

Porta Products Facility

Environmental noise monitoring

Porta Products Pty Ltd

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

EMM Consulting Pty Ltd (EMM) was engaged by Porta Products Pty Ltd to conduct a noise survey of operations and construction at the Porta Products manufacturing facility located near Oberon, NSW. The facility at Oberon was previously known as Borg Panels / Borg Manufacturing Pty Ltd, then Australian Panels / Australian Panels Pty Ltd, but has recently undergone a name change to Porta Products Pty Ltd (Porta Products). The survey purpose was to quantify the acoustic environment and compare site noise levels against specified limits.

Attended environmental noise monitoring described in this report was done during the day, evening and night period of 12 May 2025 at four monitoring locations. Follow-up noise monitoring was done during the night period of 14 May 2025 at one monitoring location.

1.2 Attended monitoring locations

Site monitoring locations are detailed in Table 1.1 and shown on Figure 1.1. It should be noted that Figure 1.1 shows actual monitoring positions, not necessarily the location of residences.

Table 1.1 Attended noise monitoring locations

Location descriptor	Description	Coordinates (MGA 55)	
		Easting	Northing
NM1	Oberon Caravan Park	764986	6267411
NM2	Intersection of Pine Street and Herborn Street	764474	6267289
NM3	127 Hazelgrove Road	766477	6268464
NM4	Intersection of Tasman Street and Earl Street	765602	6267117





Figure 1.1 Attended noise monitoring locations

1.3 Terminology and abbreviations

Some definitions of terms and abbreviations which may be used in this report are provided in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2 Terminology and abbreviations

Term/descriptor	Definition
dB(A)	Noise level measurement units are decibels (dB). The "A" weighting scale is used to approximate how humans hear noise.
L _{Amax}	The maximum root mean squared A-weighted noise level over a time period.
L _{A1}	The A-weighted noise level which is exceeded for 1 per cent of the time.
LA1,1minute	The A-weighted noise level which is exceeded for 1 per cent of the specified time period of 1 minute.
LA10	The A-weighted noise level which is exceeded for 10 percent of the time.
LAeq	The energy average A-weighted noise level.
L _{A50}	The A-weighted noise level which is exceeded for 50 per cent of the time, also the median noise level during a measurement period.
LA90	The A-weighted noise level exceeded for 90 percent of the time, also referred to as the "background" noise level and commonly used to derive noise limits.
L _{Amin}	The minimum A-weighted noise level over a time period.
LCeq	The energy average C-weighted noise energy during a measurement period. The "C" weighting scale is used to take into account low-frequency components of noise within the audibility range of humans.
SPL	Sound pressure level. Fluctuations in pressure measured as 10 times a logarithmic scale, with the reference pressure being 20 micropascals.
Hertz (Hz)	The frequency of fluctuations in pressure, measured in cycles per second. Most sounds are a combination of many frequencies together.
AWS	Automatic weather station used to collect meteorological data, typically at an altitude of 10 metres
VTG	Vertical temperature gradient in degrees Celsius per 100 metres altitude.
Sigma-theta	The standard deviation of the horizontal wind direction over a period of time.
IA	Inaudible. When site noise is noted as IA then there was no site noise at the monitoring location.
NM	Not Measurable. If site noise is noted as NM, this means some noise was audible but could not be quantified.
Day	Monday – Saturday: 7 am to 6 pm, on Sundays and Public Holidays: 8 am to 6 pm.
Evening	Monday – Saturday: 6 pm to 10 pm, on Sundays and Public Holidays: 6 pm to 10 pm.
Night	Monday – Saturday: 10 pm to 7 am, on Sundays and Public Holidays: 10 pm to 8 am.

Appendix A provides further information that gives an indication as to how an average person perceives changes in noise level, and examples of common noise levels.

2 Noise limits

2.1 Development consent

The most current development consent associated with activities at Porta Products is Development Consent SSD 7016 (the consent), most recently modified April 2024 (issued to Borg Construction Pty Ltd). Relevant sections of the consent are reproduced in Appendix B.1.

2.2 Environment protection licence

Environment Protection Licence (EPL) No. 3035 issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) most recently on 5 May 2025 applies to the Porta Products site at Oberon. Relevant sections of the EPL are reproduced in Appendix B.2.

2.3 Noise management plan

Noise monitoring requirements are detailed in the Porta Products Operational Noise Management Plan (ONMP) and Construction Noise Management Plan (CNMP). The most recent version of the ONMP and CNMP were both updated in September 2024. Relevant sections of the ONMP and CNMP are reproduced in Appendix B.3 and B.4.

2.4 Noise limits

Noise limits based on the consent and EPL are provided in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Noise limits, dB

Location	Day L _{Aeq,15minute}	Evening L _{Aeq,15} minute	Night L _{Aeq,15minute}
All sensitive receivers	55	50	45

It should be noted that the EPL does not differentiate between construction and operational noise, requiring all noise from the premises to meet the noise limits in Table 2.1. The CNMP has a separate noise limit for Rock/Concrete Breaking activities which has been reproduced in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 Construction noise management levels, dB

Location	Activity	Day L _{Aeq,15minute}	Evening L _{Aeq,15} minute	Night L _{Aeq,15minute}	
All sensitive receivers	General construction	55	50	45	
	Rock/Concrete breaking	75	-	-	

2.5 Meteorological conditions

As described in the consent, noise generated by the panel manufacturing facility is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions) of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy (INP), as follows:

- During rain and wind speeds greater than 3 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- Stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- Stability category G temperature inversion conditions.

3 Methodology

3.1 Overview

Attended environmental noise monitoring was done in general accordance with Australian Standard AS1055 'Acoustics, Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise' and relevant NSW EPA requirements. Meteorological data was obtained from the Porta Products automatic weather station (AWS) which allowed correlation of atmospheric parameters with measured site noise levels.

3.2 Attended noise monitoring

During this survey, attended noise monitoring was conducted during the day, evening and night period at each location. The duration of each measurement was 15 minutes. Atmospheric conditions were measured at each monitoring location.

Measured sound levels from various sources were noted during each measurement, and particular attention was paid to the extent of site's contribution (if any) to measured levels. At each monitoring location, the site-only $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ and L_{Amax} were measured directly or determined by other methods detailed in Section 7.1 of the NDFI

The terms 'Inaudible' (IA) or 'Not Measurable' (NM) may be used in this report. When site noise is noted as IA, it was inaudible at the monitoring location. When site noise is noted as NM, this means it was audible but could not be quantified. All results noted as IA or NM in this report were due to one or more of the following:

- Site noise levels were very low, typically more than 10 dB below the measured background (L_{A90}), and unlikely to be noticed.
- Site noise levels were masked by more dominant sources that are characteristic of the environment (such as breeze in foliage or continuous road traffic noise) that cannot be eliminated by monitoring at an alternate or intermediate location.
- It was not feasible or reasonable to employ methods, such as to move closer and back calculate. Cases may include rough terrain preventing closer measurement, addition/removal of significant source to receiver shielding caused by moving closer, and meteorological conditions where back calculation may not be accurate.

If exact noise levels from site could not be established due to masking by other noise sources in a similar frequency range but were determined to be at least 5 dB lower than relevant limits, then a maximum estimate of may be provided. This is expressed as a 'less than' quantity, such as <20 dB or <30 dB.

For this assessment, the measured L_{Amax} has been used as a conservative estimate of $L_{A1,1minute}$. The EPA accepts sleep disturbance analysis based on either the $L_{A1,1minute}$ or L_{Amax} metrics, with the L_{Amax} representing a more conservative assessment of site noise emissions.

3.3 Modifying factors

All measurements were evaluated for potential modifying factors in accordance with the NPfl. Assessment of modifying factors is undertaken at the time of measurement if the site was audible and directly quantifiable. If applicable, modifying factor penalties have been reported and added to measured site-only L_{Aeq} .

Low-frequency modifying factor penalties have only been applied to site-only L_{Aeq} levels if the site was the only contributing low-frequency noise source. Specific methodology for assessment of each modifying factor is outlined in Fact Sheet C of the NPfI.

3.4 Instrumentation and personnel

Attended noise monitoring was conducted by Will Moore. Qualifications, experience and demonstration of competence is in accordance with the Approved methods and is available upon request.

Equipment used to measure environmental noise levels is detailed in Table 3.1. Calibration certificates are provided in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

Table 3.1 Attended noise monitoring equipment

Item	Serial number	Calibration due date	Relevant standard
Rion NA-28 sound level meter	00701424	01/06/2025	IEC 61672-1:2002
Pulsar 105 acoustic calibrator	78226	04/03/2027	IEC 60942:2003

4 Results

4.1 Total measured noise levels and atmospheric conditions

Overall noise levels measured at each location during attended measurements are provided in Table 4.1. Discussion as to the noise sources responsible for these measured levels is provided in Section 5 of this report.

Table 4.1 Total measured noise levels, dB – Q2 2025 ¹

Location	Start date and time	L _{Amax}	L _{A1}	L _{A10}	L _{Aeq}	L _{A50}	L _{A90}	L _{Amin}
NM1	12/05/2025 13:57	60	55	52	50	50	47	45
NM2	12/05/2025 14:21	64	55	51	49	48	47	44
NM3	12/05/2025 13:12	54	48	41	38	36	32	28
NM4	12/05/2025 13:35	68	57	50	48	44	41	36
NM1	12/05/2025 19:25	49	47	45	43	43	42	40
NM2	12/05/2025 19:03	57	51	49	47	46	45	43
NM3	12/05/2025 20:13	51	39	30	29	26	24	23
NM4	12/05/2025 19:47	53	45	39	36	34	31	28
NM1	12/05/2025 22:45	55	50	48	46	46	45	42
NM1 ²	14/05/2025 22:00	49	46	44	43	43	42	41
NM2	12/05/2025 23:07	53	49	47	45	44	43	41
NM3	12/05/2025 22:00	42	37	31	28	26	25	23
NM4	12/05/2025 22:23	43	39	34	32	30	29	27

Notes:

^{1.} Levels in this table are not necessarily the result of activity at Porta Products.

^{2.} Follow-up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

Atmospheric condition data measured by the operator during each measurement using a hand-held weather meter is shown in Table 4.2. The wind speed, direction and temperature were measured at approximately 1.5 metres above ground. Attended noise monitoring is not done during rain, hail, or wind speeds above 5 m/s at microphone height.

Table 4.2 Measured atmospheric conditions – Q2 2025

Location	Start date and time	Temperature °C	Wind speed m/s	Wind direction ^o Magnetic north ¹	Cloud cover 1/8s
NM1	12/05/2025 13:57	20	2.1	40	3
NM2	12/05/2025 14:21	21	1.4	40	3
NM3	12/05/2025 13:12	22	0.7	20	4
NM4	12/05/2025 13:35	20	1.1	40	4
NM1	12/05/2025 19:25	14	0.8	80	6
NM2	12/05/2025 19:03	16	<0.5	-	7
NM3	12/05/2025 20:13	13	<0.5	-	7
NM4	12/05/2025 19:47	13	1.5	110	8
NM1	12/05/2025 22:45	13	0.8	100	6
NM1 ²	14/05/2025 22:00	14	<0.5	-	0
NM2	12/05/2025 23:07	14	0.6	100	8
NM3	12/05/2025 22:00	14	<0.5	-	8
NM4	12/05/2025 22:23	14	1.0	100	5

Notes:

^{1. &}quot;-" indicates calm conditions at monitoring location.

 $^{{\}it 2.}\ {\it Follow-up\ measurement\ within\ one\ week\ of\ measured\ exceedance}.$

4.2 Site only noise levels

4.2.1 Modifying factors

Modifying factors, as defined in the NPfI, were assessed during the survey and are detailed in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Site modifying factor assessment – Q2 2025

Location	Start date and time	Site level L _{Aeq} dB	Limits apply? 1	Intermittency modifying factor? ²	Tonality modifying factor? ²	Frequency of tonality ²	Low frequency modifying factor? ²	Exceedance of reference spectrum ^{2,3}	Total penalty dB ^{2,3}
NM1	14/05/2025 22:00	43	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	2 dB at 50 Hz	2 dB

Notes:

- 1. Modifying factors are considered not applicable when noise limits are not applicable.
- 2. Yes/No denote modifying factor was or was not applied. N/A denotes assessment was 'not applicable' due to meteorological conditions or further assessment was not required.
- 3. Bold results indicate that application of NPfI modifying factor(s) is required.

4.2.2 Monitoring results

Table 4.4 provides site noise levels in the absence of other sources, where possible, and includes weather data from the site AWS. Limits are applicable if weather conditions were within specified parameters during each measurement.

Table 4.4 Site noise levels and limits – Q2 2025

Start date and time	Wind		Stability class	Limits apply? 1	Limit, dB	Site level, dB ²	Exceedance, dB ^{1,2}
	Speed m/s	Direction ³			L _{Aeq,15} minute	L _{Aeq,15minute} 4	L _{Aeq,15} minute
12/05/2025 13:57	2.9	48	С	Yes	55	50	Nil
12/05/2025 14:21	3.2	53	С	No	55	49	N/A
12/05/2025 13:12	2.9	61	В	Yes	55	26	Nil
12/05/2025 13:35	2.4	52	В	Yes	55	36	Nil
12/05/2025 19:25	2.2	105	D	Yes	50	43	Nil
12/05/2025 19:03	2.9	88	D	Yes	50	47	Nil
12/05/2025 20:13	3.1	92	D	No	50	26	N/A
12/05/2025 19:47	3.2	106	D	No	50	31	N/A
12/05/2025 22:45	2.4	81	D	Yes	45	46	1
14/05/2025 22:00	1.2	144	E	Yes	45	45	Nil
12/05/2025 23:07	2.1	95	D	Yes	45	45	Nil
12/05/2025 22:00	2.9	86	D	Yes	45	26	Nil
12/05/2025 22:23	2.4	86	D	Yes	45	30	Nil
	12/05/2025 14:21 12/05/2025 13:12 12/05/2025 13:35 12/05/2025 19:25 12/05/2025 19:03 12/05/2025 20:13 12/05/2025 19:47 12/05/2025 22:45 14/05/2025 22:00 12/05/2025 23:07 12/05/2025 22:00	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 12/05/2025 19:47 3.2 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 14/05/2025 22:00 1.2 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 48 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 53 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 61 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 52 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 105 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 88 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 12/05/2025 19:47 3.2 106 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 14/05/2025 22:00 1.2 144 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 95 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9 86	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 48 C 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 53 C 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 61 B 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 52 B 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 105 D 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 88 D 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D 12/05/2025 19:47 3.2 106 D 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 D 14/05/2025 22:00 1.2 144 E 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 95 D 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9 86 D	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 48 C Yes 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 53 C No 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 61 B Yes 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 52 B Yes 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 105 D Yes 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 88 D Yes 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 12/05/2025 19:47 3.2 106 D No 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 D Yes 14/05/2025 22:00 1.2 144 E Yes 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 95 D Yes 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9 86 D Yes	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 48 C Yes 55 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 53 C No 55 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 61 B Yes 55 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 52 B Yes 55 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 105 D Yes 50 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 88 D Yes 50 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 50 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 50 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 50 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 D Yes 45 14/05/2025 22:00 1.2 144 E Yes 45 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 95 D Yes 45 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9 86 D Yes 45	12/05/2025 13:57 2.9 48 C Yes 55 50 12/05/2025 14:21 3.2 53 C No 55 49 12/05/2025 13:12 2.9 61 B Yes 55 26 12/05/2025 13:35 2.4 52 B Yes 55 36 12/05/2025 19:25 2.2 105 D Yes 50 43 12/05/2025 19:03 2.9 88 D Yes 50 47 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 50 26 12/05/2025 20:13 3.1 92 D No 50 31 12/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 D Yes 45 46 14/05/2025 22:45 2.4 81 D Yes 45 45 12/05/2025 23:07 2.1 95 D Yes 45 45 12/05/2025 22:00 2.9 86 D Yes 45 26

Notes:

^{1.} Noise emission limits are applicable if weather conditions were within parameters specified in Section 3.3. N/A in exceedance column indicates that limits were not applicable due to weather conditions.

^{2.} Bold results in red indicate exceedance of relevant limit.

^{3.} Degrees magnetic north, "-" indicates calm conditions.

- 4. Site-only $L_{\mbox{Aeq,15minute}}$, includes modifying factor penalties if applicable.
- 5. Follow-up measurement within one week of measured exceedance.

5 Discussion

5.1 Noted noise sources

During attended monitoring, the time variations (temporal characteristics) of noise sources are considered in each measurement via statistical descriptors. From these observations, summaries have been derived for the location and provided in this section. Statistical 1/3 octave-band analysis of environmental noise was undertaken and the following figures display frequency ranges of various noise sources at each location for L_{A1} , L_{A10} , L_{Aeq} , L_{A50} , and L_{A90} descriptors. These figures also provide, graphically, statistical information for these noise levels.

An example is provided as Figure 5.1, where frogs and insects are seen to be generating noise at frequencies above 1000 Hz, while industrial noise is observed at frequencies less than 1000 Hz.

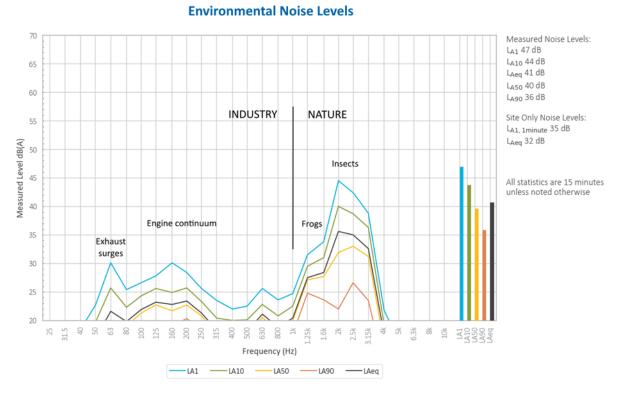


Figure 5.1 Example graph (refer to Section 5.1 for explanatory note)

5.2 NM1

5.2.1 NM1 day period

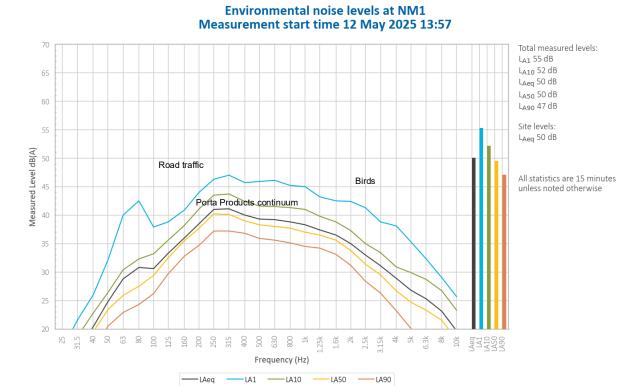


Figure 5.2 Day environmental noise levels - NM1, Oberon caravan park

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 50 dB. Impact noise was also noted.

Continuum from Porta Products primarily generated total measure levels. Road traffic and birds contributed to the measured $L_{\rm A1}$ and $L_{\rm A10}$.

5.2.2 NM1 evening period

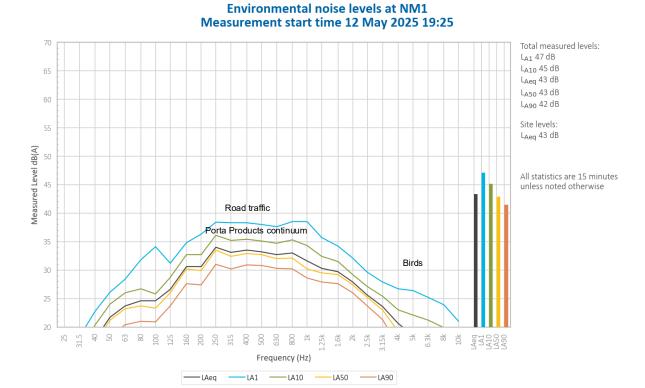


Figure 5.3 Evening environmental noise levels - NM1, Oberon caravan park

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 43 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products primarily generated total measure levels. Road traffic contributed to the measured $L_{\rm A1}$ and $L_{\rm A10}$.

Birds, dogs and breeze in foliage were also noted.

5.2.3 NM1 night period

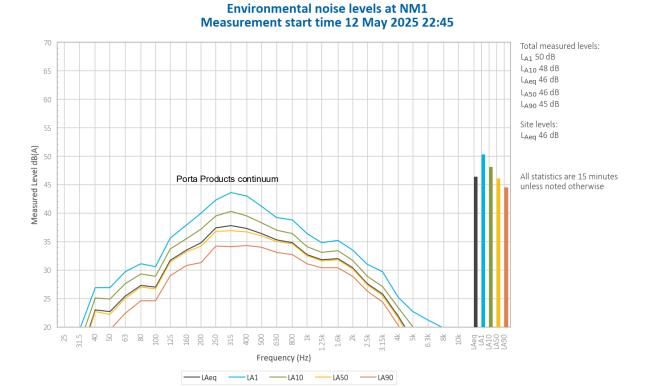


Figure 5.4 Night environmental noise levels - NM1, Oberon caravan park

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 46 dB, which exceeded the relevant limit by 1 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products generated total measured levels.

Noise from road traffic was also noted.

In accordance with the ONMP, a follow-up measurement was conducted within one week of the initial exceedance.

5.2.4 NM1 night period – follow-up measurement

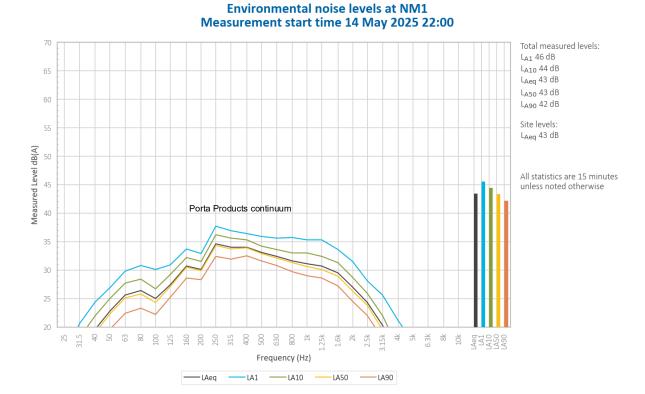


Figure 5.5 Night environmental noise levels - NM1, Oberon caravan park

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 43 dB. A 2dB low frequency modifying penalty was also applied to this measurement in accordance with the NPfI, resulting in a site-only L_{Aeq} of 45 dB, which was in compliance with (equal to) the relevant limit for this location.

Continuum from Porta Products primarily generated total measured levels. Noise from road traffic was a minor contributor to the measured $L_{\rm A1}$.

5.3 NM2

5.3.1 NM2 day period

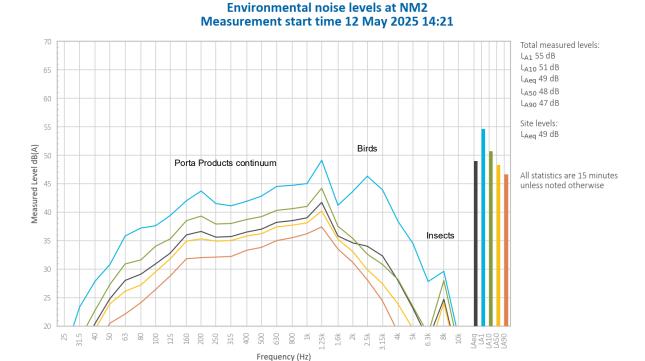


Figure 5.6 Day environmental noise levels – NM2, Intersection of Pine Street and Herborn Street

——LAeq

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 49 dB. Impact noise was also noted.

Continuum from Porta Products primarily generated total measure levels. Birds contributed to the measured L_{A1} . Noise from insects and road traffic was also noted.

5.3.2 NM2 evening period

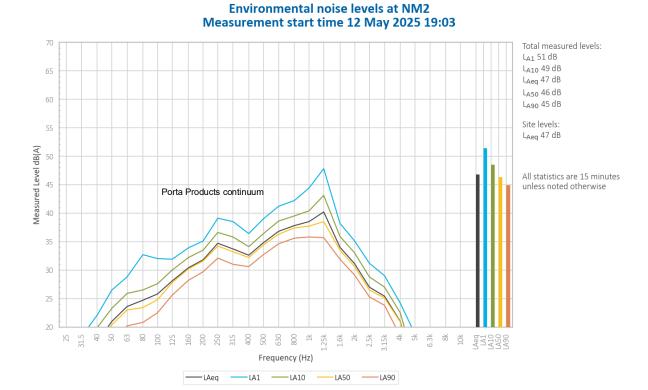


Figure 5.7 Evening environmental noise levels – NM2, Intersection of Pine Street and Herborn Street

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 47 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products generated total measured levels.

Noise from insects and road traffic was also noted.

5.3.3 NM2 night period

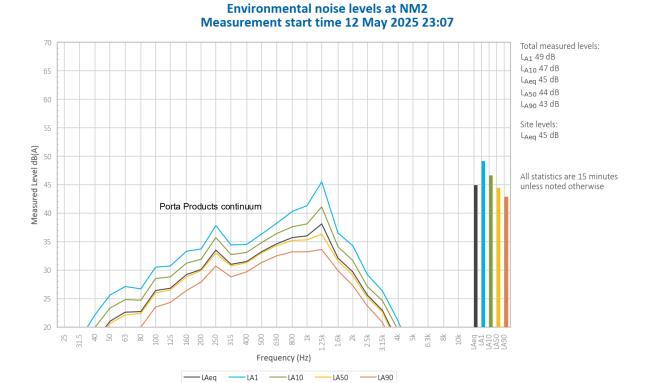


Figure 5.8 Night environmental noise levels – NM2, Intersection of Pine Street and Herborn Street

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 45 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products generated total measured levels.

Noise from road traffic was also noted.

5.4 NM3

5.4.1 NM3 day period

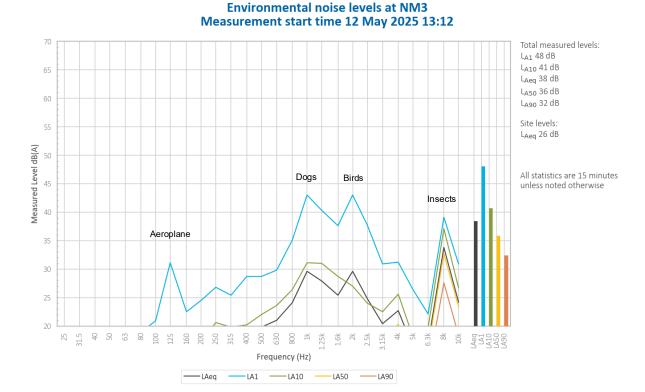


Figure 5.9 Day environmental noise levels – NM3, 127 Hazelgrove Road

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 26 dB.

Insects primarily generated total measured levels. Birds and dogs generated the measured L_{A1}.

Noise from an aeroplane and road traffic was also noted.

5.4.2 NM3 evening period

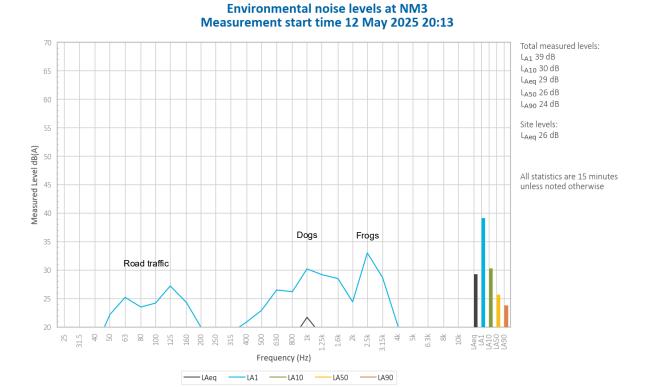


Figure 5.10 Evening environmental noise levels – NM3, 127 Hazelgrove Road

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 26 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products generated the measured L_{A50} and L_{A90} and contributed to the measured L_{Aeq} . Dogs and frogs generated the measured L_{A1} and L_{A10} and contributed to the measured L_{Aeq} .

Noise from road traffic was also noted.

5.4.3 NM3 night period

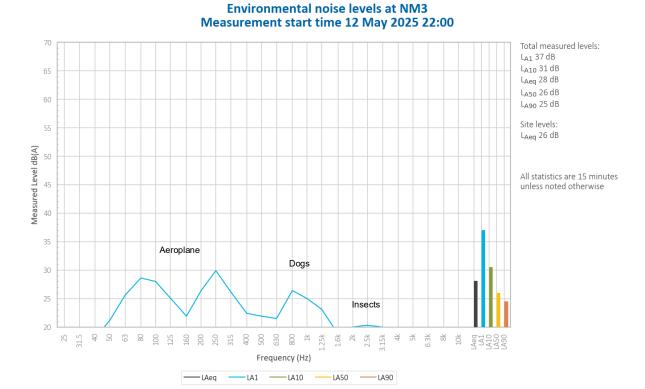


Figure 5.11 Night environmental noise levels – NM3, 127 Hazelgrove Road

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 26 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products and insects contributed to the measured L_{Aeq} and generated the measured L_{A50} and L_{A90} . An aeroplane generated the measured L_{A1} and L_{A10} .

Noise from dogs was also noted.

5.5 NM4

5.5.1 NM4 day period

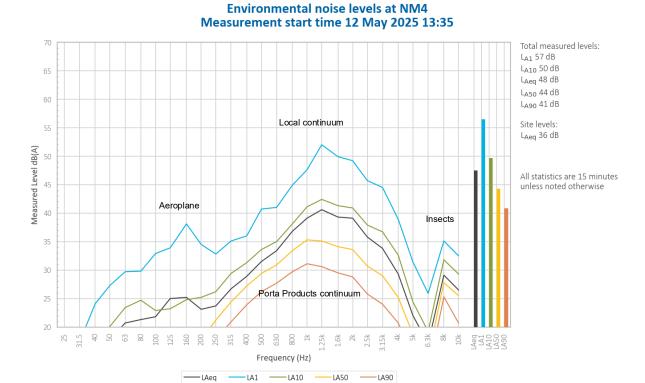


Figure 5.12 Day environmental noise levels – NM4, intersection of Tasman Street and Earl Street

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 36 dB.

Local continuum from the nearby school primarily generated total measured levels. Porta Products continuum and insects contributed to the measured L_{A50} and L_{A90} .

Noise from an aeroplane, dogs and road traffic was also noted.

5.5.2 NM4 evening period

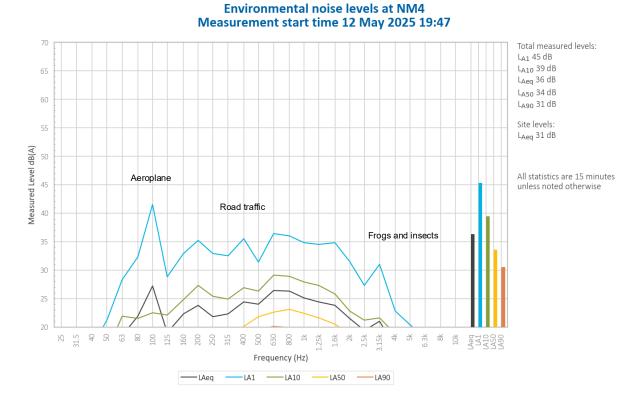


Figure 5.13 Evening environmental noise levels – NM4, intersection of Tasman Street and Earl Street

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 31 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products contributed to the measured L_{A50} and L_{Aeq} and generated the measured L_{A90} . An aeroplane generated the measured L_{A1} . Road traffic generated the measured L_{A10} and L_{Aeq} and contributed to the L_{A50} .

Noise from dogs, frogs and insects was also noted.

5.5.3 NM4 night period

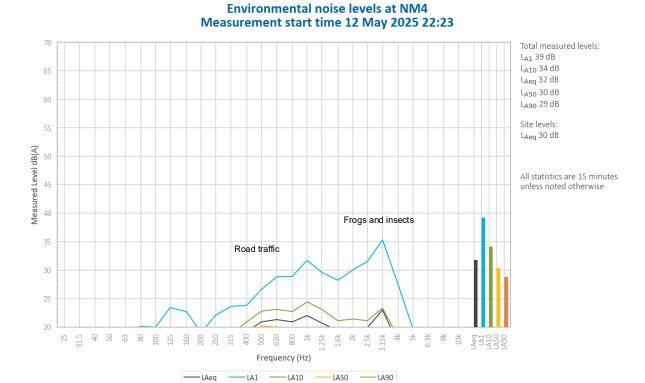


Figure 5.14 Night environmental noise levels – NM4, intersection of Tasman Street and Earl Street

A continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 30 dB.

Continuum from Porta Products contributed to the measured L_{Aeq} and generated the measured L_{A50} and L_{A90} . Frogs and insects generated the measured L_{A1} and contributed to the measured L_{Aeq} . Road traffic generated the measured L_{A10} and contributed to the L_{Aeq} .

Noise from birds and breeze in foliage was also noted.

6 Summary

EMM was engaged by Porta Products Pty Ltd to conduct a noise survey of operations and construction at the Porta Products manufacturing facility in Oberon, NSW. The survey purpose was to quantify the acoustic environment and compare site noise levels against specified limits.

Attended environmental noise monitoring described in this report was done during the day, evening and night period of 12 May 2025 at four monitoring locations.

Noise levels from site complied with relevant limits at all monitoring locations during the survey, except at NM1 during the night period.

During the night measurement at NM1 starting at 22:45 on 12 May 2025 a continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 46 dB, which exceeded the relevant limit by 1 dB.

In accordance with the ONMP, a follow-up measurement was conducted within one week of the initial exceedance at NM1.

During the follow-up measurement at NM1 starting at 22:00 on the 14 May 2025, a continuum from Porta Products was audible throughout the measurement, generating a site-only L_{Aeq} of 43 dB. A 2dB low frequency modifying penalty was also applied to this measurement in accordance with the NPfI, resulting in a site-only L_{Aeq} of 45 dB, which was in compliance with (equal to) the relevant limit for this location.

Appendix A

Noise perception and examples



A.1 Noise levels

Table A.1 gives an indication as to how an average person perceives changes in noise level. Examples of common noise levels are provided in Figure A.1.

Table A.1 Perceived change in noise

Change in sound pressure level (dB)	Perceived change in noise
up to 2	Not perceptible
3	Just perceptible
5	Noticeable difference
10	Twice (or half) as loud
15	Large change
20	Four times (or quarter) as loud

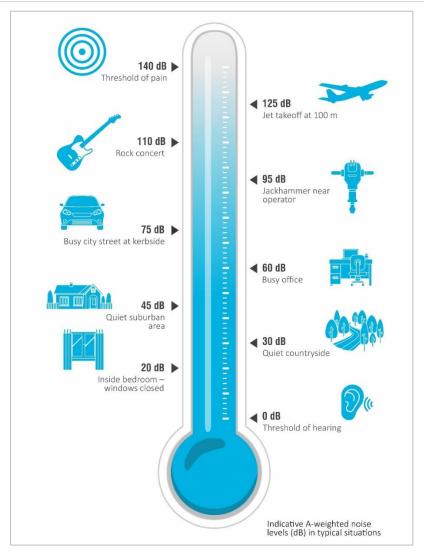


Figure A.1 Common noise levels

Appendix B Regulator documents



B.1 Development consent SSD 7016

NOISE

Hours of Work

B13 The Applicant must comply with the hours detailed in Table 1, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the-Secretary.

Table 1: Hours of Work

Activity		Day	Time	
Earthworks and Construction		Monday – Friday Saturday	7 am to 7 pm 8 am to 1 pm	
Operation		Monday – Sunday	24 hours	

- B14 Works outside of the hours identified in Condition B13 may be undertaken in the following circumstances:
 - (a) works that are inaudible at the nearest sensitive receivers;
 - (b) works agreed to in writing by the Secretary;
 - for the delivery of materials required outside these hours by the NSW Police Force or other authorities for safety reasons; or
 - (d) where it is required in an emergency to avoid the loss of lives, property and/or to prevent environmental harm.

Construction Noise Management Plan

- B15 The Applicant must prepare a Construction Noise Management Plan (CNMP) for the Project to manage construction noise. The plan must form part of the CEMP required by Condition C1 and must:
 - (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced noise expert;
 - (b) be approved by the Secretary prior to the commencement of construction of the Project;
 - (c) describe procedures for achieving the noise limits in Table 2;
 - (d) describe the measures to be implemented to manage noisy works such as rock/concrete breaking activities, in close proximity to sensitive receivers;
 - (e) include strategies that have been developed with the community for managing noisy works;
 - (f) describe the community consultation undertaken to develop the strategies in e) above; and
 - include a complaints management system that would be implemented for the duration of the Project.

Operational Noise Limits

B16 The Applicant must ensure that noise generated by the Development does not exceed the noise limits in Table 2.

Table 2: Noise Limits dB(A)

Location	Day	Evening	Night
	LAeq(15 minute)	LAeq(15 minute)	LAeq(15 minute)
All sensitive receivers	55	50	45

Note: Noise generated by the Development is to be measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions) of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

Noise Mitigation

B17 The Applicant must ensure all noise attenuation measures already installed for the Existing Development are maintained in good working order for the life of the Development.

Operational Noise Management Plan

- B18 Within 6 months of the date of this consent, the Applicant must prepare an Operational Noise Management Plan (ONMP) for the Existing Development, to manage operational noise to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The ONMP must form part of the OEMP required by Condition 0 and be prepared in accordance with Condition 0. The ONMP must:
 - (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced noise expert;
 - (b) describe the measures that will be implemented to minimise noise from the Existing Development including:
 - (i) all reasonable and feasible measures being employed on site;
 - (ii) maintain equipment to ensure it is in good order;
 - (iii) traffic noise is effectively managed;
 - (iv) the noise impacts of the Existing Development are minimised during any meteorological conditions when the noise criteria in this consent do not apply;
 - (v) compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent;
 - (c) includes a noise monitoring program that:
 - must be carried out until otherwise agreed to in writing by the Secretary;
 - (ii) is capable of evaluating the performance of the Existing Development; and
 - (iii) includes a protocol for determining exceedances of the relevant conditions of this consent and responding to complaints; and
 - (d) include a procedure for implementing noise mitigation measures, should the Applicant be directed by the EPA or the Secretary, or should non-compliances be detected.
- B19 Prior to the commencement of operation of the Project, the Applicant must update the ONMP required under Condition 0, to incorporate the Project and its management, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The updated plan must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of Condition 0, and must incorporate the following:
 - description of the noise monitoring program to measure the performance of the Development against this consent and the EPL; and
 - (b) description of any additional measures that would be implemented for the Development to ensure compliance with the noise limits in Condition 0 and the EPL-; and
 - (c) details of the noise attenuation measures for the gas turbine and ancillary equipment associated with the particleboard material handling area; and
 - (d) details of the noise attenuations measures for the materials handling equipment approved for installation and operation under SSD 7016 MOD 3.

Noise Verification

- B20 Within 3 months of commencement of operation of the Project, the Applicant must undertake a noise verification study for the Development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The study must:
 - (a) be undertaken by a suitably qualified expert;
 - (b) include an analysis of compliance with noise limits specified in Condition 0;
 - demonstrate achievement of the sound power levels in Table 12 of the Borg Panels Timber Panel Processing Facility Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, dated May 2016 and prepared by Global Acoustics;
 - include an outline of management actions to be taken to address any exceedances of the limits specified in Condition 0; and
 - (e) describe the contingency measures in the event management actions are not effective in reducing noise levels to an acceptable level.

Within 1 month of completing the study, the Applicant must submit a report outlining the findings of the study to the Secretary and the EPA.

- B20A Within three months of the commissioning of the gas turbines and ancillary equipment, the Applicant must undertake a noise verification study for the Department to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The study must:
 - (a) be undertaken by a suitably qualified expert; and
 - (b) include an analysis of compliance with noise limits specified in Condition B16;
 - include an outline of management actions to be taken to address any exceedances of the limits specified in Condition B16; and
 - (d) describe the contingency measures in the event management actions are not effective in reducing noise levels to an acceptable level.
- B20B Within three months of commissioning the materials handling equipment approved for installation and operation under SSE 7016 MOD 3, the Applicant must undertake a Noise Verification Study for the Department to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The Study must:
 - (a) be undertaken by a suitably qualified expert;
 - (b) include an analysis of compliance with noise limits specified in Condition B16;
 - (c) include an outline of management actions to be taken to address any exceedances of the limits specified in Condition B16; and
 - (d) describe the contingency measures in the event management actions are not effective in reducing noise levels to an acceptable level.
- B21 Should the noise verification study indicate the Development has not complied with the noise limits in Condition 0 and applicable EPL requirements, or where the verification indicates that greater impacts than predicted in the EIS may arise, a detailed investigation and an outline of any management measures necessary to prevent exceedances must be submitted to the Secretary and the EPA, as part of the study.

B.2 Environmental protection licence

L4 Noise limits

- L4.1 Noise from the premises must not exceed:
 - a) 55 dB(A) LAeq(15 minute) during the day (7am to 6pm); and
 - b) 50 dB(A) LAeq(15 minute) during the evening (6pm to 10pm); and
 - c) at all other times 45 dB(A) LAeq (15 minute), except as expressly provided by this licence.

Where L_{Aeq} means the equivalent continuous noise level – the level of noise equivalent to the energy-average of noise levels occurring over a measurement period.

- L4.2 To determine compliance with condition L4.1, noise must be measured at or computed for Oberon High School or any other noise sensitive locations (such as a residence/school). A modifying factor correction must be applied for tonal, impulsive or intermittent noise in accordance with the "NSW Industrial Noise Policy (EPA, January 2000)".
- L4.3 The noise limits set out in condition L4.1 apply under all meteorological conditions except for the

following:

- a) Wind speeds greater than 3 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- b) Stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- c) Stability category G temperature inversion conditions.

L4.4 For the purpose of condition L4.3:

- a) Data recorded by the meteorological station identified as EPA Licence Point 26 must be used to determine meteorological conditions; and
- b) Temperature inversion conditions (stability category) are to be determined by the sigma-theta method referred to in Part E4 of Appendix E to the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

M7 Other monitoring and recording conditions

M7.1 Noise monitoring to determine compliance with condition L4 must be carried out at least once annually during the day, evening, and night time hours specified by L4.1 at the location(s) specified under condition L4.2 or at the nearest residence, and be undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2659.1 (1998) Guide to use of sound measuring equipment - portable sound level meters, and the compliance monitoring guidance provided in the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

B.3 Operations noise management plan

7.3 Attended Noise Monitoring

Attended noise monitoring is preferred to the use of noise loggers when determining compliance with prescribed limits as it allows the most accurate determination of the contribution, if any, to measured noise levels by the source of interest.

Operational noise impacts are potentially greatest at night when background levels are typically low and the allowable levels are correspondingly low, and, this is the period when noise propagation enhancement is most likely.

The Environmental Manager can, in certain circumstances for verification purposes, undertake attended noise monitoring. A suitably qualified noise expert will undertake annual attended noise monitoring (see 7.3.1 below).

7.3.1 Compliance Monitoring

Compliance monitoring at each location identified in Table 6 will be undertaken once per year during the day, evening and night periods (pending weather and operational constraints) with results compared to noise criteria in Table 3. Compliance monitoring should be conducted during the winter period as this season represents the likely worst-case season due to temperature inversions.

Any exceedance of a noise criterion recorded during annual compliance noise monitoring is to be investigated. The acoustic consultant undertaking the attended monitoring is to contact the Environment Manager as soon as practicable to advise of the recorded results. If exceedance of limits is demonstrated follow-up monitoring is to be undertaken within one week of the exceedance. The regular monitoring frequency will be resumed if no further exceedances are measured.

Annual compliance monitoring is to be undertaken by a suitably qualified noise expert. Appropriate techniques should be applied to determine noise contributions from the facility in isolation (in the absence of all extraneous noise sources). These techniques could include, but are not limited to:

- Pausing the sound level meter during extraneous noise events, for example, when a
 dog is barking or road traffic noise is clearly audible and affecting the measurements;
- Using frequency filtering techniques where certain frequencies of noise are excluded from the measurements; or
- Using other noise descriptors such as L_{A90} or L_{A50} to filter extraneous noise events.

The facility should be fully operational at the time of monitoring.

Operational noise performance is reported as detailed in Section 9.

7.4 Monitoring Locations

Four representative locations have been chosen for monitoring as summarised in Table 6. Refer to Figure 2 for these locations.

Table 5 Noise Monitoring Locations

Location ID	Monitoring Location		
NM1	Oberon Caravan Park		
NM2	Intersection Pine Street and Herborn Street		
NM3	127 Hazelgrove Road		
NM4	Intersection Tasman Street and Earl Street		

Noise management levels for each monitoring location are provided in Table 3. Where these are exceeded from operational noise sources, the exceedance should be investigated (as discussed in Section 9) to determine the cause and any necessary mitigation.

7.5 Meteorological Conditions

Monitoring should be undertaken on days of light winds (<5 m/s) and no rain. Wind speed is to be monitored using a hand held wind speed monitor or can be sourced from the site meteorological weather station. Rain and too much wind will elevate the noise level. If there is no choice but to monitor in inclement weather, note the conditions.

Meteorological data is obtained from the Australian Panels weather station (EPA Point 26). This data allows correlation of atmospheric parameters and measured noise levels. Atmospheric condition measurement at ground level is also undertaken during attended monitoring.

10 ONMP Review

In accordance with Development Consent SSD 7016 Condition C10, this ONMP will be reviewed and if necessary revised within 3 months of an:

- Approval of a modification;
- Submission of an incident report under Condition C13;
- Approval of an Annual Review under Condition C11; or
- Completion of an audit under Condition C15.

Revisions to the ONMP will be submitted to the Secretary DPE for approval.

B.4 Construction noise management plan

5 Construction Noise Management Levels

Construction activities will be undertaken simultaneously with regular operation of the existing site. Australian Panels propose to generally restrict site noise emission from both construction and operational tasks combined to comply with operational noise criteria conditioned in Development Consent SSD 7016 and EPL 3035.

Following consideration of the ICNG (Section 2.6), Development Consent (SSD 7016) conditions (Section 2.2), EPL 3035 (Section 2.4) and the measured background noise levels (refer Global Acoustics, May 2016), Table 6 summarises the Noise Management Levels (NMLs) for all residential receivers.

Tab	ole 6	i – (Operat	ion an	d (Construc	tion	Νo	ise N	/lanagement	Levels
-----	-------	-------	--------	--------	-----	----------	------	----	-------	-------------	--------

Location	Activity	Day (7am-6pm) LAeq (15 min)	Evening (6pm-10pm) LAeq (15 min)	Night (10pm-7am) LAeq (15 min)
All residential receivers	General Construction	55	50	45
Teceivers	Rock/ Concrete Breaking	75		

Work outside approved construction hours are not expected, however unforeseen constraints relating to delivery of materials or equipment, or other technical requirements, may see some activities undertaken outside approved hours. Where required, out of hours works will be undertaken to meet the noise management levels in **Table 6**.

Development Consent SSD 7016 Condition B14 requires non-standard construction hour work to be inaudible at the nearest sensitive receivers. The Development Consent takes precedence over the ICNG and will be adopted in this plan.

In this instance, "inaudible" means the activity is not discernible from general operation activities.

7.2 Monitoring Frequency

7.2.1 Compliance Monitoring

The following compliance monitoring, to be undertaken during construction by a suitably qualified noise expert, is recommended for the project:

- Periodic attended noise monitoring at the potentially most affected residences during the day period, with a frequency of once per quarter, during the construction phase of the Project; and
- If exceedance of limits is demonstrated, additional mitigation controls are to be implemented, and follow-up monitoring undertaken by a suitably experienced person within one week of the exceedance.

Construction noise performance is reported as detailed in **Section 10**.

7.2.2 Management Monitoring

In addition to quarterly compliance monitoring, off-site management noise monitoring by suitably trained site personnel should be undertaken regularly, particularly during periods of meteorological enhancement and on commencement of new construction activities or areas, to ensure relevant noise criteria are adhered to.

Operations should be modified accordingly as required when exceedance or potential exceedances are measured. Modifications may include, but are not limited to, erection of temporary barriers or screens, temporary shutdown of equipment until adverse weather conditions change, or relocating equipment to less sensitive areas when feasible to do so.

7.3 Monitoring Locations

Four representative locations have been chosen for monitoring as summarised in **Table 8**. Refer to **Figure 2** for these locations.

Table 8 - Noise Monitoring Locations

Location ID	Monitoring Location
NM1	Oberon Caravan Park
NM2	Intersection Pine Street and Herborn Street
NM3	127 Hazelgrove Road
NM4	Intersection Tasman Street and Earl Street

Noise management levels for each monitoring location are provided in **Table 6**. Where these are exceeded by construction-related noise sources, the exceedance should be investigated (as discussed in **Section 10**) to determine the cause and any necessary mitigation.

7.3.1 Instrumentation

The following requirements should be observed whilst monitoring:

- Before commencing monitoring, ensure the Sound Level Meter's (SLM)laboratory calibration is current (refer to the sticker on the unit).
- If unsure about the functions of the SLM, refer to the instruction sheet in the case.
 The Environmental Manager should be trained in the use of the SLM and training documents kept on file.
- Ensure the windscreen is attached and that the SLM settings include a windscreen factor, the SLM is set to A-weighted and fast response.
- Prior to and completing the measurement, the SLM should be field calibrated using the supplied calibrator. Ensure that the pre and post measurements do not differ by more than 0.5 dB(A).

7.3.2 Weather Conditions

Monitoring should be undertaken on days of light winds (<5 m/s) and no rain. Wind speed is to be monitored using a hand held wind speed monitor. Rain and too much wind will elevate the noise level. If there is no choice but to monitor in inclement weather, note the conditions on the field sheet.

NMLs listed in Table 6 apply under all meteorological conditions except for the following:

- · Wind speeds greater than 3 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- Stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- Stability category G temperature inversion conditions.

Weather conditions measured at the site weather station should be used to determine applicability of meteorological exclusion rules.

7.3.3 Construction Noise Monitoring Procedure

Monitoring should be undertaken for a duration of 15 minutes at each location. More than one 15-minute measurement can be undertaken at each location.

The following information should be recorded in accordance with AS 1055.2—1997 Acoustics—Description and measurement of environmental noise. The field sheet for noise monitoring should capture the following details:

- Date and time of measurement;
- Details of the measurement positions, instrumentation used and types of analyses made;
- Weather conditions at each monitoring location, recorded at 1.8 metres above ground level, during the measurements (wind direction, wind velocity, relative humidity, temperature, recent precipitation, cloud cover (oktas));
- Description of the noise being investigated as well as operating conditions of the sound source(s) under investigation;
- Noise due to other sources including normal and possibly unusual noises;
- Statistical noise metric results including L_{A1}, L_{A10}, L_{Aeq} and L_{A90} due to all noise sources during the measurement period;
- Estimated or calculated L_{Aeq (15min)} attributable to Borg noise sources (in the absence of extraneous noise sources) during the measurement period;
- Associated observations (vibrations, amplitude or frequency modulation or similar).

Appendix C Name of Appendix



C.1 Calibration certificates



Sound Level Meter IEC 61672-3:2013

Calibration Certificate

Calibration Number C23317

Client Details EMM Consulting

Level 3, 175 Scott Street Newcastle NSW 2300

Equipment Tested/ Model Number: NA-28

Instrument Serial Number : 00701424 Microphone Serial Number: 01916 Pre-amplifier Serial Number: 01463

Firmware Version: 2.0

Pre-Test Atmospheric Conditions Ambient Temperature: 24°C

Relative Humidity: 46% Barometric Pressure: 100.6kPa Post-Test Atmospheric Conditions

Ambient Temperature: 22.6°C Relative Humidity: 46.6% Barometric Pressure: 100.6kPa

Calibration Technician : Max Moore Secondary Check: Dylan Selge Calibration Date: 1 Jun 2023 Report Issue Date: 2 Jun 2023

Approved Signatory : Alams

Ken Williams

Clause and Characteristic Tested	Result	Clause and Characteristic Tested	Result
12: Acoustical Sig. tests of a frequency weighting	Pass	17: Level linearity incl. the level range control	Pass
Electrical Sig. tests of frequency weightings	Pass	18: Toneburst response	Pass
14: Frequency and time weightings at 1 kHz	Pass	19: C Weighted Peak Sound Level	Pass
15: Long Term Stability	Pass	20: Overload Indication	Pass
 Level linearity on the reference level range 	Pass	21: High Level Stability	Pass

The sound level meter submitted for testing has successfully completed the class 1 periodic tests of IEC 61672-3:2013, for the environmental conditions under which the tests were performed.

However, no general statement or conclusion can be made about conformance of the sound level meter to the full requirements of IEC 61672-1:2013 because evidence was not publicly available, from an independent testing organisation responsible for pattern approvals, to demonstrate that the model of sound level meter fully conformed to the requirements in IEC 61672-1:2013 and because the periodic tests of IEC 61672-3:2013 cover only a limited subset of the specifications in IEC 61672-1:2013.

		Uncertainties of Measurement -	
Acoustic Tests		Environmental Conditions	
125Hz	±0.13dB	Temperature	±0.1°C
1kHz	±0.13dB	Relative Humidity	±1.9%
8kHz	±0.14dB	Barometric Pressure	$\pm 0.014kPa$
Flactrical Tasts	+0.13dR		

All uncertainties are derived at the 95% confidence level with a coverage factor of 2.



This calibration certificate is to be read in conjunction with the calibration test report.

Acoustic Research Labs Pty Ltd is NATA Accredited Laboratory Number 14172. Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 - Calibration.

The results of the tests, calibrations and/or measurements included in this document are traceable to SI

NATA is a signatory to the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for the mutual recognition of the equivalence of testing, medical testing, calibration and inspection reports.

PAGE 1 OF 1

CERTIFICATE OF CALIBRATION

CERTIFICATE NO: C53021

EQUIPMENT TESTED: Acoustic Calibrator

Manufacturer: Pulsar

Type No: 105 Serial No: 78226

Class: 1

Owner: EMM Consulting

Level 1, 175 Scott Street Newcastle, NSW 2300

Tests Performed: Measured Output Pressure level, Frequency & Distortion

See Details and Class Tolerance overleaf.

Comments:

Relative Humidity

CONDITION OF TEST:

Ambient Pressure 1008 hPa ±1 hPa

Temperature 24 °C ±1° C

24 °C ±1° C D 53 % ±5%

Date of Receipt: 27/02/2025 Date of Calibration: 04/03/2025

Date of Issue: 04/03/2025

Acu-Vib Test AVP02 (Calibrators)

Procedure: Test Method: AS IEC 60942 - 2017

CHECKED BY:

AUTHORISED SIGNATURE:

Hein Son

Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 - Calibration
Results of the tests, calibration and/or measurements included in this document are traceable to SI units through reference equipment that has been calibrated by the Australian National Measurement Institute or other NATA accredited laboratories demonstrating traceability.

This report applies only to the item identified in the report and may not be reproduced in part.

The uncertainties quoted are calculated in accordance with the methods of the ISO Guide to the Uncertainty of Measurement and quoted at a coverage factor of 2 with a confidence interval of approximately 95%.



Head Office & Calibration Laboratory Unit 14, 22 Hudson Avenue, Castle Hill NSW 2154 (02) 9680 8133 www.acu-vib.com.au NATA

ACCREDITATION
Accredited Laborator
No. 9262
Acoustic and Vibration
Measurements

Page 1 of 2 AVCERT02 1 Calibration Certificate Rev.2.0 14.04.2021

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