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# Eastern Creek Retail Centre, Stage 1

**DA Noise Impact Assessment** 

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# **1** INTRODUCTION

Acoustic Logic Consultancy Pty Ltd has been engaged to conduct an acoustic assessment for the purpose of assessing the potential impacts on the acoustic amenity of the proposed Eastern Creek Retail Centre, Stage 1 for both external and internal noise sources as part of the Planning Application submission. The noise sources investigated are as follows:

- Environmental noise impact on the future site, including surrounding traffic noise from surrounding roadways.
- Noise emissions from the site including mechanical plant noise to surrounding receivers.
- Noise emissions from the use of the proposed loading dock located on the proposed site.
- Noise emissions from the use of the proposed child care centre located on the site.

Environmental noise will be covered first as it will potentially impact the future development. Unattended and attended noise monitoring was conducted in order to determine the existing traffic noise levels around the perimeter of the site.

Detailed design of the mechanical plant will be provided as part of the CC submission for each stage of the project. This study will set the goal assessment criteria applicable to the project based on the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) requirements, other council and relevant statutory/regulatory requirements.

This report reviews the recommendations and findings of the Eastern Creek Business Hub report conducted by PKA Consulting (dated August 2012), with regard to the proposed modifications to SSD 5175. The report also includes the requirements of the projects Development Consent including item B8 'Operational Noise'.

### **1.1 SITE DESCRIPTION**

Figure 1 below illustrates the location of the proposed Eastern Creek Retail Centre, Stage 1 and the location of noise monitoring and measurements.



Figure 1 – Site Location and Measurement Positions

The existing environmental noise sources affecting the site are as follows:

- The development is affected by environmental noise predominantly from traffic noise from Rooty Hill Road to the west of the site.
- Other surrounding boundaries including existing residential properties as detailed in Figure 1 above.

The environmental noise source outlined above has varying degrees of impact upon the proposed development which will be outlined in this report.

## 2 EXISTING ACOUSTIC ENVIRONMENT

Environmental noise impacting the site is a result of traffic noise from the surrounding perimeter roadways and other surrounding land existing land uses.

### 2.1 TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the site and surrounding land includes a drop of 2.5m to the loading dock which is below road level. The remainder of the site is generally flat.

### **3** ACOUSTIC SURVEY

As part of this assessment an acoustic survey of the proposed development site has been conducted.

The acoustic survey included attended and unattended noise logging which is detailed in this section of the report.

### 3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE LEVELS

Environmental noise constantly varies in level, due to fluctuations in local noise sources including road traffic. Accordingly, a 15 minute measurement interval is normally utilised. Over this period, noise levels are monitored on a continuous basis and statistical and integrating techniques are used to determine noise description parameters.

In the case of environmental noise three principle measurement parameters are used, namely  $L_{10}$ ,  $L_{90}$  and  $L_{eq}$ .

The  $L_{10}$  and  $L_{90}$  measurement parameters are statistical levels that represent the average maximum and average minimum noise levels respectively, over the measurement intervals.

The  $L_{10}$  parameter is commonly used to measure noise produced by a particular intrusive noise source since it represents the average of the loudest noise levels produced by the source.

Conversely, the  $L_{90}$  level (which is commonly referred to as the background noise level) represents the noise level heard in the quieter periods during a measurement interval. The  $L_{90}$  parameter is used to set the allowable noise level for new, potentially intrusive noise sources since the disturbance caused by the new source depends on how audible it is above the pre-existing noise environment, particularly during quiet periods, as represented by the  $L_{90}$  level.

The  $L_{eq}$  parameter represents the average noise energy during a measurement period. This parameter is derived by integrating the noise levels measured over the measurement period.  $L_{eq}$  is

important in the assessment of traffic noise impact as it closely corresponds with human perception of a changing noise environment; such is the character of industrial noise.

### **3.2 ATTENDED NOISE MEASUREMENTS**

Attended noise level measurements conducted as part of this assessment are detailed in this section of the report. All noise levels undertaken as part of this assessment were conducted in conjunction with the requirements of AS1055.

### 3.2.1 Measurement Equipment

Attended measurements were undertaken using a Norsonic 140 sound level analyser, set to Aweighted fast response. The sound level analyser was calibrated before and after the measurements, no significant drift was noted.

### 3.2.2 Measurement Period

Noise measurements was conducted at the locations detailed in Figure 1 in Section 2 above during the following period:

1. Peak afternoon conditions between 4.30pm and 6pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017.

### 3.3 UNATTENDED NOISE MONITORING

Unattended noise monitoring conducted as part of this assessment is detailed in this section of the report. The results of unattended noise logging are included in Appendix A.

### 3.3.1 Unattended Monitoring Period

Unattended noise monitoring was conducted at the site during the period of 18<sup>th</sup> to th 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 in order to measure the existing background and environmental noise levels at the site.

The noise level monitors were located at the following locations:

1. Location – The western side of the site with proximity to Rooty Hill Road which was selected as being representative location for the residential receivers opposite the site to the west.

### 3.3.2 Monitoring Equipment

Unattended noise measurements were obtained using an Acoustic Research Laboratories Pty Ltd noise logger. The logger was programmed to store 15-minute statistical noise levels throughout the monitoring period. The noise monitors were calibrated at the beginning and the end of the measurement using a Rion NC-73 calibrator. No significant drift was detected. All measurements were taken on A-weighted fast response mode. Periods of adverse weather conditions during the during the measurement period have not be used in this assessment.

### 3.4 RESULTS OF THE ACOUSTIC SURVEY

An acoustic survey was undertaken at the proposed site in order to determine the existing acoustic environment. The unattended monitor results will be used to determine the variation between day, evening and night time noise levels. Attended measurements will be compared with the unattended monitoring data during the same measurement period so that relative differences between the attended and unattended locations can be formed thereby providing a comprehensive study of existing noise levels around the proposed site.

### 3.4.1 Existing Background Noise Levels

Background noise levels during day time are dominated by general vehicular traffic movements. The NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Industrial Noise Policy (INP) details specific steps in determining the background noise level for assessment of the day, evening and night time periods. Table 1 summarises the background determined at the monitoring location, based on the guidelines set out in the INP and the results of unattended noise monitoring.

Location	Description	Day Noise Level 7am to 6pm (dB(A)L <sub>90</sub> )	Evening Noise Level 6pm to 10pm (dB(A)L <sub>90</sub> )	Night Noise Level 10pm to 7am (dB(A)L <sub>90</sub> )
Logger Location	Background L <sub>90,15min</sub>	50	46	34

### Table 1 – Measured Ambient Noise Levels

In addition to the background levels obtained at the unattended monitoring position presented above, attended noise monitoring was conducted at 2 locations around the perimeter of the subject site as detailed in Figure 1 of Section 1 above. The results of the attended noise measurements are presented in Table 2 below.

### Table 2 – Measured Attended Environmental Noise Levels

Location	Time Period	Measured Noise level dB(A) L <sub>eq (15 min)</sub>
Location 1 – Rooty Hill Road	Peak Afternoon Period	62
Location 2 – Beggs Road	Peak Afternoon Period	59

# 4 NOISE EMISSION LIMITS – NOISE GENERATED ON THE SITE

The NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Industrial Noise Policy (INP) provides guidelines for assessing noise impacts from development sites. The recommended assessment objectives vary depending on the potentially affected receivers, the time of day, and the type of noise source. The EPA's Industrial Noise Policy has two requirements which both have to be complied with, namely an amenity criterion and an intrusiveness criterion. In addition, the EPA in its Environmental Noise Control Manual states that noise controls should be applied with the general intent to protect residences from sleep arousal.

For land use developments with the potential to create additional traffic on local roads the development should comply with the requirements detailed in the NSW Road Noise Policy.

### 4.1 EPA INTRUSIVENESS CRITERION

The EPA guideline is intended to limit the audibility of noise emissions at residential receivers and requires that noise emissions measured using the  $L_{eq}$  descriptor not exceed the background noise level by more than 5 dB(A). Where applicable, the intrusive noise level should be penalised (increased) to account for any annoying characteristics such as tonality.

### 4.2 EPA AMENITY CRITERION

The EPA guideline is intended to limit the absolute noise level from all industrial noise sources to a level that is consistent with the general environment.

The EPA's Industrial noise policy sets out acceptable noise levels for various localities. Table 2.1 on page 16 of the policy indicates 4 categories to distinguish different residential areas. They are rural, suburban, urban and urban/industrial interface.

Table 5 of the INP provides the recommended ambient noise levels for the suburban residential receivers for the day, evening and night periods. For the purposes of this condition:

- Day is defined as the period from 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 6pm Sundays and Public Holidays;
- Evening is defined as the period from 6pm to 10pm; and
- Night is defined as the period from 10pm to 7am Monday to Saturday and 10pm to 8am Sundays and Public Holidays.

Type of Receiver	Time of day	Recommended Acceptable Noise Level dB(A) L <sub>eq</sub>
	Day	55
Residential	Evening	45
	Night	40

### Table 3 – EPA Recommended Amenity Noise Levels

### 4.3 SLEEP AROUSAL

To minimise the potential for sleep arousal the  $L_{1(1 \text{ minute})}$  noise level of any specific noise source does not exceed the background noise level ( $L_{90}$ ) by more than 15 dB(A) outside a resident's bedroom window between the hours of 10pm and 7am. The  $L_1$  noise level is the level exceeded for 1 per cent of the time and approximates the typical maximum noise level from a particular source. Where the typical repeatable existing  $L_1$  levels exceed the above requirement then the existing  $L_1$  levels form the basis for, sleep disturbance criteria.

### 4.4 SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR PROPOSED SITE

The EPA's INP intrusiveness, amenity and sleep arousal criteria for this project have been determined using these guidelines and the noise monitoring results. These are summarised below. We note that the formulation of the assessment criteria has been based on the lowest ambient levels determined from all monitoring data.

Location	Day time Noise Objective dB(A) L <sub>eq</sub>	Evening Noise Objective dB(A) L <sub>eq</sub>	Night time Noise Objective dB(A) L <sub>eq</sub>	Noise Objective for Intermittent Activities dB(A) L1 (1 <sup>Min)</sup> (Background + 15 dB(A))
Project Site	55	45	39	49

### Table 4 – Noise Objectives for Surrounding Receivers

Noise level criteria are to be applied to commercial traffic levels generated from vehicle movements on the site only, as presented by the Industrial Noise Policy. Noise levels generated from the movement of vehicles entering and exiting the site on ramps are generally required to comply with levels presented in the presented tables for surrounding receivers.

# **5 MECHANICAL PLANT TREATMENTS**

A detailed mechanical noise assessment will be conducted once plant selections and services drawings have been finalised as part of the construction documentation to ensure noise levels comply with the criteria detailed in this report. Details will be provided as part of the CC submission of the project.

Based on experience with similar development acoustic treatments are both possible and practical using acoustic treatments such as lining of ductwork, acoustic silences, variable speed controllers, time switches, acoustic screens etc. General requirements for a number of potential plant items on the site are expanded on below.

### 5.1 CHILLERS / AIR HANDLING UNITS

Units can be located on roof tops with an acoustic screen or in basement areas or roof top plant areas, with acoustic treatment to intake and exhaust as necessary.

These units would predominantly operate during the day, with the potential to operate with extended hours. Acoustic treatment to these units may be required to ameliorate noise impact to the surrounding residents and to comply with the criteria specified in this report and verified at CC stage.

### 5.2 SUPPLY / EXHAUST FANS

Supply and exhaust fans may be located within the underground plant rooms or in rooftop plant areas. These units typically emit high noise levels and require acoustic treatment such as silencers and internal lined ductwork. Silencer requirements would be determined once fan selections have been completed at CC stage.

### 5.3 CONDENSER UNITS

Condensing units typically emit relatively low noise levels and with careful selection, it is possible that no further acoustic treatment would be necessary.

### 5.4 MINOR PLANT

Other minor plant items, such as bathroom or kitchen exhaust fans, will be required. These items typically emit relatively low noise levels and may require minimal acoustic treatment of a standard nature, such as internally lining of ductwork.

### 5.5 ACOUSTIC SCREENING

In the event acoustic screening is required to treat plant noise levels the screening would need to include a solid barrier (such as FC Sheet, masonry or the like) installed to the minimum height of the plant which may be installed on the roof of the proposed development.

# **6** ASSESSMENT OF LOADING DOCK ACTIVITIES

This section of the report presents the assessment of noise associated with the operation of the loading docks associated with the project. The assessment was conducted in conjunction with the EPA criteria presented in this report.



The location of the proposed loading dock is detailed in the Figure below.

Acoustic assessment of noise generated by the loading dock has been undertaken based on the hours nominated below:

- The proposed loading dock will potentially be operational between 7am and 10pm on any given day of the week.
- The loading dock will include up to 1 truck in any given hour and up to 3 van movements within the same hour.

#### 6.1 POTENTIAL LOADING DOCK NOISE SOURCES

The potentially significant loading dock noise sources are listed in Table 5 below long with noise emission levels. The emission levels in Table 5 have been obtained from noise monitoring carried out at similar loading dock facilities. Noise measurements were obtained using a Norsonics SA 110 sound level meter, set to fast response. The sound level meter was calibrated before and after the measurements using a Rion NC-73 calibrator. No significant drift was recorded.

Noise Source	Sound Emission Level dB(A) at 7m	Type of Noise Source
Truck Reversing alarm	75 <sup>(1)</sup>	Quasi-Steady, tonal
Trucks Manoeuvring/Reversing (including medium size non- reticulated trucks)	75	Quasi-Steady
Truck Brakes	89	Transient
Truck Door Closing	75	Transient
Truck Starting	72	Transient

(1)

A 5 dB(A) penalty has been applied to this source to account for the tonal characteristic of noise produced.

#### 6.2 PREDICTED NOISE LEVELS AT MOST AFFECTED RECEIVERS

Noise levels at the residences were predicted based on the noise emission levels in Table 5, which are typical for this type of development.

Table 6 summaries the predicted noise levels at the nearest residence to the north on Beggs Road of the proposed loading dock and within the proposed development. The noise levels below assume the acoustic treatments detailed in this report are adopted.

Location/Activity	Receiver	Predicted Noise Level at Residence L <sub>eq,15min</sub>	Noise Level Criteria at Residence L <sub>eq,15min</sub>
Truck Loading/Unloading <sup>(1)</sup>		Day - 47 dB(A)	Day - 55 dB(A)
Within the Loading Dock	residence opposite on Beggs Road	Evening-47 dB(A)	Evening– 50 dB(A)
		Night – Not in operation	Night – Not in operation

Table 6 – Assessment of Loading Dock Noise Emissions

1 - These activities include activities such as the delivery truck being idle in the dock, movement of pallet trucks, operation of compactors, etc.

### 6.3 RECOMMENDED LOADING DOCK DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS TO THE LOADING DOCK

It is recommended that the following management and physical controls be implemented into the design and operation of the proposed loading dock associated with the Eastern Creek Retail Centre, Stage 1 project:

- Operating hours for the loading docks, deliveries, garbage removals, etc will be restricted within the hours of 7am to 10pm.
- Bail and/or garbage compactors are to be used only within the loading dock areas.
- Neoprene rubber buffers should be installed on the vertical face of the loading dock where vehicles park to absorb impacts.
- A detailed assessment of noise emissions from plant and equipment associated with the loading dock is required to be conducted prior to installation in conjunction with Hills Shire council requirements.
- Vehicles associated with the loading dock should not be parked within the vicinity of the loading dock outside of the hours of 7am to 10pm.
- Vehicle engines should be switched off during loading and unloading within the dock.
- An acoustic screen is required to the west of the site, at the location detailed below. The screen should be constructed to a minimum height of 2.2m and be constructed from a solid material such as a lapped and capped timber fence, masonry or the like.



Location of the acoustic screen

# 7 CONSTRUCTION NOISE AND VIBRATION

This document presents a specification for the processes, which will be followed to manage noise and vibration associated with the proposed construction activities which are required as part of the Project and the potential for noise and vibration impact to receivers within close proximity.

The principal objective of this study is to undertake an evaluation of works to be performed during the operation of the various activities during construction and develop a management plan to ensure noise and vibration is:

- 1. Minimised to all surrounding receivers.
- 2. Does not exceed OH&S standards at surrounding receivers.
- 3. Is monitored when potentially high noise and vibration generating activities are being used.

This assessment will formulate/present the relevant noise and vibration criteria which construction activities are required to comply with. Additionally effective mitigation measures will be recommended where possible to ensure criteria is achieved and impacts are.

The principal issues, which will be addressed in this report, are:

- Identification of the noise and vibration standards which will be applicable to this project.
- Formulation of a strategy for construction activities to comply with the standards identified in the above point.

### 7.1 **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this management plan is to set up a protocol to ensure noise and vibration emissions from the construction works associated with the project comply with applicable standards, recommend required management controls and treatments are adopted where required and detail the required monitoring to ensure standards are met.

### 7.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND POTENTIALLY EFFECTED PROPERTIES

The proposed project includes the excavation of material including infill and soft sand stone and construction of the development. The expected activities can be expected to include:

- 1. Removal of infill material.
- 2. Excavation.
- 3. Building constructions.

### 7.3 CONSTRUCTION NOISE CRITERIA

It is proposed to utilise Australian Standard AS2436:1981 *"Guide to noise control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites"*, which is the standard commonly applied by Councils for the regulation of construction noise, the New South Wales Construction Noise Guideline developed by The NSW EPA and OH&S requirements are presented in this section of the report.

# 7.3.1 Australian Standard AS2436:1981 "Guide to noise control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites

The Australian Standard AS2436 states that where all reasonable and available measures have been taken to reduce construction noise, mitigation strategies may be put in place to reduce levels noise levels to within a reasonable and acceptable level.

For the control and regulation of noise from construction sites AS2436:1981 *"Guide to noise control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites"* nominates the following:

- a. That reasonable suitable noise criterion is established,
- b. That all practicable measures be taken on the building site to regulate noise emissions, including the siting of noisy static processes to locations of the site where they can be shielded, selecting less noisy processes, and if required regulating construction hours, and
- c. The undertaking of noise monitoring where non-compliance occurs to assist in the management and control of noise emission from the demolition, excavation and construction site.

### 7.3.2 EPA Construction Noise Guideline

The Department of Environment and Climate Change have developed a specific construction noise guideline in the aid of reducing the impact of construction associated noise.

The guideline reflects on feasible and reasonable mitigation strategies, management controls and public liaising in the effort to reach realistic comprises between construction sites and potential noise affected receivers.

### 7.3.3 EPA Construction Noise Guideline - Qualitative Assessment Method

The guideline refers to a qualitative assessment method in which construction noise is assessed on a case by case basis with regard to various activities to be conducted on site. This assessment method was developed to smaller scale projects.

Essentially this method of assessment requires that the proponent take into consideration and employ all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that the impact on noise receivers is minimised. This is generally conducted in the following manner:

- The drafting of a noise management plan outlining all reasonable and feasible mitigation methods for the reduction of noise impact;
- The assessment of high impact equipment such as rock-hammers and piling equipment for lower noise producing methods of construction/excavation;
- The implementation of a complaints handling register and community consultation system;
- Employee (builders, contractors etc) education in effective noise reducing techniques and site etiquette; and
- The operation of plant in a quiet and efficient manner (i.e. turning off machinery when not in use).

This qualitative assessment method has been used for the basis of this report and has been used as the basis for the development of acoustic management and treatments of proposed construction activities.

In addition, the guideline specifies goals which can be used in the effort of minimising noise from construction related activities. These noise goals are presented within the table below.

Governing Body	Receiver Type	External sound level Goal, L <sub>eq 15 min</sub> dB(A)
ED A	Desidential	Background + 10 dB(A) <sup>1</sup>
EPA	Residential	75 dB(A) <sup>2</sup>

Table 7 – EPA Recommended Construction Noise Goals

1: Where the predicted or measured LAeq (15 min) is greater than the noise affected level, the proponent should apply all feasible and reasonable work practices to minimise noise. (DECC CNG, 2008).

2: Where noise is above this level, the proponent should consider very carefully if there is any other feasible and reasonable way to reduce noise to below this level. If no quieter work method is feasible and reasonable, and the works proceed, the proponent should communicate with the impacted residents by clearly explaining the duration and noise level of the works, and by describing any respite periods that will be provided. (DECC CNG, 2008).

These criteria for resultant noise from construction activities are aimed at maintaining comfort levels within the surrounding residential dwellings. Additionally, noise mitigation techniques as discussed in this report should be used if noise emissions exceed the above criteria. All work is to be carried out in accordance with AS 2436:1981 *"Guide to noise control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites"*.

### 7.4 CONSTRUCTION VIBRATION CRITERIA

Construction vibration criteria associated with works on the project when measured at the potentially affected receivers should not exceed the following sets of vibration criteria to ensure no architectural or structural damage to surrounding buildings and human comfort is maintained. These standards have been selected as they are widely used in the assessment of vibration associated with construction activities within Australia, namely:

- German Standard DIN 4150-3 (1999-02): "Structural Vibration Effects of Vibration on Structures"; and
- British Standard BS 6472:1992 "Guide to Evaluation of Human Exposure to Vibration in Buildings (1Hz to 80Hz).

The criteria and the application of these Standards are discussed in separate sections below.

### 7.4.1 German Standard DIN 4150-3 (1999-02)

German Standard DIN 4150-3 (1999-02) provides vibration velocity guideline levels for use in evaluating the effects of vibration on structures. The criteria presented in DIN 4150-3 (1999-02) are presented in the Table below.

It is noted that the peak velocity is the absolute value of the maximum of any of the three orthogonal component particle velocities as measured at the foundation, and the maximum levels measured in the x- and y-horizontal directions in the plane of the floor of the uppermost storey.

		PEAK PARTICLE VELOCITY (mms <sup>-1</sup> )				
TYPE OF STRUCTURE		At Foun	Plane of Floor of Uppermost Storey			
		< 10Hz	10Hz to 50Hz	50Hz to 100Hz	All Frequencies	
1	Buildings used in commercial purposes, industrial buildings and buildings of similar design	20	20 to 40	40 to 50	40	
2	Dwellings and buildings of similar design and/or use	5	5 to 15	15 to 20	15	
3	Structures that because of their particular sensitivity to vibration, do not correspond to those listed in Lines 1 or 2 and have intrinsic value (eg buildings that are under a preservation order)	3	3 to 8	8 to 10	8	

### 7.4.2 British Standard BS 6472:1992

British Standard BS 6472:1992 develops criteria relating to levels of building vibration that may be expected to give rise to *"adverse comment"*, in the frequency range most applicable to impacts associated with construction, which is 1 to 80Hz. These threshold values are used as criteria for assessing the loss of amenity and are presented below in Table 3.

	Time of Day	Peak Particle Velocity (mms <sup>-1</sup> ) between 1Hz to 80Hz Likely to Cause <i>"Adverse Comment"</i>				
Type of Occupancy		Continuous Vibration		Intermittent Vibration and Impulsive Vibration Excitation with Several Occurrences per day		
		Vertical	Horizontal	Vertical	Horizontal	
Decidential	Day	0.3 to 0.6	0.8 to 0.6	8.4 to 12.6	24 to 36	
Residential	Night	0.2	0.6	2.8	8	
Offices	Day	0.6	1.6	18	51	
Offices	Night	0.6	1.6	18	51	
Markshops	Day	1.2	3.2	18	51	
Workshops	Night	1.2	3.2	18	51	

The limits indicate that people in buildings are significantly less susceptible to horizontal vibration than to vertical vibration. Furthermore, Section 4.1 of BS 6472 notes that situations can exist where vibration magnitudes above those generally corresponding to minimal *"adverse comment"* levels can be tolerated, particularly for temporary disturbances and infrequent and intermittent events such as those associated with construction projects.

### 7.5 CONSTRUCTION HOURS

Woking hours are subject to planning approval conditions. Typically the hours of work at sites will be:

- 7:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday
- 8:00am to 5:00pm on Saturdays
- No work on Sundays, Public Holidays or Saturdays adjacent to a Public Holiday.

Works which are proposed to be conducted outside of these hours will be subject to special approval.

### 7.6 CONTROL OF CONSTRUCTION NOISE AND VIBRATION

As a part of the noise management of noise and vibration on each site the following process should be conducted when investigating the impact and construction activities.



Figure 1 – Process Flowchart

### 7.7 NOISE AND VIBRATION CONTROL METHODS

The determination of appropriate noise control measures will be dependent on the particular activities and construction appliances. This section provides an outline of available methods.

### 7.7.1 Selection of alternate appliance or process

Where a particular activity or construction appliance is found to generate excessive noise levels, it may be possible to select an alternative approach or appliance. For example; the use of a hydraulic hammer on certain areas of the site may potentially generate high levels of noise. By carrying this activity by use of pneumatic hammers, bulldozers ripping and/or milling machines lower levels of noise will result.

### 7.7.2 Acoustic Barrier

Barriers or screens can be an effective means of reducing noise. Barriers can be located either at the source or receiver.

The placement of barriers at the source is generally only effective for static plant (tower cranes). Equipment which is on the move or working in rough or undulating terrain cannot be effectively attenuated by placing barriers at the source.

Barriers can also be placed between the source and the receiver.

The degree of noise reduction provided by barriers is dependant on the amount by which line of sight can be blocked by the barrier. If the receiver is totally shielded from the noise source reductions of up to 15dB(A) can be effected. Where only partial obstruction of line of sight occurs, noise reductions of 5 to 8dB(A) may be achieved. Where no line of sight is obstructed by the barrier, generally no noise reduction will occur.

As barriers are used to provide shielding and do not act as an enclosure, the material they are constructed from should have a noise reduction performance that is approximately 10dB(A) greater than the maximum reduction provided by the barrier. In this case the use of a material such as 10mm or 15mm thick plywood (radiata plywood) would be acceptable for the barriers.

### 7.7.3 Silencing devices

Where construction process or appliances are noisy, the use of silencing devices may be possible. These may take the form of engine shrouding, or special industrial silencers fitted to exhausts.

### 7.7.4 Material handling

The installation of rubber matting over material handling areas can reduce the sound of impacts due to material being dropped by up to 20dB(A).

### 7.7.5 Treatment of specific equipment

In certain cases it may be possible to specially treat a piece of equipment to dramatically reduce the sound levels emitted.

### 7.7.6 Establishment of Site Practices

This involves the formulation of work practices to reduce noise generation. A noise plan will be developed for this project outlining work procedures and methods for minimising noise.

### 7.7.7 Regular noise checks of equipment

To determine the requirement for silencing devices on machinery it is proposed to undertake fortnightly noise check. Noise levels of all machines on site will be measured and if they are found to be higher than nominated for that equipment type, items such as mufflers and engine shrouds will be examined to ensure they are in good working order.

A record of these measurements will be kept on a form similar to that shown in Appendix 1. This measure is expected to maintain noise at constant levels, and prevent any increases.

### 7.7.8 TREATMENT of EXISTING EQUIPMENT

An effective method of mitigating vibration on existing equipment would be to vibration isolated mounts to existing equipment and installations. Vibration isolation would be required to be investigated on a case by case basis and consist of neoprene mounts as specified (such as waffle pads, supershear flex or the like).

Based on investigations conducted at the site the areas which may be suitable for treatment include tables with sensitive equipment such as microscopes and the like.

### 7.7.9 Noise and Vibration Monitoring

Noise and vibration monitoring will be undertaken to determine the effectiveness of measures which are been implemented. The results of monitoring can be used to devise further control measures.

### 7.7.10 Combination of Methods

In some cases it may be necessary that two or more control measures be implemented to minimise noise.

### 7.7.11 Saw Cutting

Introduction of a saw cut to manage vibration impacting on surrounding receivers from construction activities.

# 8 CONCLUSION

This report provides the results of Environmental Noise Study for the proposed Eastern Creek Retail Centre, Stage 1. Noise at the site has been measured and noise goals have been set in accordance with the requirements of the relevant statutory/regulatory authorities including Local Council and the Environmental Protection Authority.

Based on the assessment detailed in this report the proposed development will comply with all relevant noise and vibration criteria.

The findings and recommendations of the previously conducted Eastern Creek Business Hub report conducted by PKA Consulting (dated August 2012) remain applicable notwithstanding the proposed modifications to the project.

We trust this information is satisfactory. Please contact us should you have any further queries.

Report prepared by,

B.G. White

ACOUSTIC LOGIC CONSULTANCY PTY LTD Ben White

Appendix A – Noise Logging Results



Rooty Hill Village

Wednesday January 18, 2017



Rooty Hill Village Thursday January 19, 2017

90 80 <u>−</u>-L10 70 Noise Level (dB(A)) 60 17  $\Delta_{\Lambda} \Delta_{\Lambda}$ Δ –∆– Leq Å-H ٨ <u>R</u> 50 40 —×— L90 30 20 0:00 12:00 14:00 15:00 16:00 17:00 18:00 19:00 20:00 21:00 6:00 11:00 13:00 22:00 23:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00 7:00 8:00 9:00 10:00 0:00

Time



90 80 <u>−</u>-L10 70 Noise Level (dB(A)) 60 –∆– Leq 50 40 —×— L90 30 20 0:00 12:00 14:00 15:00 16:00 17:00 18:00 19:00 20:00 21:00 11:00 13:00 22:00 23:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00 6:00 7:00 8:00 00:6 10:00 0:00

Time



90 80 <u>−</u>-L10 70 Noise Level (dB(A)) 60 3-54-FFFFFFF –∆– Leq 50 40 —×— L90 30 20 0:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 17:00 18:00 -19:00 20:00 21:00 11:00 13:00 15:00 22:00 23:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00 6:00 7:00 8:00 00:6 10:00 0:00

Time



Sunday January 22, 2017



Rooty Hill Village Monday January 23, 2017



Rooty Hill Village Tuesday January 24, 2017



Rooty Hill Village Wednesday January 25, 2017