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John Studdert
Manildra Group
36 Bolong Road
Bomaderry NSW 2541

Summary of noise and vibration impacts associated with modification 33

Dear John,

This letter summarises the noise and vibration impacts associated with the construction and operation of the DDG dryers 4 and 5 heat recovery system, as previously assessed under Modification 31 (MOD31) as described in the report *Shoalhaven Starches Modification 31 Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment* (GHD, 2025).

Shoalhaven Starches is seeking separate approval for the DDG dryers 4 and 5 heat recovery system, under Modification 33 (MOD33). As MOD33 comprises equipment already assessed under MOD31, no additional noise sources are introduced.

Operational equipment overview

The plant and equipment associated with the DDG dryers 4 and 5 heat recovery system at DDG dryers 4 and 5 consists of several pumps and a booster fan at each dryer. An overview of the plant and equipment DDG dryer 4 and 5 heat recovery system is shown in Table 1. Appendix C of the MOD31 NVIA report contains detailed information of the noise source inputs.

Table 1 DDG dryers 4 and 5 heat recovery system noise sources

Plant and equipment	Number of items	Sound power level per unit (dBA)
CIP pump	1	82
Recirculated hot water pump	2	90
Process condensate pump	2	75
Wet scrubber outlet booster fan	2	87
Process condensate pump	2	75
Seal water pump	2	75

Construction noise compliance

Construction noise management levels (NMLs) at residential receivers were set at 10 dB above the rating background noise levels (RBLs) in accordance with the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, 2009) (ICNG). The RBLs were derived in absence of noise from the Shoalhaven Starches site, which is considered to be a conservative approach.

Noise modelling undertaken for construction of MOD31 demonstrated that construction noise levels at receiver R2 (45 Ferry Lane, Terara) are at most 1 dB above the NMLs during piling activities. The other construction activities are predicted to result in construction noise levels below the NMLs. Therefore, construction noise impacts are only anticipated during piling activities and the exceedance would be very minor.

Piling is not required for MOD33, therefore noise levels during construction of MOD33 are anticipated to be below the NMLs at all sensitive receivers. The mitigation measures outlined in section 7.1 of the MOD31 NVIA report will be incorporated into the construction noise management plan.

Operational noise compliance

The operational design noise goals for MOD33 were set at **15 dB below the noise limits** of the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) number 883 and Development Consent 06_0288 Schedule 3 condition 12. This is to minimise noise contribution from the modification to the overall site-wide noise emissions.

Noise modelling conducted for MOD31 indicates that operational noise levels are below the design noise goals at all sensitive receivers during both neutral and noise-enhancing meteorological conditions.

The predicted operational noise levels for MOD31 are presented in Table 6.6 of the MOD31 NVIA report. The noise modelling confirms that, even under noise-enhancing meteorological conditions, the operational noise from MOD31 is predicted to be below the design noise goals at all sensitive receivers.

Furthermore, the analysis for annoying noise characteristics shows that MOD31 does not trigger tonal or low frequency noise corrections as per the *Noise Policy for Industry* (EPA, 2017).

As the equipment associated with MOD33 (DDG dryer 4 and 5 heat recovery system) is part of the equipment considered in MOD31, the predicted operational noise levels from MOD33 individually would also achieve the design noise goals at all sensitive receivers.

Mitigation measures

The mitigation measures outlined in Table 2 will be implemented to proactively manage and minimise noise emissions from MOD33. Operational noise of the equipment will be validated prior to construction, as well as once the modification is operational.

Table 2 Operational noise mitigation measures

Component	Action required	Details
Further detailed design		
DDG dryer 4 and 5 heat recovery system	Equipment selection	The sound power levels of the equipment should be equal or lower than those presented in Table 1.
	Positioning of equipment	Equipment should be positioned during detailed design to maximise shielding by existing structures where reasonably possible.
Pipelines and ducts	Insulation and lagging	Insulating and lagging of pipelines is recommended to reduce pipeline noise, particularly in areas where fluid or gas flows cause vibration or turbulent flow noise.
Noise validation		
All components	Noise validation report prior to construction	In accordance with Development Consent condition 14M, a noise validation report will be prepared prior to construction, to demonstrate compliance with the design noise goals can be achieved based on the detailed design. If required, mitigation measures to reduce noise levels to achieve the design noise goals should be provided in the noise validation report.
All components	Noise validation report during operation	Once the proposed modification is operational, a noise validation assessment would be undertaken to confirm if noise levels comply with the predictions detailed in the noise validation report.

Regards

Matthijs Oosterlaken
Noise Consultant

61 2 9239 7095
matthijs.oosterlaken@ghd.com