

2016-17 Fire Season Preparedness

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Environment
Protection
Authority Victoria



EPA's role in fire emergencies

Preparedness

- Enforce the EP Act to reduce the likelihood of emergencies

Support role to Control & Partner Agencies

- Provide advice on environmental impact of emergencies
- Forecast, monitor and report on air quality



Accountabilities during preparedness

Networks and forums

- Emergency Management Committees
- Emergency Management Teams
- State Smoke Working Group
- Pre and during season briefings
- Expertise Framework - Principal Expert Air Quality

Role clarity

- Protocols, standards, frameworks, joint standard operating procedures
- Annual Summer Readiness Planning

Improved community information

- AirWatch website
- Air Quality forecasting

Accountabilities during response

- Environmental and community risk/impact advice
- Air quality forecasting and alerts
- Smoke impact assessment
- Incident air monitoring
- Live air monitoring data
- Data interpretation and advice to DHHS
- Cross agency science communication

Air Monitoring Capability



General conditions (ambient)

- The “big picture” - information on general (ambient) air quality and pollution
- Four Fixed Air Monitoring Stations (Traralgon, Alphington, Footscray and Geelong)



Local conditions

- Fifteen community locations with specific pollution concern. (e.g. Brooklyn, Morewell, Moe, Churchill, Altona, Dandenong)
- Stations can be moved to different locations based on local pollution for set periods



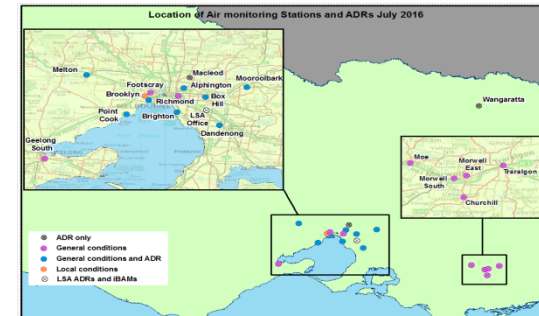
Incident Air Monitoring

- Immediate indicative data about the health impacts of a pollution event
- Deployed rapidly to major and specific pollution events

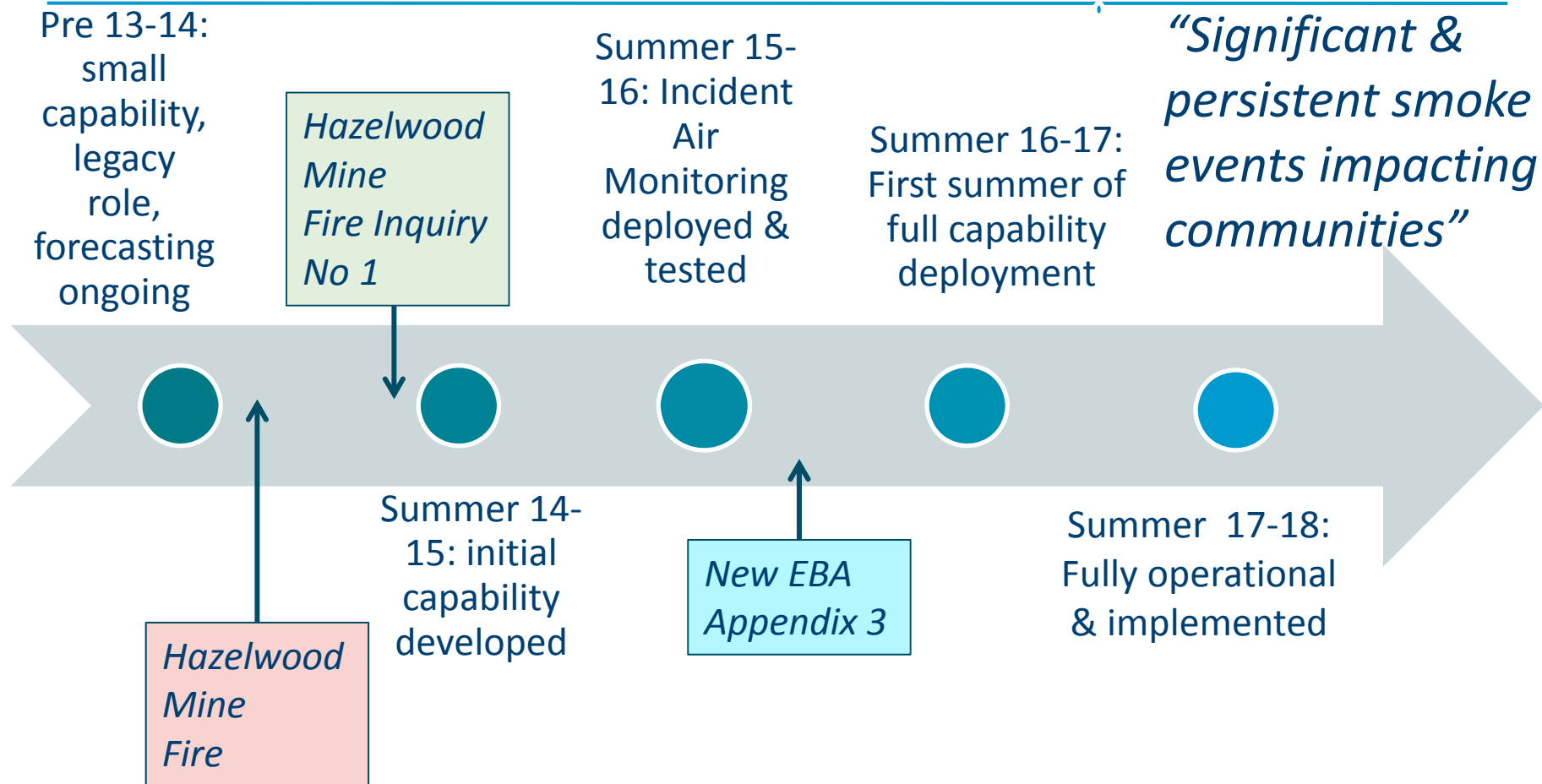


Citizen science

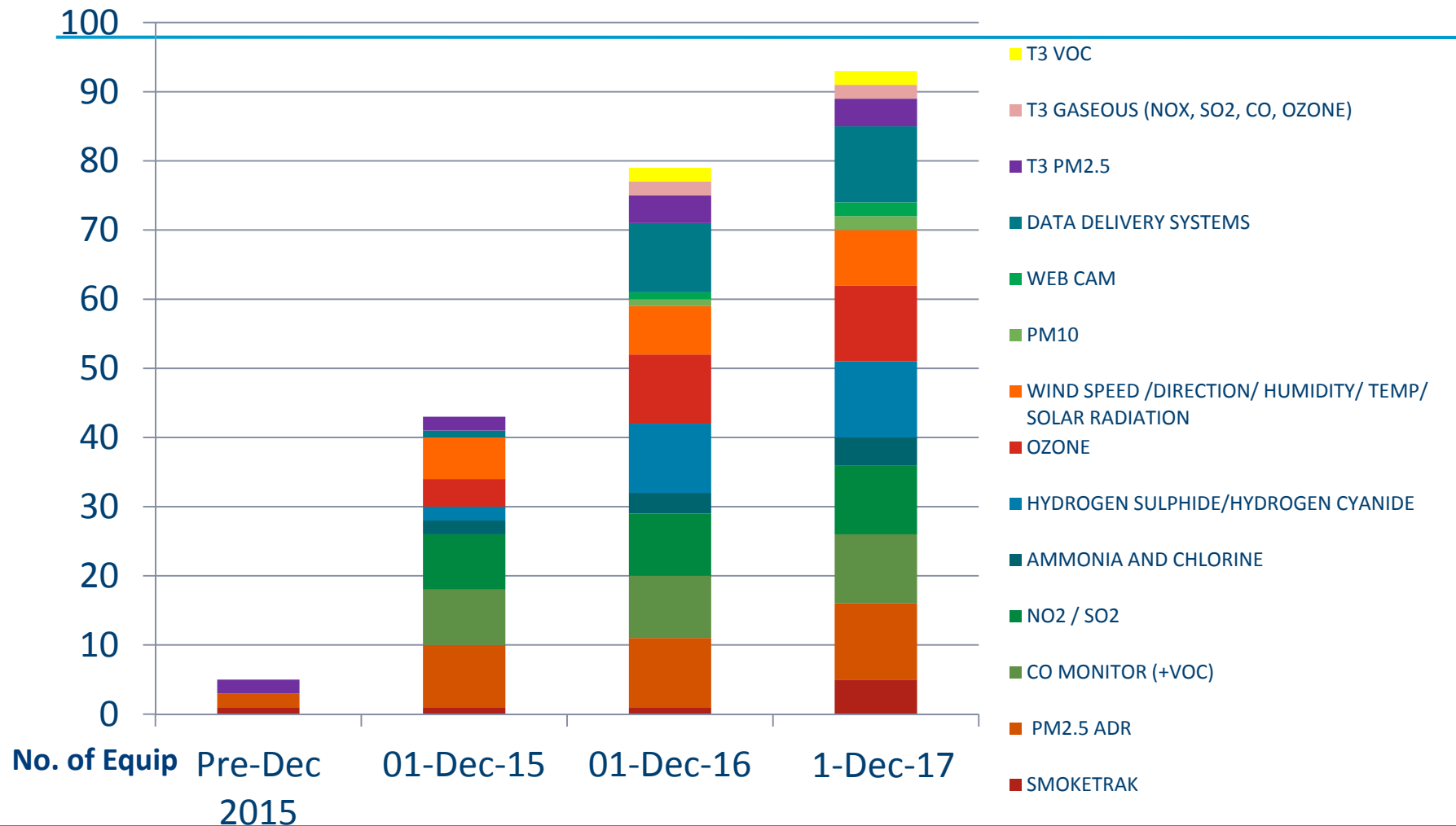
- Data collection and analysis done by community. Can include sampling air with a portable sampler



Enhancing incident air capability



Incident Air Monitoring equipment delivery is staged



Improved Community Information

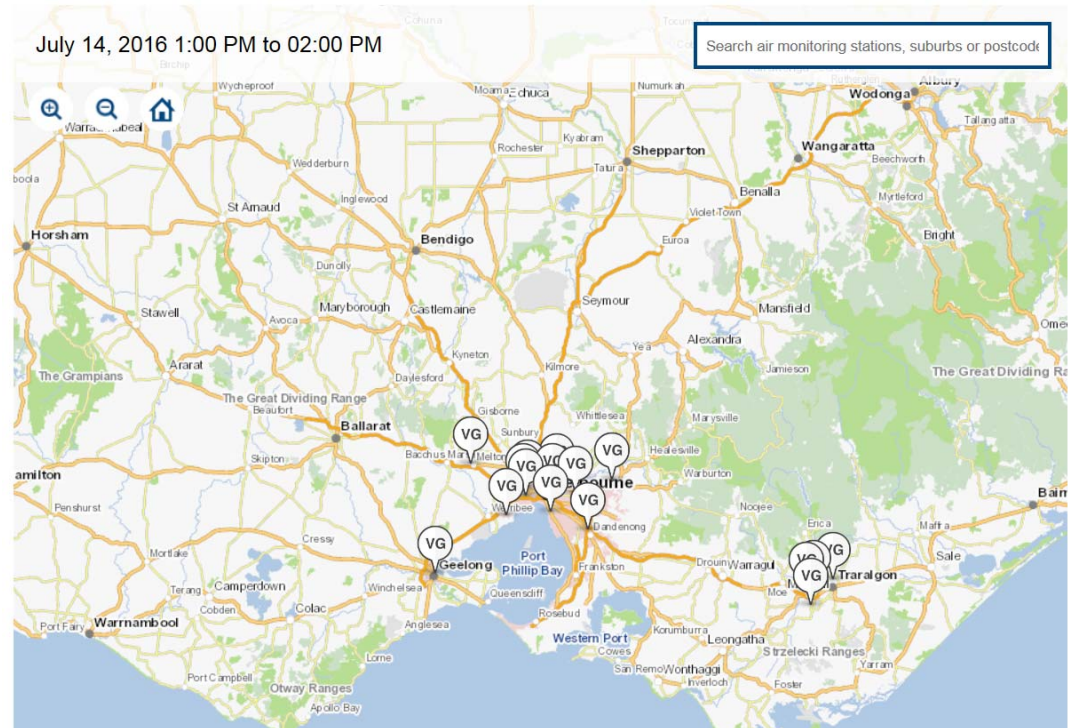


AirWatch

Air quality data displays from:

- General Condition Stations
- Local Condition Stations
- Incident air monitoring (when deployed)

Integration with VicEmergencies



All communities all emergencies

- Community
- DHHS
- EMV
- CFA, MFB
- DEWLP, PV
- SES

