

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Our ref: SSI-10055-PA-57 & 100

Your ref: 6-0000-210-EEC-00-LT-0029 & 85

Inland Rail Pty Ltd
via Major Projects Portal

26 September 2025

Attention: Ian Irwin, Environment Manager

Inland Rail – Albury to Illabo (SSI-10055) – approval of Locomotive Noise Control Program Report

Dear Ian,

I refer to your submission lodged on 30 May 2025, and your supporting letter dated 15 September 2025, requesting approval of the Inland Rail – Albury to Illabo (SSI-10055) Locomotive Noise Control Program Report (Acoustic Studio, v1.0, 23 May 2025) under condition E85.

I note the Locomotive Noise Control Program Report:

- was verified by the approved independent acoustic expert on 27 May 2025
- uses a more sensitive noise model (Nord2000) than that used in the Preferred Infrastructure Report (Kilde)
- sets out that Nord2000 will be used in the Operational Noise and Vibration Review required under condition E89 and recommends some model inputs be refined in the Review
- identifies four locomotive classes, and up to twenty individual locomotives, to be treated, with:
 - written commitments included from the locomotive owners
 - similar noise reductions expected for eight locomotives to the reductions achieved by fitting five C class locomotives with exhaust silencers in 2020
 - twelve locomotives subject to an operational review until early 2026
 - the treatment program to be delivered over two years
 - noise testing to occur as each locomotive is treated
- provides that the updated Report, which must include post-treatment locomotive noise test results, will be submitted within three months of completing the tests as required under condition E86.

I note that Inland Rail will provide the additional information set out in your supporting letter separately by 30 November 2025.

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

As nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the Locomotive Noise Control Program Report identified above under condition E85.

If you wish to discuss this, please contact Alex McGuirk, Principal Planning Officer, or myself.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Scott", with a large, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Alexander Scott
Director, Freight Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary