

Review of the Noise Impact Assessment for MOD 3 of the Sydney Super Yacht Marina proposal MP09_0165.

I wish to comment on the Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) report for MOD 3 of the Sydney Super Yacht Marina proposal MP_0165.

The biggest modelled noise impact is on the residential location called R5, which is at the end of Glebe Point Road. Hence I will focus my comments on noise at R5.

The relocation of uses between the western and eastern buildings has put more of the noise producing uses into the eastern building, which is closer to R5.

Consider NIA Scenario 1 under Conditions B & C (This is the scenario with a band indoors, with a breeze blowing towards R5.)

The NIA shows predicted noise at R5 exceeds the benchmark by up to 3 dB during day & evening¹ and up to 4 dB at night (see NIA tables 6-7 and 6-8). These exceedances are in the 500 Hz octave band, which is around the middle frequency of human hearing range.

Note that exceedances of 2 dB or less are described as 'negligible' (Draft Industrial Noise Guidance as quoted in NIA, page 29).

The corollary of this is that 3 dB and 4 dB exceedances are not negligible.

How can these 3 dB & 4 dB exceedances be addressed?

My Recommendations:

(if MOD 3 is approved):

- 1.) To deal with the 4 dB (night) exceedance.

All previous conditions should be maintained and the new condition 6.5.3 should also be made mandatory.

It is particularly important that the new recommendation re double glazing be implemented.

- 2.) To deal with the 3 dB (day/evening) exceedance.

All previous conditions should be maintained and the new condition 6.5.3 should also be made mandatory.

However, this will still not address the daytime 3 dB exceedance (prior to 6pm.) In order to address this issue, I recommend that:

Condition 6.5.3 should be modified so that the doors and windows remain closed during any jazz (or similar) band performance. Currently condition 6.5.3 limits jazz bands to evening (starting at 6pm) and later.

This requirement will bring the jazz bands into the same control regime as is already agreed for rock bands.

The pre-existing recommendation (from NIA, page 33):

"Scenario 1: To achieve compliance, the doors and windows must remain in the closed position during the day, evening and night when a rock band plays indoors. A jazz band or music with a similar noise spectrum may play indoors, however should close the doors and windows during the night-time period after 10:00pm."

Condition 6.5.3 of the NIA proposes to bring forward the time for closing doors and windows from 10pm to 6pm. My recommendation is to enforce the same condition regardless of the type of band (that is, that doors and windows are closed whenever a band is playing).

¹ Day: 7am to 6pm. Evening: 6pm to 10pm. Night: 10pm to 7am.

Modelled sound levels are not maximums

Here I am making a separate note on the modelling, which does not result in a specific recommendation. However this is a matter to keep in mind when assessing the situation.

The modelled sound levels are not maximums, and do not claim to be so. They are based on assumed cases, which do not include worst cases. Specifically:

Wind speed modelling is at 3 m/s (NIA page 17), which is a speed (10 km/hr) that will be exceeded many times every year.

The bands modelled are described as 'moderate'. Presumably some bands will be louder than average and hence create more noise.

Hence the actual noise levels at all receiver sites can be expected to exceed the modelled values on many occasions every year.

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