

Shoalhaven Starches Pty Ltd
C/- Cowman Stoddart Pty Ltd
29-31 Kinghorn Street
Nowra NSW 2541

Reference: 2103012e-l2.docx

Attention: Mr Stephen Richardson
Telephone: 02 4423 6198
Email: stephen@cowmanstoddart.com.au

16 March, 2022

Dear Stephen,

MODIFICATION 23 TO SHOALHAVEN STARCHES EXPANSION PROJECT 06_0228.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUEST (FEB 2022) – ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE ASSESSMENT

Shoalhaven Starches Pty Ltd has recently submitted a modification application to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment seeking approval for the construction of a new gas-fired co-generation plant at its exiting facility on Bolong Road, Bomaderry, NSW.

The Modification 23 application also seeks approval for the relocation of the previously approved Dried Distillers Grain dryer # 6 (DDG # 6) and associated cooling towers of which there will be six.

An initial Environmental Noise Assessment was prepared by Harwood Acoustics Pty. Ltd., reference 2103012E-R, dated 8 July 2021 (the July ENA) and was submitted with the initial application for the modification.

Subsequent to the submission of the application with the accompanying July NIA, in its letter reference DOC21/936070-6, dated 26/11/2021, the NSW EPA requested additional information and clarification in relation to the noise predictions therein.

A revised Noise Assessment (Rev A) was prepared in response to November 2021 request and submitted in January 2022.

Subsequent to the submission of the Rev A report the NSW EPA provided additional feedback in response to the Rev A report in its letter reference DOC22/57975-8, dated 14/02/2022 which in turn lead to a video conference between the key stake holders.

Shoalhaven Starches consequently commissioned Day Design Pty Ltd to prepare a 3D acoustical model of the cogeneration plant in order to satisfy the NSW EPA's request for such and to address the requests for further information in relation to noise modelling methodology.

Further correspondence from the EPA followed in its letter DOC22/57975-13, dated 25/02/2022.

I am pleased to advise that we have revised the noise assessment further in accordance with the EPA's requests and requirements and agreed actions. The attached Rev B report, dated 16/03/2022 includes those actions and I offer the following clarification comments.

Each bullet point below is a summary of the EPA agreed action and below that is my response to indicate how each action has been addressed. A copy of the EPA's letter is appended to this response as well as the Rev A ENA for ease of reference for the reader.

Action 1 –

... the EPA advises that the "Cogen plant noise model" needs to also ensure that it correctly assesses the annoying characteristics in accordance with Fact Sheet C of the Noise Policy for Industry, including but not limited to the use of one third octave data to determine tonality and low frequency noise. The EPA requests that contour maps of the modelled reasonable worst-case noise levels at sensitive receivers are also provided.

The Rev B report provides 3D acoustical modelling, undertaken by Day Design Pty Ltd and includes noise contour maps for various meteorological scenarios in the appendices.

A detailed assessment of modifying factor characteristics is also provided in the Rev B assessment and is based on one-third octave band data derived from measurements of an existing cogeneration plant undertaken by Day Design at Malabar, NSW.

Action 2 –

... the mitigation strategies for construction noise should include consultation with the community, including but not limited to an option for the community to select from piling activity with no respite but a shorter construction timeframe, or respite periods in the piling activity and a longer construction timeframe.

Section 7 of the Rev B has been updated to include detailed recommendations relating to community consultation and noise complaint handling for inclusion into a construction noise and vibration management plan.

I trust this response along with the revised NIA (Rev B) addresses the queries raised by the EPA.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours faithfully



Matthew Harwood, MAAS
Director and Principal Consultant
Harwood Acoustics Pty Ltd