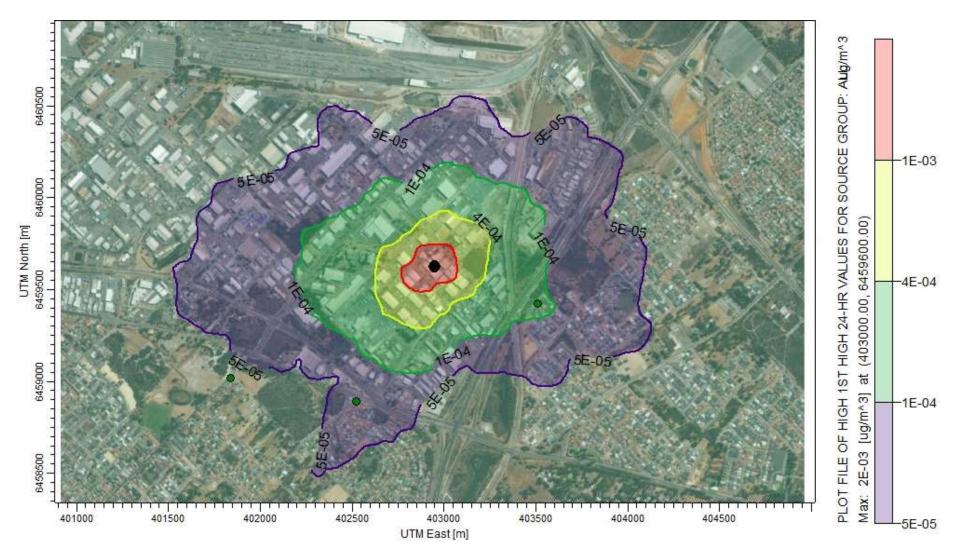


Figure 24: Maximum Cr (III) 24-hr Ground Level Concentration μg/m³ (standard 0.05 μg/m³)

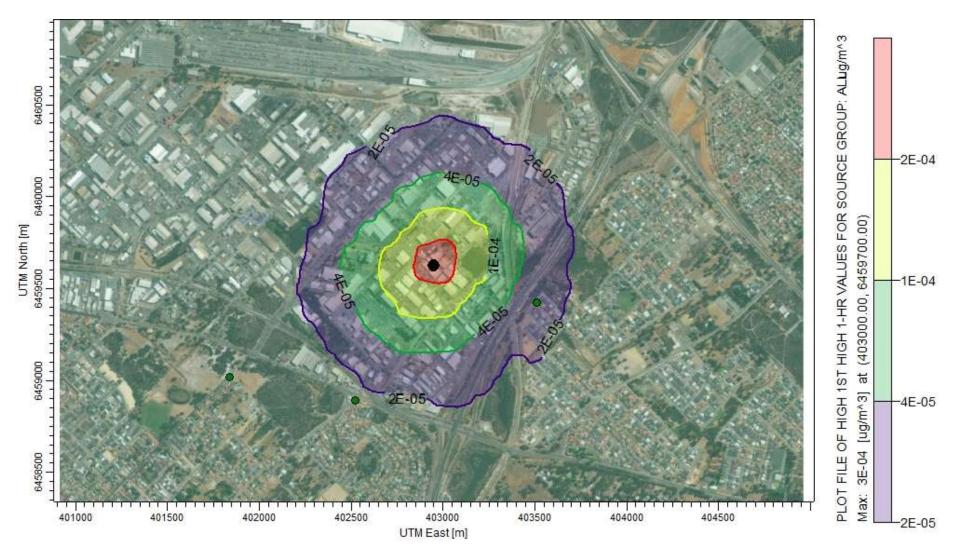


Figure 25: Maximum Hg 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μg/m³ (standard 1.8 μg/m³)

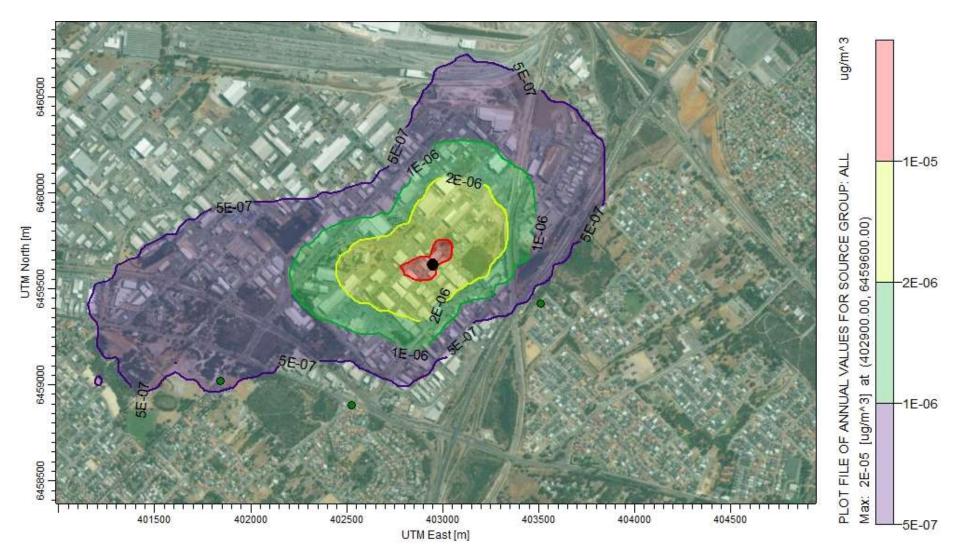


Figure 26: Hg Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.2 $\mu g/m^3$)

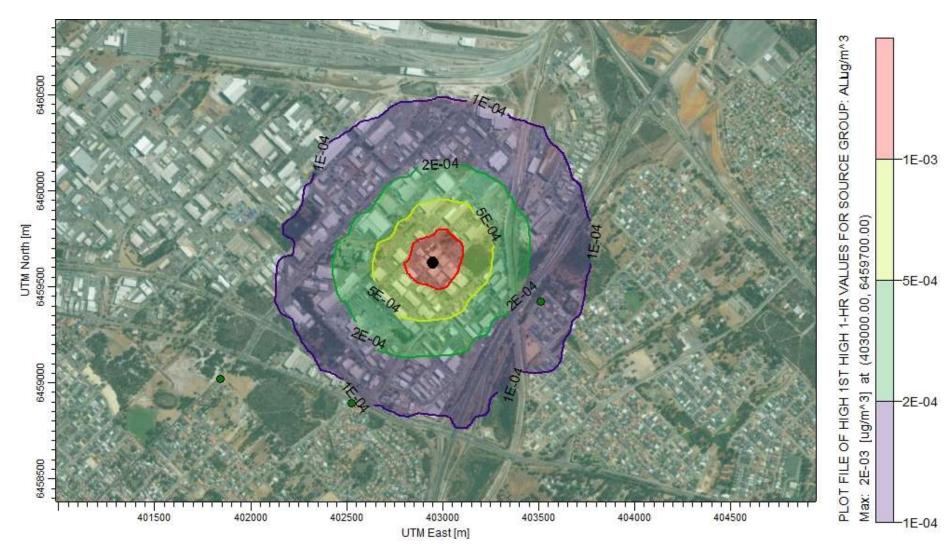


Figure 27: Maximum Mn 1-hr Ground Level Concentration µg/m³ (standard 18 µg/m³)

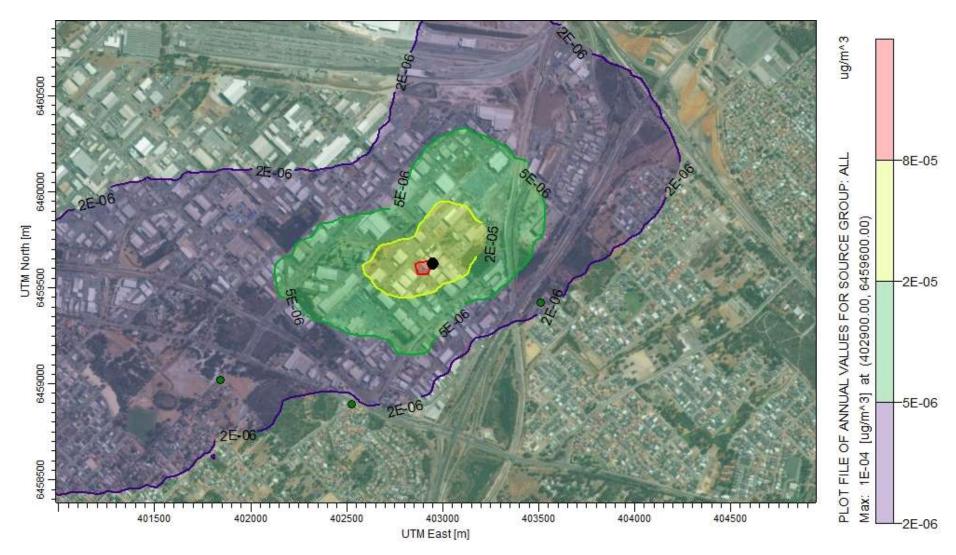


Figure 28: Mn Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.15 $\mu g/m^3$)

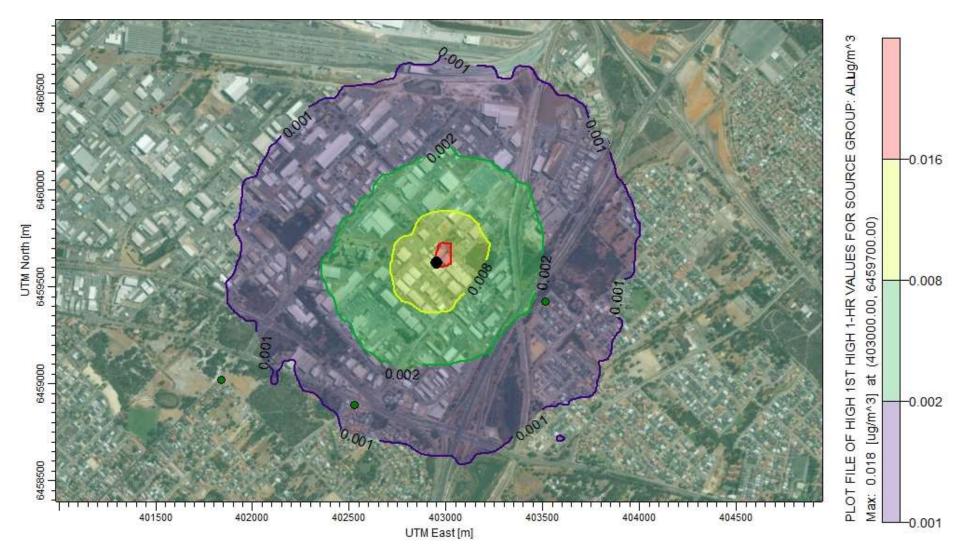


Figure 29: Maximum Ni 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.18 $\mu g/m^3$)

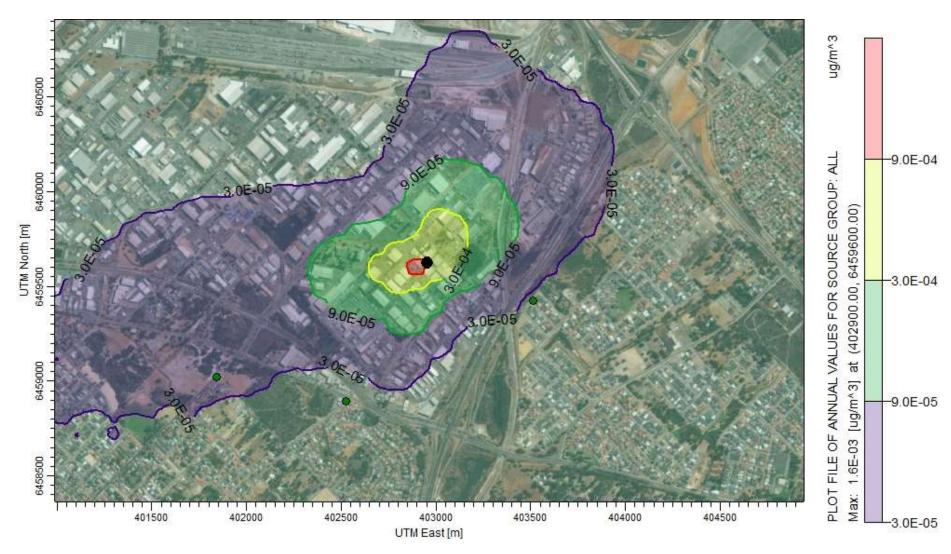


Figure 30: Ni Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.003 $\mu g/m^3$)

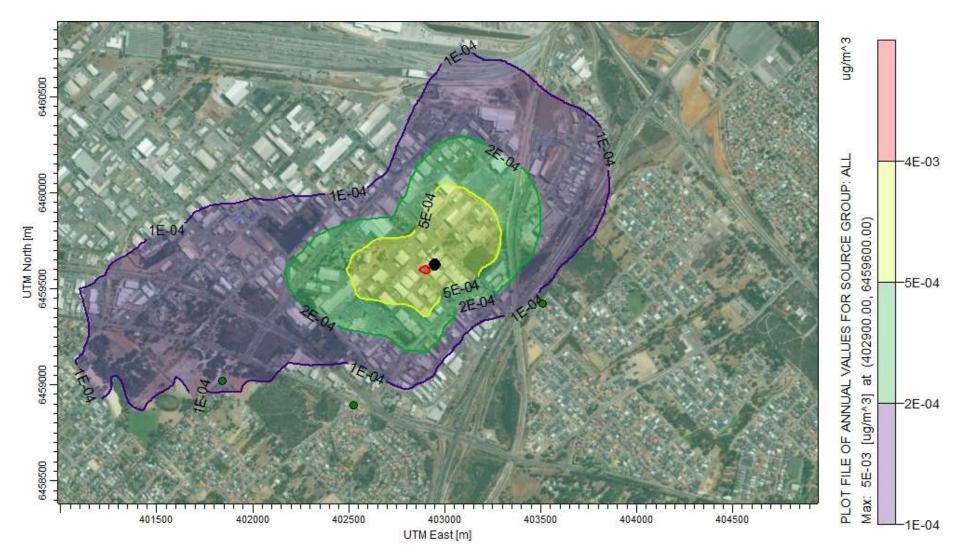


Figure 31: Pb Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 0.5 $\mu g/m^3$)

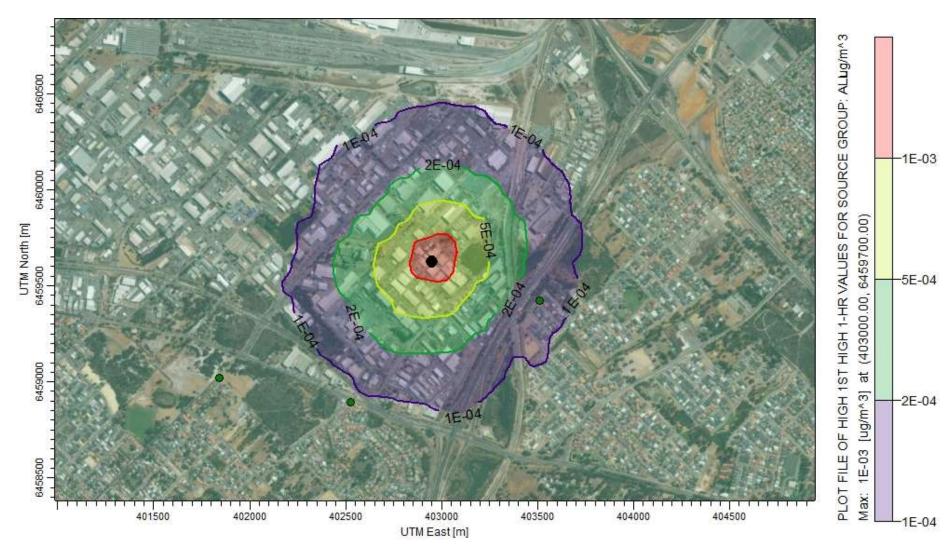


Figure 32: Maximum Sb 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard 9 $\mu g/m^3$)

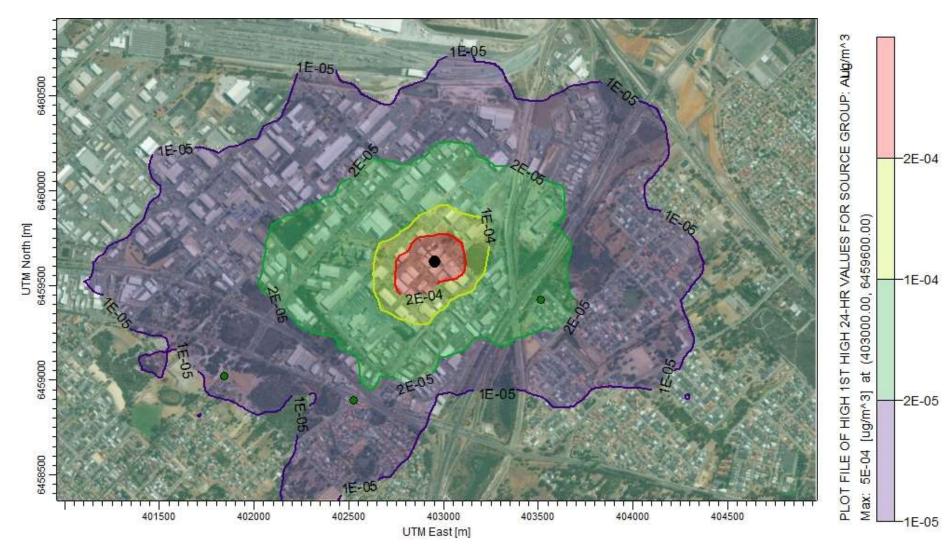


Figure 33: Maximum V 24-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (standard $1 \mu g/m^3$)

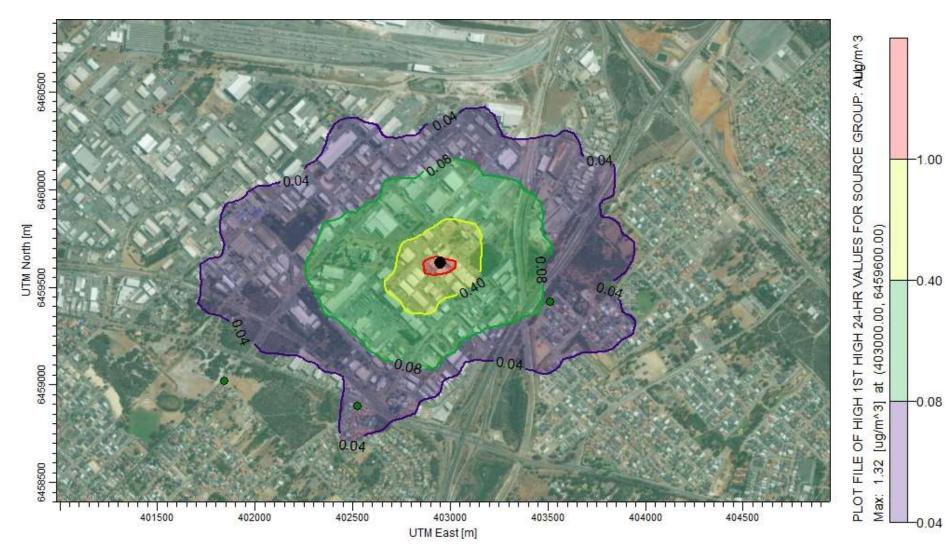


Figure 34: Maximum PM 24-hr Ground Level Concentration μg/m³ (90_{TSP}, 50₁₀, 25_{2.5} μg/m³)

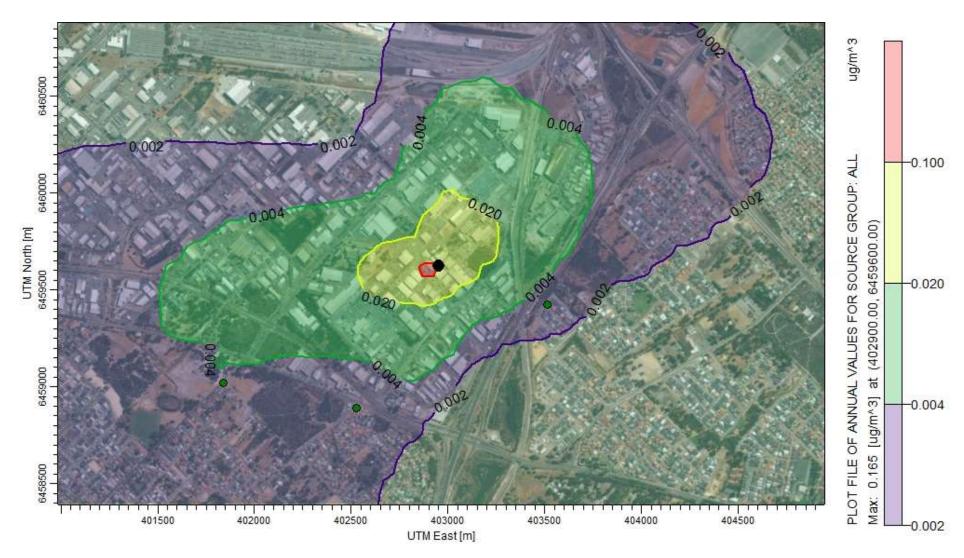


Figure 35: PM Annual Average Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (PM_{2.5} standard 8 $\mu g/m^3$)

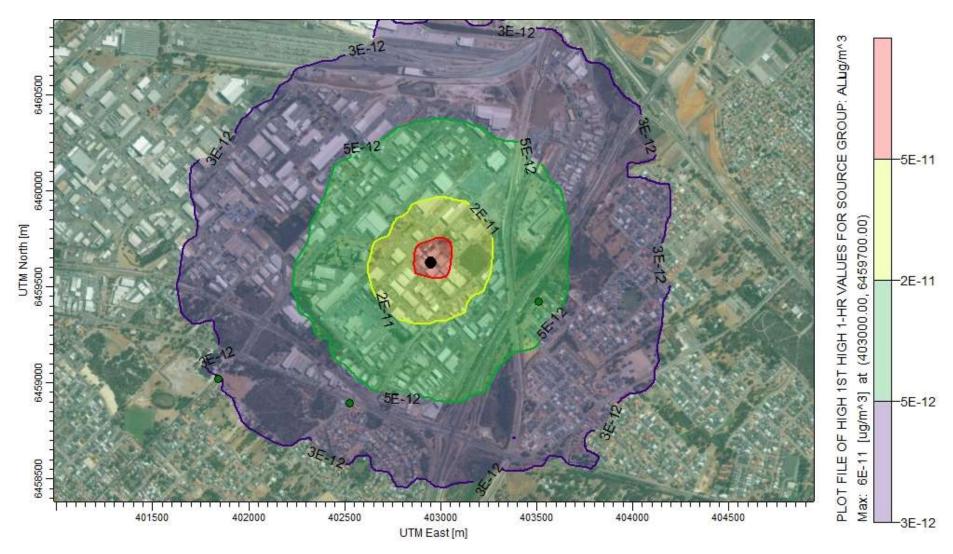


Figure 36: Maximum Dioxins (TEQ) 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (standard 1E-6 μ g/m³)

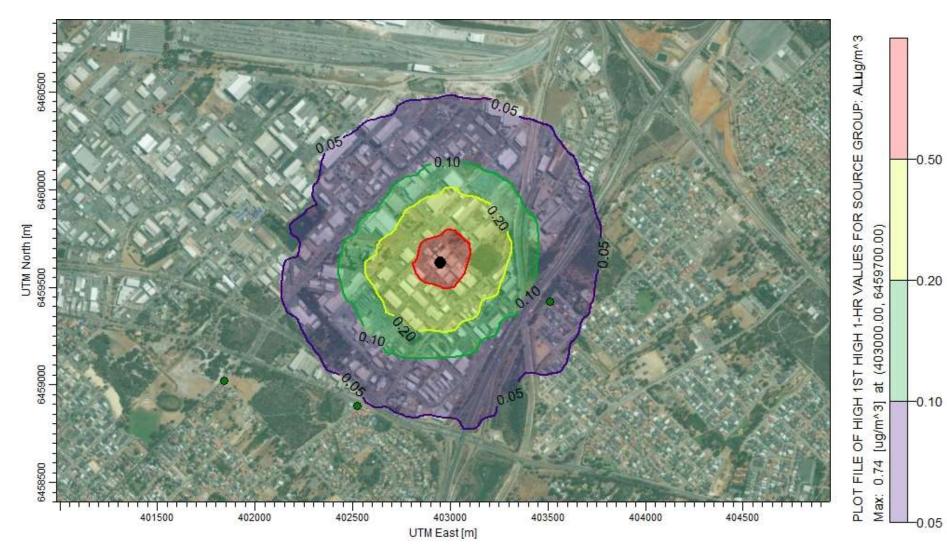


Figure 37: Maximum Ethane 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (no standard μ g/m³)

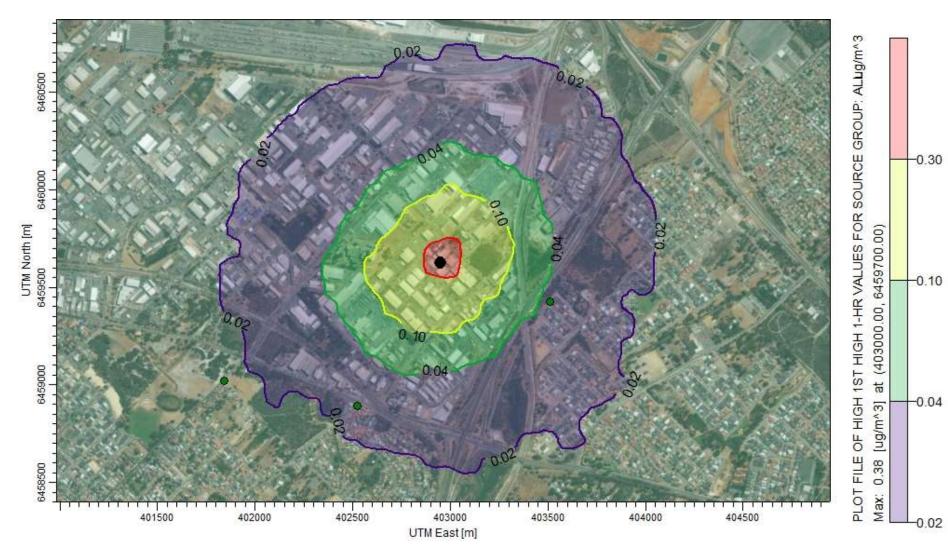


Figure 38: Maximum Propane 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (no standard $\mu g/m^3$)

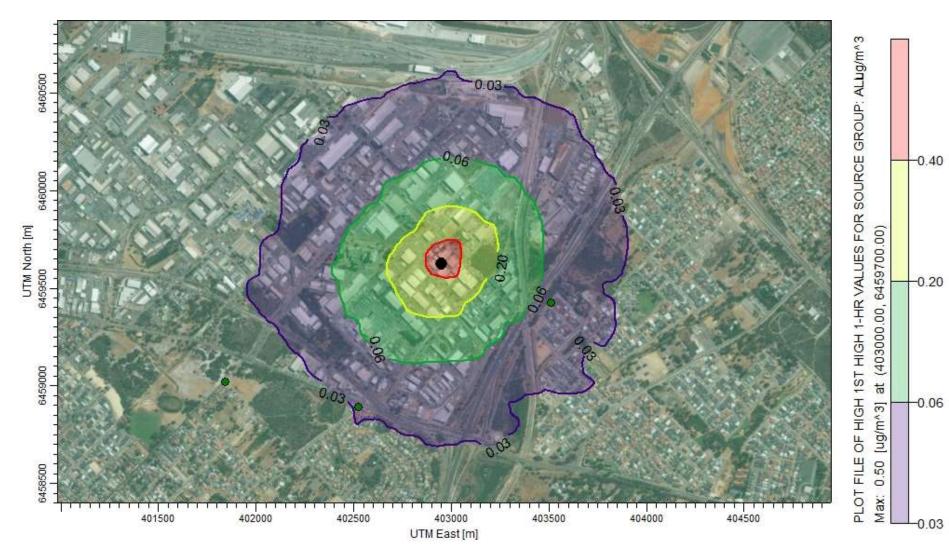


Figure 39: Maximum Butane 1-hr Ground Level Concentration μ g/m³ (no standard μ g/m³)

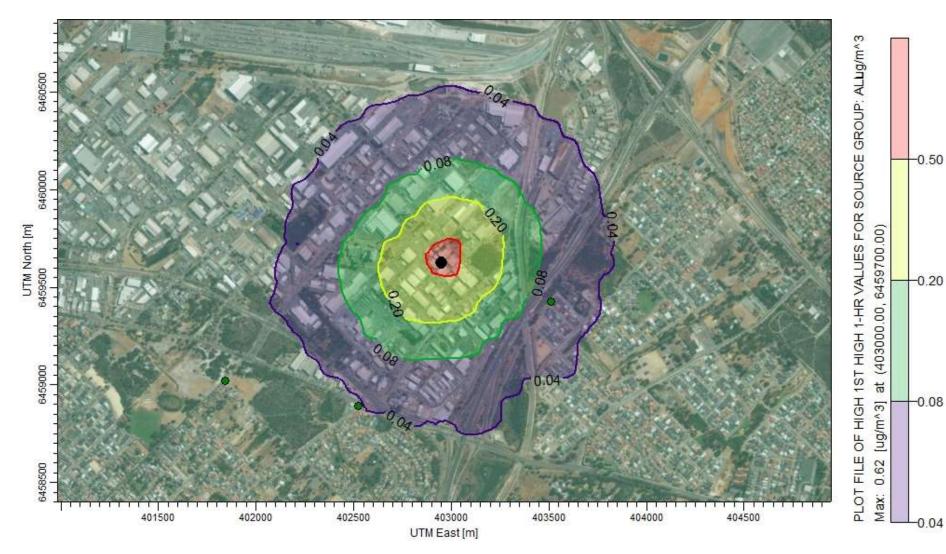


Figure 40: Maximum Pentane 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (no standard $\mu g/m^3$)

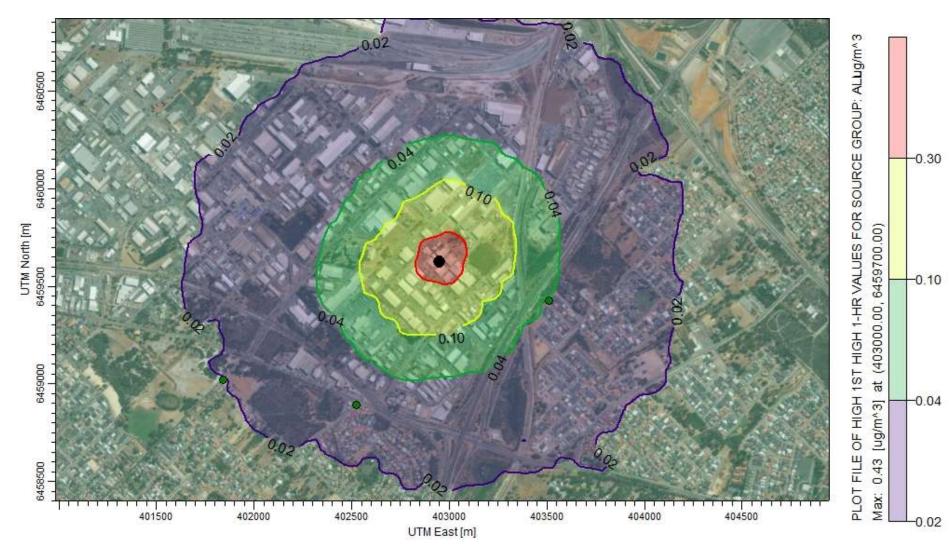


Figure 41: Maximum Hexane 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (no standard $\mu g/m^3$)

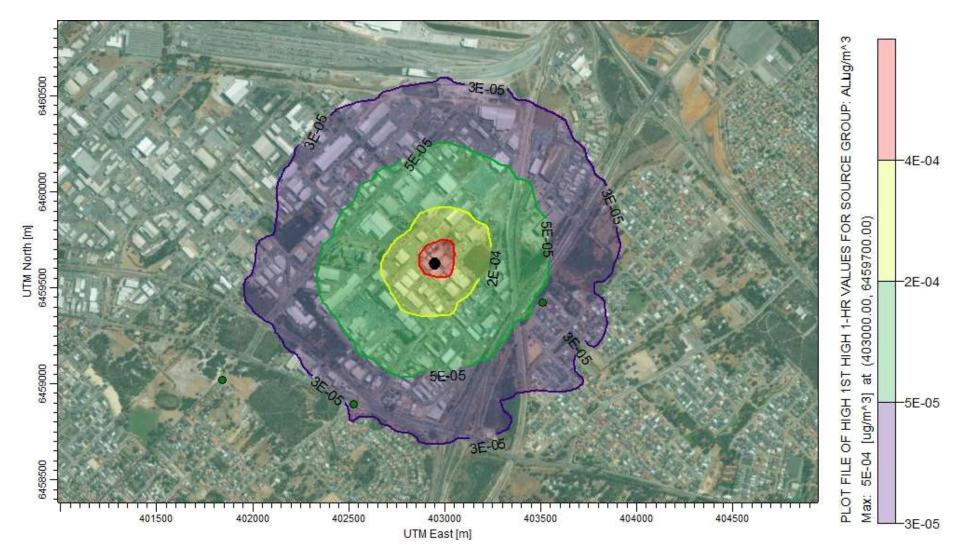


Figure 42: Maximum Benzene 1-hr Ground Level Concentration µg/m³ (no standard µg/m³)

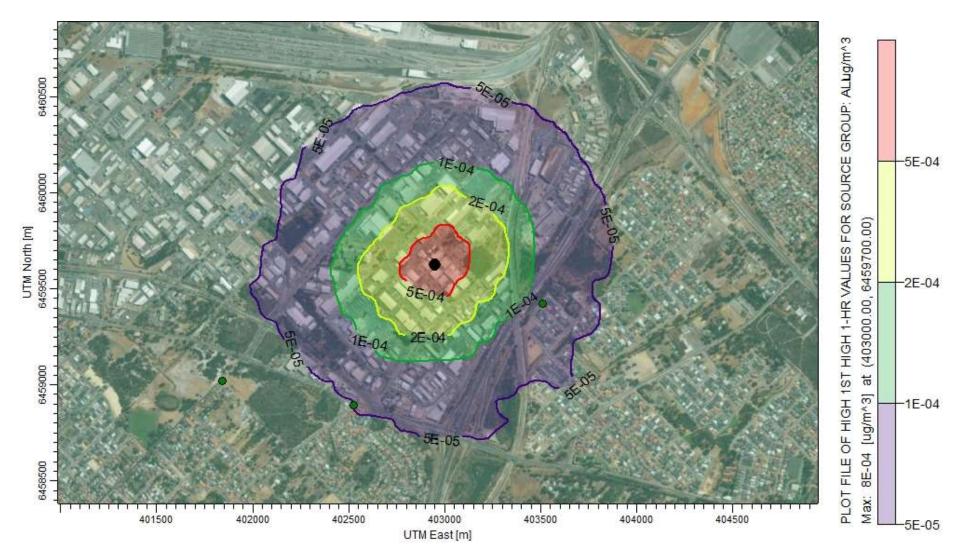


Figure 43: Maximum Toluene 1-hr Ground Level Concentration $\mu g/m^3$ (no standard $\mu g/m^3$)

Appendix B: AERMOD Input File ***** ** AERMOD Input Produced by: ** AERMOD View Ver. 9.1.0 ** Lakes Environmental Software Inc. ** Date: 28/06/2016 ** File: 400Deg.ADI ***** ****** ** AERMOD Control Pathway ***** CO STARTING TITLEONE 400Deg.isc MODELOPT DFAULT CONC AVERTIME 1 8 24 ANNUAL URBANOPT 1000000 POLLUTID TRACER RUNORNOT RUN ERRORFIL 400Deg.err CO FINISHED ****** ** AERMOD Source Pathway ****** SO STARTING ** Source Location ** ** Source ID - Type - X Coord. - Y Coord. ** LOCATION STACK POINT 402950.000 6459625.000 ** DESCRSRC Stack ** Source Parameters ** SRCPARAM STACK 1.0 15.000 673.150 15.40000 0.800 ** Building Downwash ** BUILDHGT STACK 8.00 8.00 8.00 8.00 8.008.00 BUILDWID STACK 49.16 50.59 50.49 48.84 50.27 50.69 37.52 31.02 23.58 15.42 22.00 29.61 **BUILDLEN STACK** XBADJ STACK -17.98 -14.74 -11.05 -7.03 -10.39 -14.29 YBADJ STACK -0.01 0.12 0.26 0.38 0.50 0.59 URBANSRC ALL SRCGROUP ALL SO FINISHED ***** ** AERMOD Receptor Pathway **RE STARTING** INCLUDED 400Deg.rou **RE FINISHED** ****** ** AERMOD Meteorology Pathway ****** ME STARTING

21.110

** Surface File Path: ..\ SURFFILE ..\Perth.SFC ** Profile File Path: ..\ PROFFILE ..\Perth.PFL SURFDATA 0 2010 Perth UAIRDATA 1 2010 SITEDATA 1 2010 **PROFBASE 23.0 METERS** ME FINISHED ***** ** AERMOD Output Pathway ****** OU STARTING **RECTABLE ALLAVE 1ST RECTABLE 1 1ST RECTABLE 8 1ST RECTABLE 24 1ST** ** Auto-Generated Plotfiles PLOTFILE 1 ALL 1ST 400DEG.AD\01H1GALL.PLT 31 PLOTFILE 8 ALL 1ST 400DEG.AD\08H1GALL.PLT 32 PLOTFILE 24 ALL 1ST 400DEG.AD\24H1GALL.PLT 33 PLOTFILE ANNUAL ALL 400DEG.AD\AN00GALL.PLT 34 SUMMFILE 400Deg.sum OU FINISHED

** Project Parameters

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** PROJCTN CoordinateSystemUTM

- ** DESCPTN UTM: Universal Transverse Mercator
- ** DATUM World Geodetic System 1984
- ** DTMRGN Global Definition
- ** UNITS m
- ** ZONE -50
- ** ZONEINX 0