

Port Augusta Operations Pty. Ltd

Port Augusta Operations Ambient Monitoring Network

Ambient Air Quality Monitoring

Validated Report

1st March – 31st March 2025

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1.0 Introduction

Acoem Australasia (Ecotech Pty Ltd) was commissioned by Port Augusta Operations Pty. Ltd. to provide monitoring and data reporting for the Port Augusta Operations ambient air quality monitoring network, located as detailed in Table 1. Acoem commenced data collection from the monitoring stations on 01/02/2022.

This report presents the data for March 2025.

The data presented in this report:

- Describes air quality measurements;
- Compares monitoring results;
- Has been quality assured;
- Conforms with NATA accreditation requirements, where applicable.

2.0 Monitoring and Data Collection

2.1. Siting Details

The Port Augusta Operations air quality monitoring network consists of six ambient air quality monitoring stations. The station's location and siting details are described below.

Table 1: Port Augusta Operations Monitoring Site Locations

Stations	Geographical Coordinates	Height Above Sea Level (m)
Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN)	32°30'47.71"S, 137°50'11.90"E	34
Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO)	32°30'36.04"S, 137°47'08.93"E	9
North E-Sampler	32°31'11.00"S, 137°47'33.00"E	9
East E-Sampler	32°31'45.74"S, 137°48'29.21"E	6
South E-Sampler	32°33'00.00"S, 137°48'15.00"E	10
Met Station	32°32'40.70"S, 137°47'41.10"E	18

The Port Augusta Operations stations are audited against the guidelines and mandatory requirements in the standards below, as relevant:

- AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2016 “Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air – guide to siting air monitoring equipment”,
- AS/NZS 3580.14:2014 “Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air – Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications”.

Audit results, including deviations from the guidelines, are detailed in Table 2 below. Any non-conformances with the mandatory requirements of the above standards are detailed in section 2.3.1.

Table 2: Monitoring Station Siting Audit Against Standards

Stations	Audit date	Site classification	All guidelines met?	Deviation from guidelines
Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN)	08/02/2024	Neighbourhood	Partly	Nearby sheds
Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO)	08/02/2024	Neighbourhood	Partly	Nearby EPA shelter
North E-Sampler	23/02/2022*	Peak	Yes	N/A
East E-Sampler	23/02/2022*	Peak	Yes	N/A
South E-Sampler	28/03/2022*	Peak	Yes	N/A
Met Station	TBA	n/a	Yes	N/A

*E- Sampler stations are non-AS compliant and siting audits are no longer required.



Figure 1: Port Augusta Operations Monitoring Stations Locations

2.2. Monitored Parameters

Table 3 details the parameters monitored, and the instruments used at the Port Augusta Operations monitoring stations. Appendix 1 defines any abbreviated parameter names used throughout the report.

Sampling of all parameters is continuous.

Elevations in the table below is the height of the sensor (for meteorological sensors) or sample inlet (for particulate monitors) above ground level at the monitoring station.

Table 3: Parameters Measured at the Port Augusta Operations Monitoring Stations

Stations	Parameter Measured	Instrument and Measurement Technique	Elevation (m)
Exactus BAM 1 (STN) Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO)	PM ₁₀	Acoem Exactus BAM plus - Beta ray attenuation	2.3
North E-Sampler East E-Sampler South E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	Met One E-Sampler – light scatter aerosol monitor	2.5
Met Station	Wind Speed (horizontal)	Gill Windsonic – ultrasonic	11.5
	Wind Direction	Gill Windsonic – ultrasonic	11.5
	Sigma	Calculation	-
	Ambient Temperature	Vaisala HMP155	10
	Relative Humidity	Vaisala HMP155	10
	Rain	Tipping Bucket	6.4

2.3. Data Collection Methods

Table 4 below shows the methods used for data collection. Any deviations from the stated methods are detailed in section 2.3.1.

Table 4: Methods

Parameter Measured	Data Collection Methods Used	Description of Method
PM ₁₀ (Exactus BAM plus)	AS/NZS 3580.9.11:2022	Methods of sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 9.11: Determination of suspended particulate matter – PM ₁₀ beta attenuation monitors
PM ₁₀ (Met One E-Sampler)	Manufacturer's Instructions	Met One E-Sampler Operation Manual
Vector Wind Speed (Horizontal)	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications
Vector Wind Direction	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications
Sigma	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications
Ambient Temperature	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications
Relative Humidity	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications
Rain	AS/NZS 3580.14:2014	Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air. Method 14: Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications

2.3.1. NATA Endorsement and Conformity with Standards

Unless stated below, parameters are monitored at the Port Augusta Operations monitoring stations according to the methods detailed in Table 4 above.

- Measurement of PM₁₀ via E-Samplers is not covered by Acoem's NATA scope of accreditation.
- Measurement of PM₁₀ via Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN) and Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) does not fully meet the recommendations of standard *AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2022* due to the stations being located in close proximity to a shed and roadway.
- Measurement of PM₁₀ via Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN) and Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) may also not fully meet the recommendations of standard *AS/NZS 3580.1.1:2022* due to overdue siting audits from 08/02/2025.
- The Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) also does not meet the requirements due to the replacement unit following instalment on 17/02/2025 had not yet undergone the 2-yearly calibration.
- Measurement of wind data at the meteorological station does not fully meet the requirements of standard *AS/NZS 3580.14:2014* due to overdue calibration.

2.3.2. Data Acquisition

Data acquisition is performed using a DataTaker DT800 Series data logger situated at the Met station, and direct link with the Met One E-Sampler and Exactus BAM plus instruments. Each logger is equipped with a 4G modem for remote data collection. The recorded data is remotely collected from the loggers on a daily basis (using Airodis™ version 5.2) and stored at Acoem's Environmental Reporting Services (ERS) department in Melbourne, Australia. Data samples are logged in 5-minute intervals for the Met station and E-Samplers, and 15-minute intervals for the Exactus BAM plus data. Unless otherwise specified, raw data will be retained for at least four years.

2.4. Data Validation and Reporting

2.4.1. Validation

The Acoem ERS department perform daily data checks to ensure maximum data capture rates are maintained. Any equipment failures are communicated to the responsible field engineers for urgent rectification. Acoem ERS maintains two distinct databases containing non-validated and validated data respectively.

The validated database is created by duplicating the non-validated database and then flagging data affected by instrument faults, calibrations, and other maintenance activities. The data validation software requires the analyst to supply a valid reason (e.g. backed by maintenance notes, calibration sheets etc.) in the database for flagging any data as invalid.

Details of all invalid or missing data are recorded in the Valid Data Exception Tables.

Validation is performed by the analyst, and the validation is reviewed. Graphs and tables are generated based on the validated 5-minute and 15-minute data as applicable.

2.4.2. Reporting

The reported data are included in a Microsoft Excel format file named *“Port Augusta Operations Monthly Data Report March 2025.xlsx”*

The Excel file consists of 6 Excel worksheets:

1. Cover
2. 5 Minute Data
3. PM₁₀RT 15 Minute Data
4. 1 Hour Data
5. 24 Hour Data
6. Valid Data Exception Tables

The data contained in this report is based on Australian Central Standard Time.

All averages are calculated from the 5-minute or 15-minute data as appropriate. Averages are based on a minimum of 75% valid readings within the averaging period.

Averaging periods of eight hours or less are reported for the end of the period, i.e. the hourly average 02:00am is for the data collected from 1:00am to 2:00am. One-hour averages are calculated based on a clock hour. One day and one-year averages are calculated based on calendar days.

Wind Data Reporting

Wind speed and wind direction data associated with calm wind conditions are reported in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 3580.14-2014. Calm wind conditions are defined as wind speeds below the starting threshold of the wind speed / direction sensors. Sensor starting thresholds are given in Table 5 “Measurement Range”.

3.0 Calibrations and Maintenance

3.1. Units and Uncertainties

The uncertainties for each parameter have been determined by the manufacturer’s tolerance limits of the equipment’s parameters, and by the data collection standard method.

The reported uncertainties are expanded uncertainties, calculated using coverage factors which give a level of confidence of approximately 95%.

Table 5: Units and Uncertainties

Parameter	Units	Resolution	Uncertainty ¹	Measurement Range
PM ₁₀ (Exactus BAM plus)	µg/m ³	1 µg/m ³	24Hr: ± (5.5 % of reading + 4.0 µg/m ³) (in range 0 - 100 µg/m ³) Hr: ± (8 % of reading + 11.0 µg/m ³) k factor of 2.0	0 to 10 mg/m ³ LDL _{24hr} = 2 µg/m ³ LDL _{hr} = 10 µg/m ³
PM ₁₀ (E-Sampler)	µg/m ³	1 µg/m ³	± 10% to gravimetric method ²	0 to 65 mg/m ³
Vector Wind Speed	m/s	0.1 m/s	±0.4 m/s or 2.0% of reading, whichever is greater K factor of 2.0	0 m/s to 30 m/s

¹Uncertainties are calculated based on the full measurement range unless stated otherwise

²The max measurement range for gas analysers is defined as the full scale (FS=Span/0.8)

³Manufacturer’s stated accuracy

Parameter	Units	Resolution	Uncertainty ¹	Measurement Range
Vector Wind Direction	Deg	1 deg	±4 deg K factor of 2.0	0 deg to 360 deg Starting threshold: 0 m/s
Rain	mm	0.2 mm	± (9% of reading + 0.2 mm) K factor of 2.0	Rainfall rates of 0 to 80 mm/hr
Ambient Temperature	°C	0.1°C	± 0.6°C K factor of 2.0	-10°C to 50°C
Relative Humidity	%	1%	± 6% K factor of 2.0	1-100%

3.2. Maintenance

3.2.1. Calibration & Maintenance Summary Tables

The last calibrations for the following parameters were performed on the indicated dates. Data supplied after this time is subject to further validation, to be performed at the next calibration cycle.

Note: Maintenance and calibration dates may differ, as calibrations may be less frequent than scheduled maintenance visits.

Tables 6 and 7 overleaf indicate when the particulate and meteorological equipment were last maintained / calibrated. Maintenance and calibration dates are for maintenance performed by Acoem.

“Calibration cycle” refers to the frequency of calibrations and intermediate calibration checks. The most frequent check or calibration is listed here.

Table 6: Port Augusta Operations PM₁₀ Stations Maintenance Table

Station	Parameter	Date of Last Maintenance	Maintenance Type	Date of Last Calibration	Calibration Cycle
Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN)	PM ₁₀	17/03/25	Non-scheduled	13/11/24	2 Yearly
Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO)	PM ₁₀	13/03/25	Non-scheduled	TBC	2 Yearly
North E-Sampler (Out ID: ER18-2088)	PM ₁₀	13/03/25	6 Monthly	13/03/25	3 Monthly
North E-Sampler (In ID: ER19-1652)	PM ₁₀	17/03/25	Commissioning	17/03/25	3 Monthly
East E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	13/03/25	6 Monthly	13/03/25	3 Monthly
South E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	13/03/25	Yearly	13/03/25	2 Monthly

Table 7: Port Augusta Operations Met Station Maintenance Table

Parameter	Date of Last Maintenance	Maintenance Type	Date of Last Calibration	Calibration Cycle
Wind Speed	13/03/25	Monthly	07/11/22	2 Yearly
Wind Direction	13/03/25	Monthly	07/11/22	2 Yearly
AT	13/03/25	Monthly	09/10/24	Yearly
RH	13/03/25	Monthly	09/10/24	Yearly
Rain	13/03/25	Monthly	09/10/24	Yearly

4.0 Results

4.1. Data Capture

Valid data capture refers to the amount of valid data collected during the report period. It is based on 5 and 15-minute data, for all continuously monitored parameters.

The percentage of valid data captured is calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Valid Data capture} = (\text{Reported air quality data} / \text{Total data}) \times 100\%$$

Where:

- Reported air quality data = Number of samples (instrument readings) which have been validated through a quality assured process and excludes all data errors, zero data collection due to calibration, equipment failures, planned and unplanned maintenance.
- Total data = Total number of samples (instrument readings) expected for the sampling period. Total data is calculated based on the same averaging period as “reported air quality data” and the duration of the corresponding report period. e.g. for 5-minute data collected over a month of 31 days, the total data would be equal to 12 (5-minute samples in an hour) x 24 (hours in a day) x 31 (days in a month) = 8928 samples.

Table 8 displays data capture statistics. **Bold** values in the table indicate data capture below 95%. Details of all invalid or missing data affecting data capture are included in the Valid Data Exception Tables for each station, under the tab “VDET” in the Excel File accompanying this report for each station and in section 5 of this report.

Table 8: Monthly Data Capture for Port Augusta Operations Monitoring Network

Station	Parameter	Data Capture (%)
Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN)	PM ₁₀	76.0
Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO)	PM ₁₀	99.3
North E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	75.2
East E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	99.9
South E-Sampler	PM ₁₀	59.6
Met	WS, WD, Sigma	100.0
Met	AT	99.9
Met	RH	99.9
Met	Rain	100.0

4.2. Graphic Representations

Validated 5-minute data for WS, WD, Sigma, AT, RH, Rain, PM₁₀ (E-sampler) and 15-minute PM₁₀ (Exactus BAM plus) were used to construct the following monthly graphic representations.

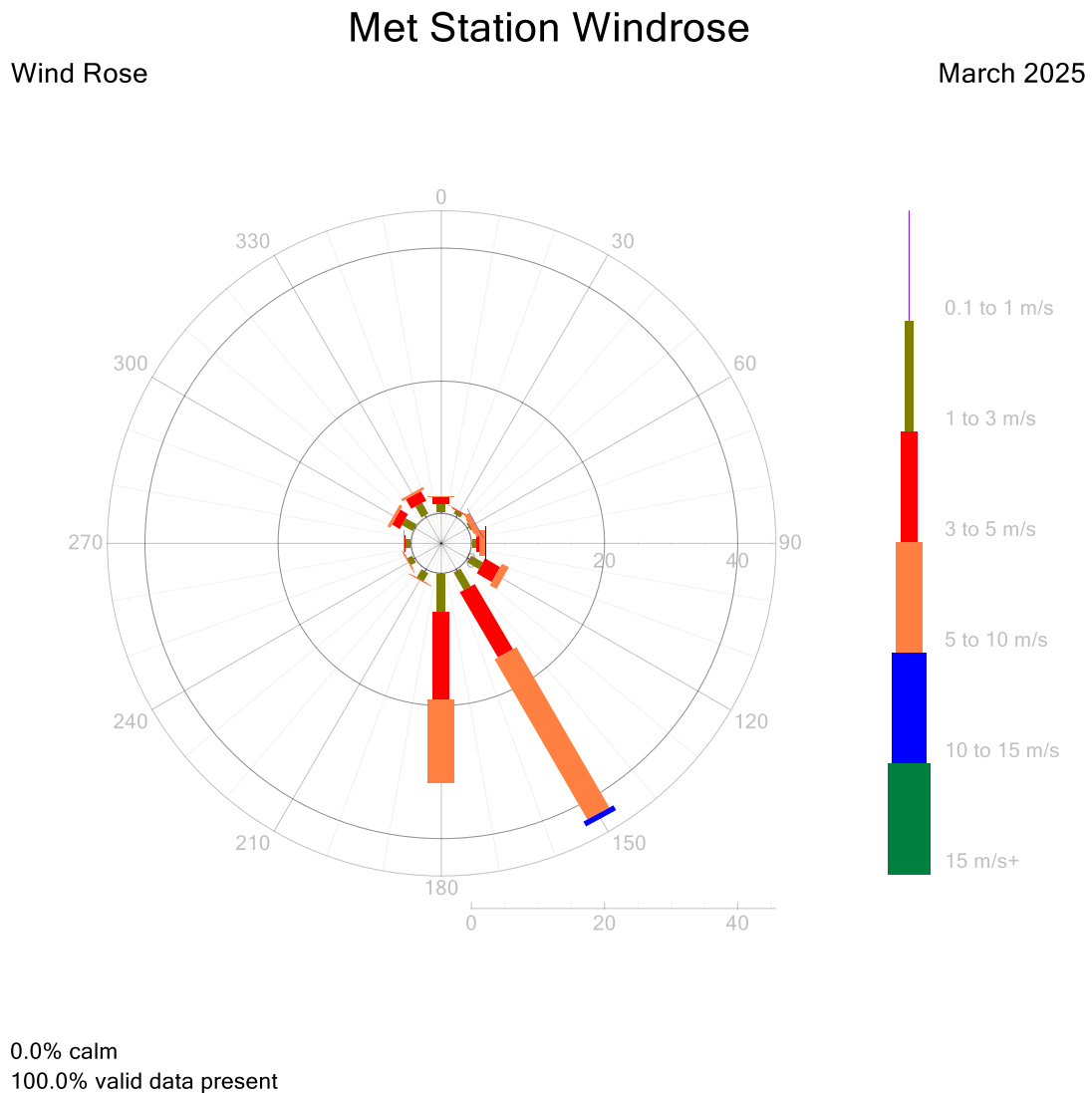


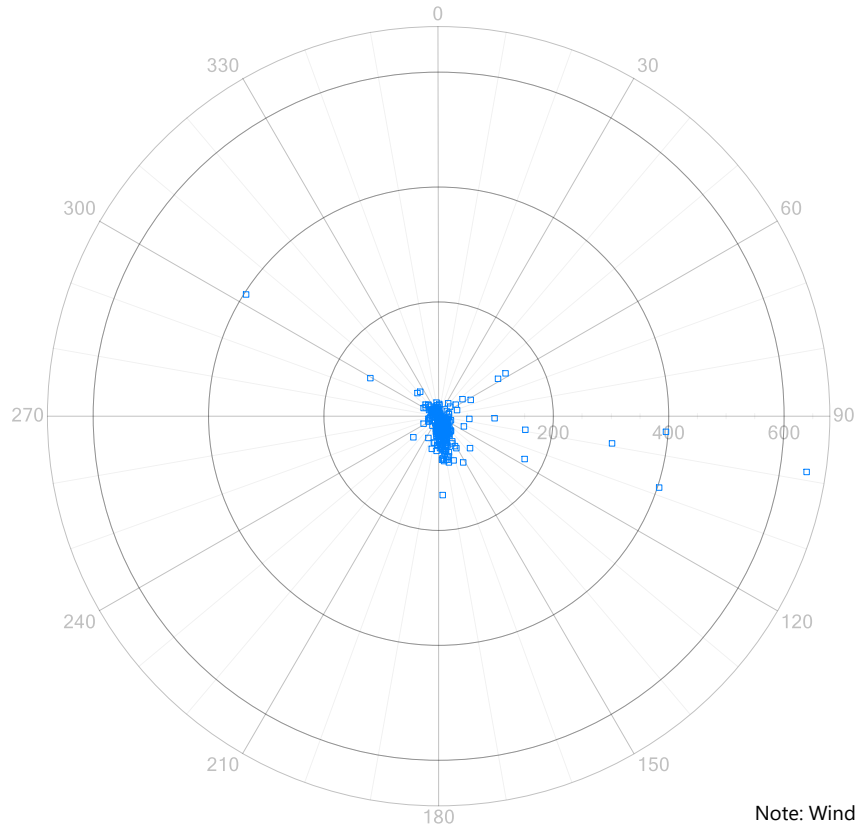
Figure 2: Met Station Wind Rose

Exactus BAM 1 (STN) PM₁₀ Scatter Plot

Polar Scatter

March 2025

□ PM₁₀ 1hr Avg (µg/m³)



76.1% valid data present

Note: Wind Data supplied from the Met Station

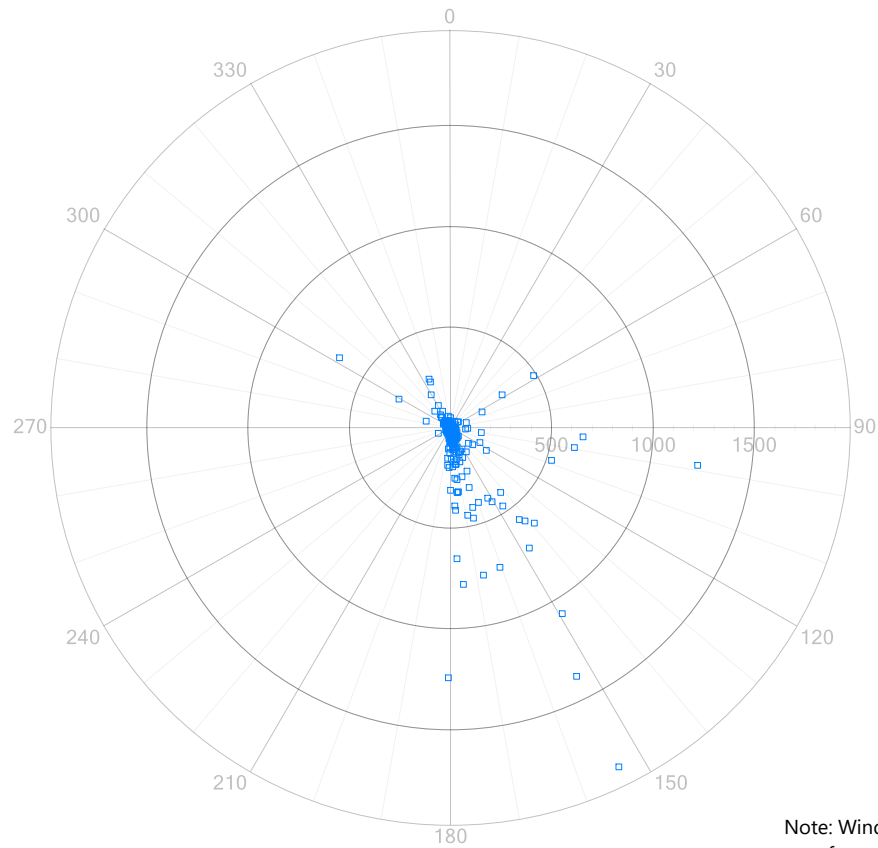
Figure 3: Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN) PM₁₀ Scatter Plot 1-Hour Averages

Exactus BAM 2 (LMO) PM₁₀ Scatter Plot

Polar Scatter

March 2025

□ PM₁₀ 1hr Avg (µg/m³)



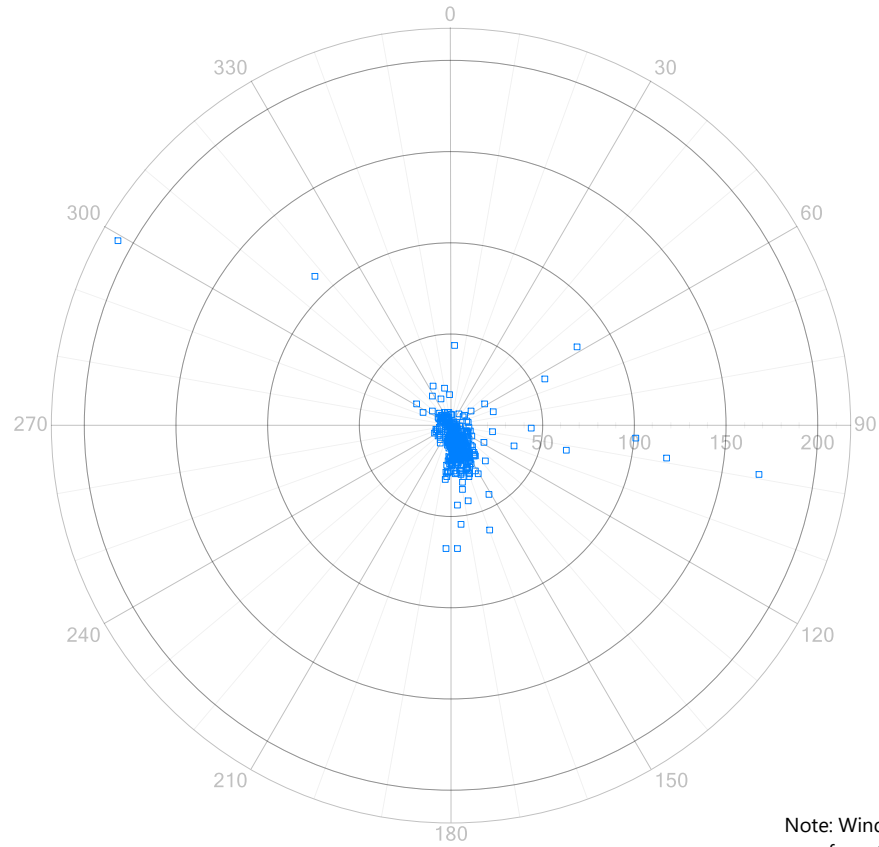
99.3% valid data present

Figure 4: Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) PM₁₀ Scatter Plot 1-Hour Averages

North ES PM₁₀ Scatter Plot

Polar Scatter
□ PM₁₀ 1hr Avg (µg/m³)

March 2025



74.9% valid data present

Note: Wind Data supplied from the Met Station

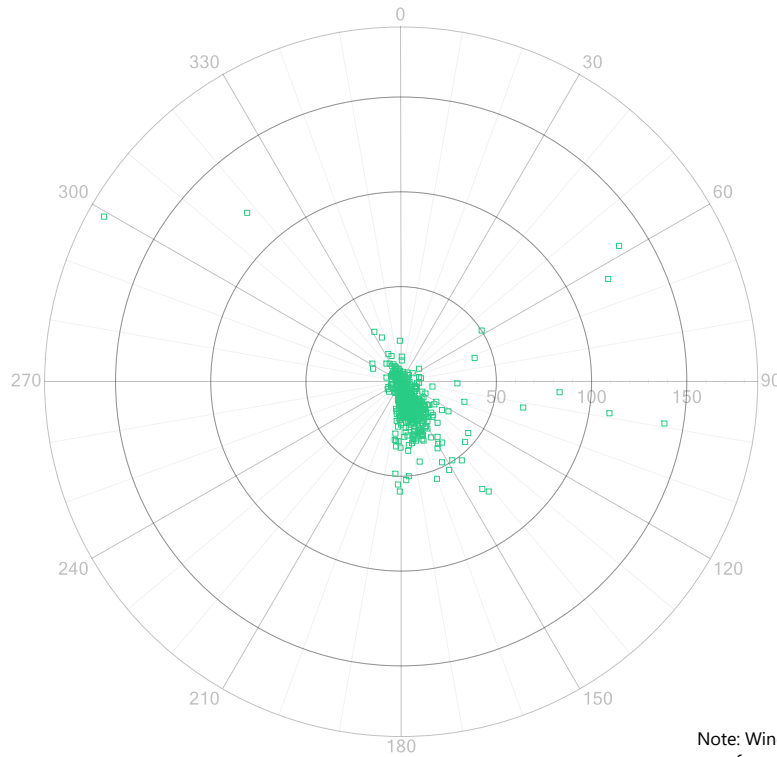
Figure 5: North E-Sampler PM₁₀ Scatter Plot 1-Hour Averages

East ES PM₁₀ Scatter Plot

March 2025

Polar Scatter

□ PM10 1hr Avg (µg/m³)



99.9% valid data present

Note: Wind Data supplied from the Met Station

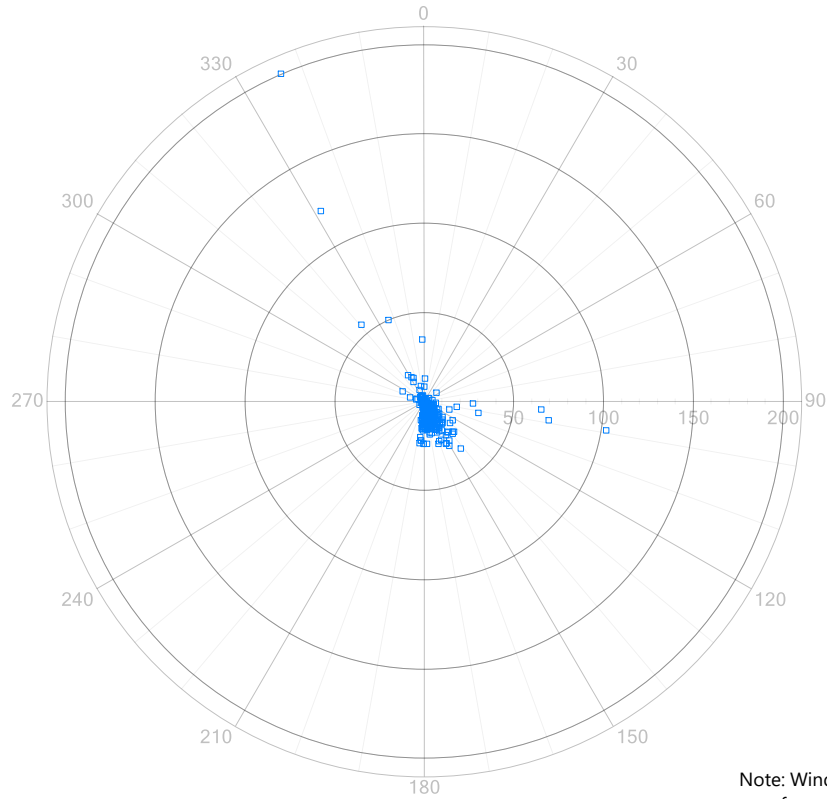
Figure 6: East E-Sampler PM₁₀ Scatter Plot 1-Hour Averages

South ES PM₁₀ Scatter Plot

Polar Scatter

March 2025

□ PM₁₀ 1hr Avg (µg/m³)



59.5% valid data present

Note: Wind Data supplied from the Met Station

Figure 7: South E-Sampler PM₁₀ Scatter Plot 1-Hour Averages

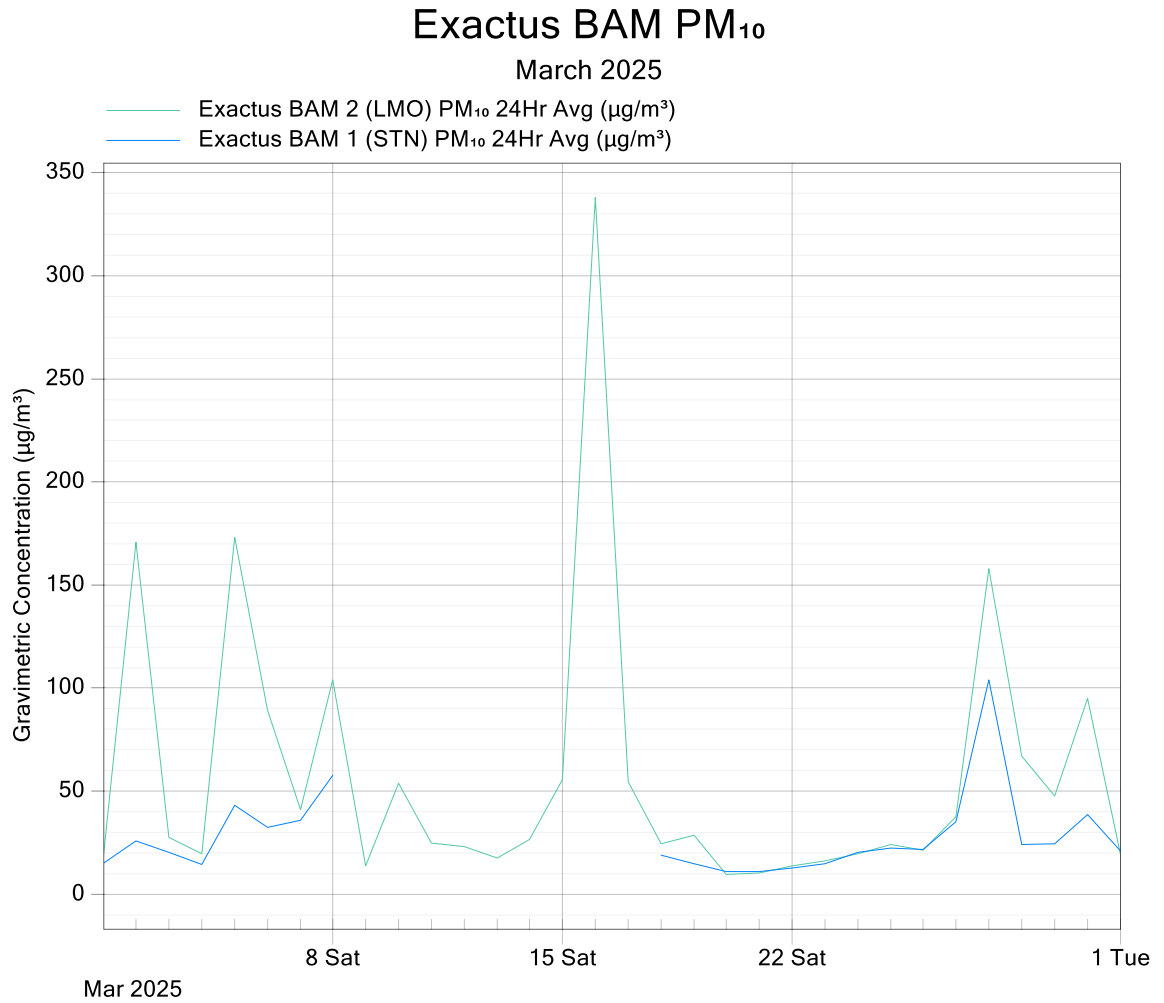


Figure 8: Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN) and 2 (LMO) PM₁₀ 24-Hour Averages

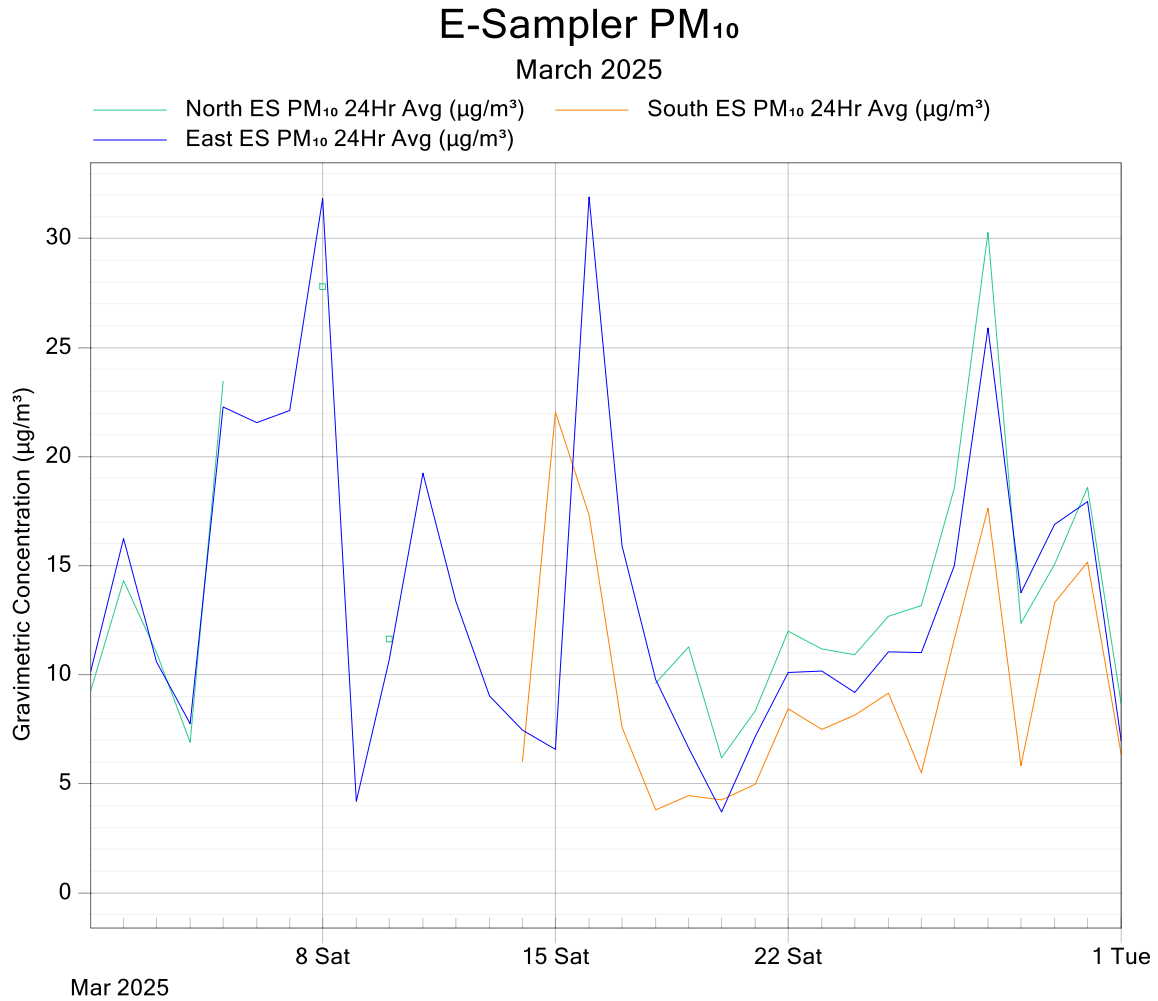


Figure 9: Port Augusta Operations E-Sampler Stations PM₁₀ 24-Hour Averages

Met Station AT

March 2025

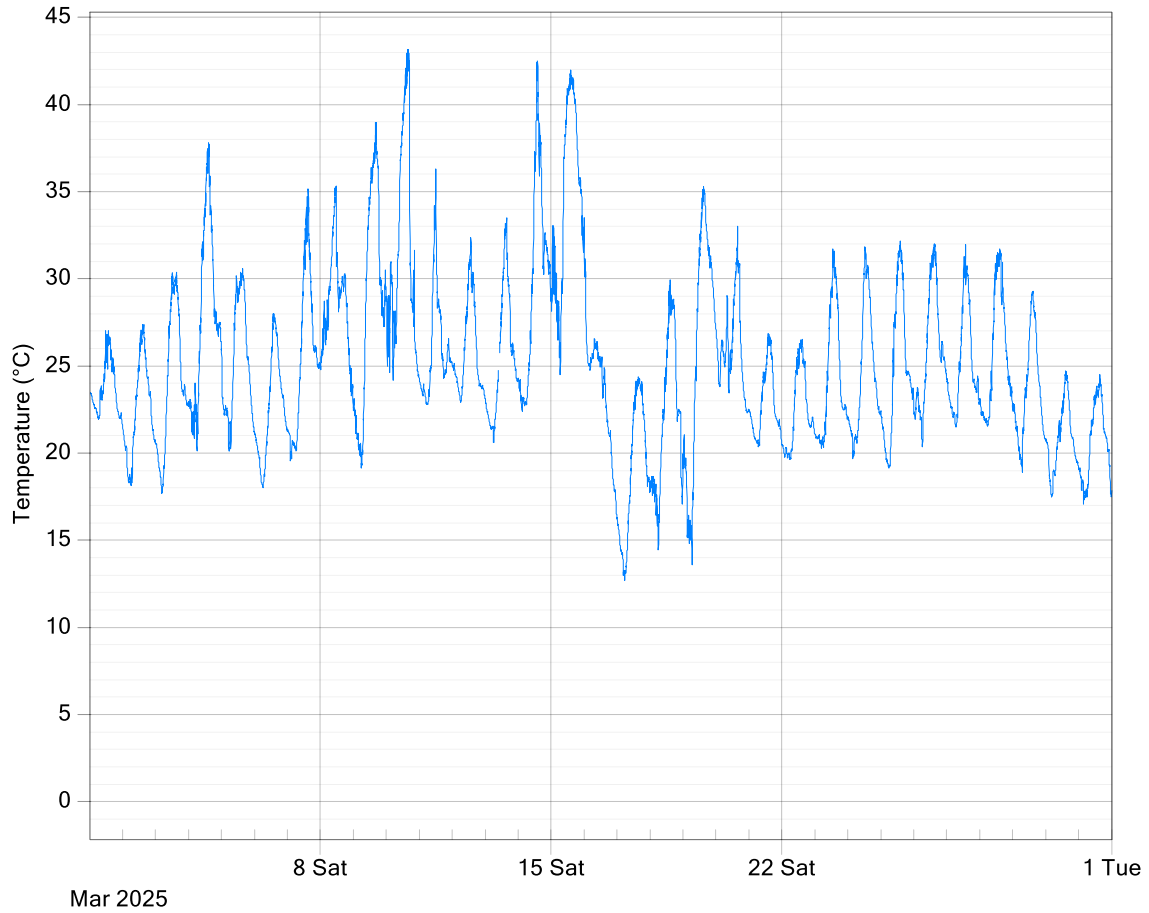


Figure 10: Met Station Ambient Temperature 5-Minute Averages

Met Station RH

March 2025

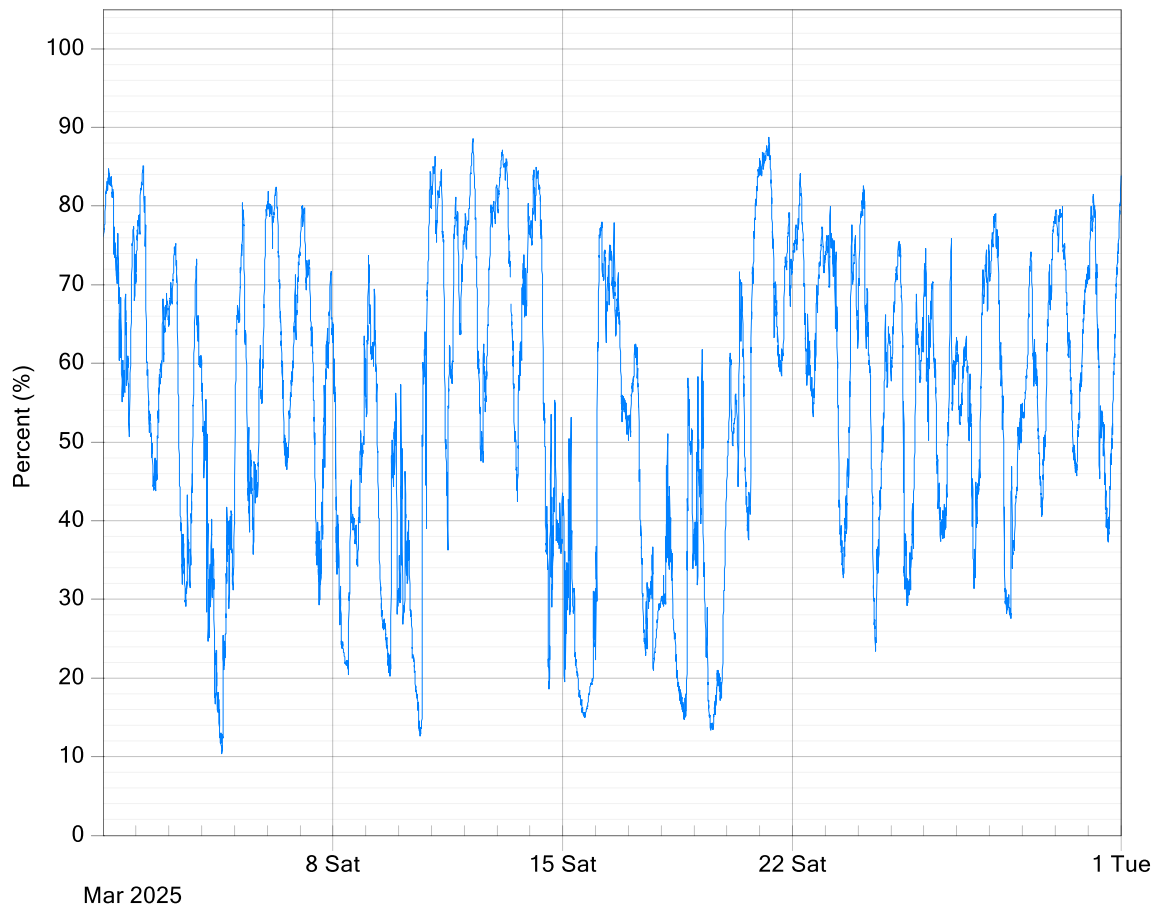


Figure 11: Met Station Relative Humidity 5-Minute Averages

Met Station Rain

March 2025

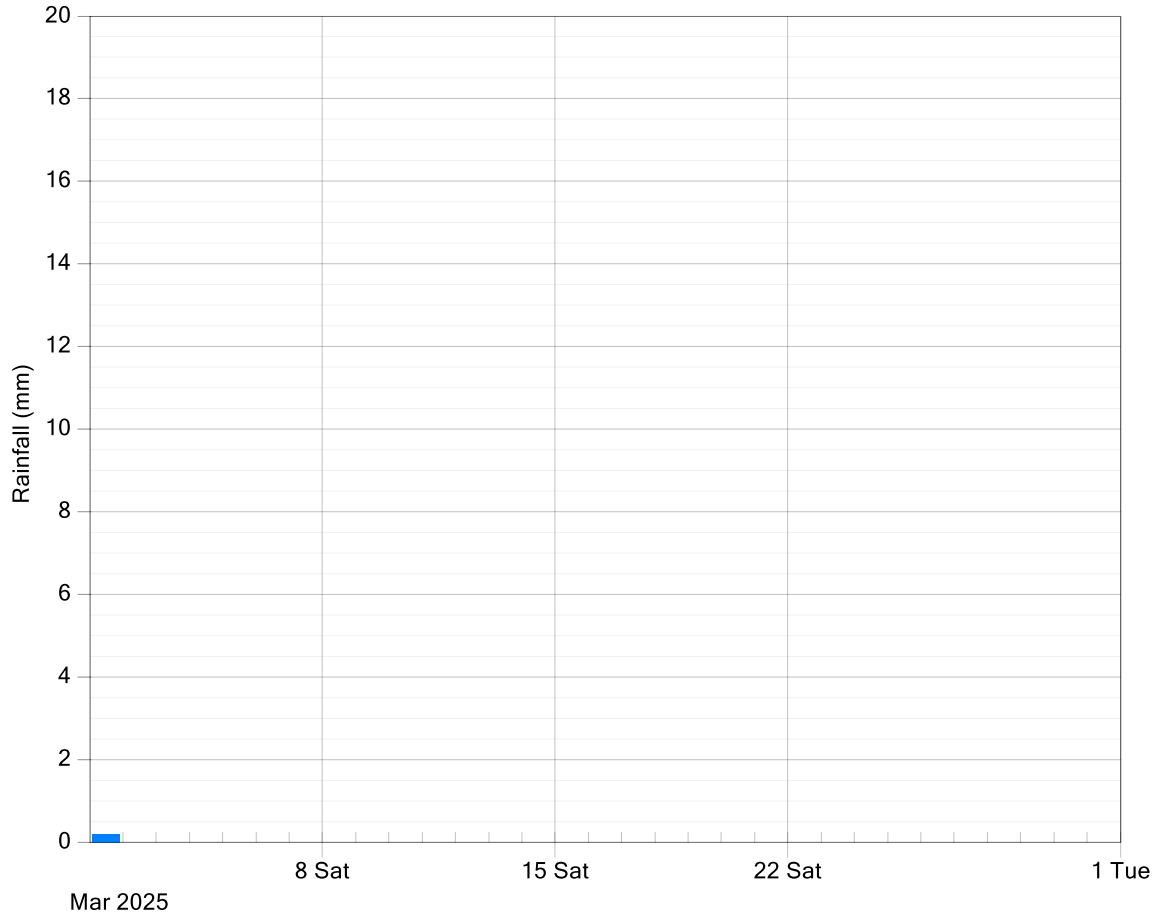


Figure 12: Met Station Rainfall 24-Hour Data

5.0 Valid Data Exception Tables

The tables below detail all changes made to the raw data set during the validation process. An explanation of reasons given in the table can be found in Appendix 2.

Table 9: Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN) Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
02/03/25 18:15	29/03/25 04:30	Intermittent unrealistic negative readings out of instrument measurement range	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
09/03/25 11:45	12/03/25 14:45	Instrument fault - Flow failure	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
12/03/25 15:00	12/03/25 17:15	Scheduled monthly maintenance - Pump rebuilt	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
13/03/25 14:00	14/03/25 11:30	Instrument fault - Flow failure	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25
14/03/25 11:45	14/03/25 12:15	Non-scheduled maintenance - Remotely connected to instrument. Flow issue couldn't be corrected. Left turned off.	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
14/03/25 12:30	17/03/25 14:15	Instrument offline	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
17/03/25 14:30	17/03/25 16:45	Non-scheduled maintenance - Sheath pump replaced	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25

Table 10: Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
08/03/25 21:15	20/03/25 10:15	Intermittent unrealistic negative readings out of instrument measurement range	PM ₁₀ RT	DD	28/04/25
12/03/25 13:00	12/03/25 15:45	Scheduled 3 monthly maintenance and stabilisation- Leak check and parts cleaned	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25
13/03/25 08:00	13/03/25 09:45	Non-scheduled maintenance - O-rings replaced	PM ₁₀ RT, PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
16/03/25 16:45	28/03/25 14:30	Intermittent tape advance	PM ₁₀ RT	DD	28/04/25

Table 11: North E-Sampler Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
02/03/25 00:00	13/03/25 13:30	Intermittent instrument fault - Flow failure	PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
13/03/25 13:35	13/03/25 14:35	Scheduled 6 monthly maintenance - Flow audit	PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
13/03/25 14:40	17/03/25 12:30	E-sampler (18-2088) removed for repair, station offline	PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25
17/03/25 12:35	17/03/25 13:10	Scheduled commissioning - New E-sampler (ID 19-1652) was installed and calibration performed	PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25

Table 12: East E-Sampler Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
13/03/25 12:50	13/03/25 13:15	Scheduled 6 monthly maintenance - Temperature and pressure sensors calibrated	PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25

Table 13: South E-Sampler Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
01/03/25 00:00	13/03/25 10:50	Instrument fault - Flow failure	PM ₁₀	DD	28/04/25
13/03/25 10:55	13/03/25 12:15	Scheduled yearly maintenance - Sample pump replaced	PM ₁₀	AN	28/04/25

Table 14: Met Station Valid Data Exception Table

Start Date	End Date	Reason	Change Details	User Name	Change Date
13/03/25 09:50	13/03/25 10:15	Scheduled monthly maintenance - Cleaned rain gauge and radiation shield	AT, RH, Rain	DD	28/04/25

6.0 Report Summary

- Percentage availability of PM₁₀ at Exactus BAM plus 1 (STN), North E-Sampler, and South E-Sampler stations was below 95% for the reporting month due to instrument flow faults or instrument removed for repair.
- Percentage availability of PM₁₀ at Exactus BAM plus 2 (LMO) station and East E-sampler was above 95% for the reporting month.
- Percentage availability for all parameters at the met station were above 95% for the reporting month.
- For more details regarding data exceptions, refer to Tables 9 -14.

----- END OF REPORT -----

Appendix 1 - Definitions & Abbreviations

°C	Degrees Celsius
µg/m ³	Micrograms per cubic metre at standard temperature and pressure (0°C and 101.3 kPa)
AT	Ambient Temperature
calm	Wind conditions where the wind speed is below the operating range of the wind sensor
deg	Degrees (True North)
LDL	Lower Detectable Limit
m/s	Metres per second
PM ₁₀	Particulate less than 10 microns in equivalent aerodynamic diameter
RH	Relative Humidity
PM ₁₀ RT	PM ₁₀ Realtime
Sigma	Sigma Theta is the standard deviation of the horizontal wind direction fluctuations over the averaging period.
WD	Vector Wind Direction
WS	Vector Wind Speed

Appendix 2 - Explanation of Exception Table

Automatic filter tape advance refers to the movement of the filter paper by the analyser to an unused spot.

Automatic span/zero check. The E-Sampler is programmed to perform a zero calibration check whereby air is passed through filter element, removing particulates, before entering the sensor in the analyser. Data is invalidated when these checks occur.

Beta count failure refers to a fault in the functioning of the EBAM plus. A 1-minute beta count was less than the maximum acceptable counts during operation.

Calibration correction factor applied to data refers to an offset or multiplier applied to the data. This operation may be performed for a number of reasons including: (a) when a clear trend / drift outside the tolerance limit can be demonstrated by repeated operation precision checks, (b) when a correction is required on previously logged data due to a calibration check being outside the allowable tolerance

Commissioning refers to the initial setup and calibration of the instrument when it is first installed. For some instruments there may be a stabilisation period before normal operation commences.

Data affected by environmental conditions – wind speed / wind speed gust spike refers to when a one-off high reading occurs due to a natural occurrence such as a bird sitting on the wind sensor, or some other event causing the readings to spike.

Data transmission error refers to a period of time when the instrument could not transmit data. This may be due to interference, or a problem with the phone line or modem.

Equipment malfunction/instrument fault refers to a period of time when the instrument was not in the normal operating mode and did not measure a representative value of the existing conditions.

Gap in data/data not available refers to a period of time when either data has been lost or could not be collected.

Instrument Alarm refers to an alarm produced by the instrument. A range of alarms can be produced depending on how operation of the instrument is being affected.

Instrument out of service refers to a lack of data due to an instrument being shut down for repair, maintenance, or factory calibration.

Linear offset or multiplier refers to when an offset or multiplier has been applied between two points where the values of the offset or multiplier are different, and the correction is interpolated between the two points.

Logger error refers to when an error occurs, and instrument readings are not correctly recorded by the logger.

Maintenance refers to a period of time when the logger / instrument was switched off due to maintenance.

Power Interruption refers to no power to the station therefore no data was collected at this time.

Stabilisation following power interruption refers to the start-up period of an instrument after power has been restored.

Tape break refers to the breaking of the EBAM/BAM sample tape during operation.