

Noise Monitoring Assessment

Northparkes Mines

Quarter 2, 2020



Document Information

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PO Box 995

Parkes NSW 2870

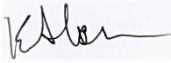

Prepared by: Muller Acoustic Consulting Pty Ltd

PO Box 262, Newcastle NSW 2300

ABN: 36 602 225 132

P: +61 2 4920 1833

www.mulleracoustic.com

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1 Introduction

Muller Acoustic Consulting Pty Ltd (MAC) has been commissioned by CMOC Mining Services Pty Limited (CMOC) to complete a Noise Monitoring Assessment (NMA) for Northparkes Mines (NPM), 27km North West of Parkes, NSW. The NMA has been completed to quantify operational noise emissions as per Conditions 1 to 5 of Schedule 3 of the Project Approval Conditions (PA11_110060) and the Northparkes Noise Management Plan (NMP, 2019).

The assessment has been conducted in accordance with the following documents:

- NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) 2017, Noise Policy for Industry (NPI); and
- Australian Standard AS 1055:2018 - Acoustics - Description and measurement of environmental noise - General Procedures.

A glossary of terms, definitions and abbreviations used in this report is provided in **Appendix A**.

2 Noise Criteria

2.1 Operational Noise Criteria

This assessment has adopted criteria as per Conditions 1 to 5 of Schedule 3 of the Project Approval Conditions (PA11_110060) and the Northparkes Noise Management Plan (NMP, 2019) (see **Appendix B**) and is summarised below in **Table 1**.

Table 1 Noise Criteria				
Location	Day	Evening	Night	
	dB LAeq(15min)	dB LAeq(15min)	dB LAeq(15min)	dB LA1(1min)
All privately-owned land	35	35	35	45

Additionally, the conditions state:

Operational Noise generated by the project will be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

These limits apply under all meteorological conditions except the following:

- *during periods of rain or hail;*
- *average wind speeds at microphone height exceeds 5 m/s;*
- *wind speeds greater than 3 m/s at 10 metres above ground level; or*
- *temperature inversion conditions of up to 3 °C/100m or alternatively a stability class of G.*

Except for wind speed at the microphone height, the data to be used for determining meteorological conditions will be that recorded by the meteorological station located onsite. Operational noise generated by the project is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. Appendix 5 sets out the meteorological conditions under which these criteria apply, and the requirements for evaluating compliance with these criteria.

These limits do not apply if NPM have an agreement with the relevant owner/s of the residences or land to generate higher noise levels, and NPM has advised the Department in writing of the terms of the agreement.

3 Assessment Methodology

All attended noise monitoring surveys for this assessment were conducted in general accordance with the procedures described in Australian Standard AS 1055:2018, "Acoustics - Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise" and the NMP.

The acoustic instrumentation used carries appropriate and current NATA (or manufacturer) calibration certificates and complies with AS/NZS IEC 61672.1-2019-Electroacoustics - Sound level meters - Specifications. Calibration of all instrumentation was checked prior to and following measurements. Drift in calibration did not exceed ± 0.5 dBA.

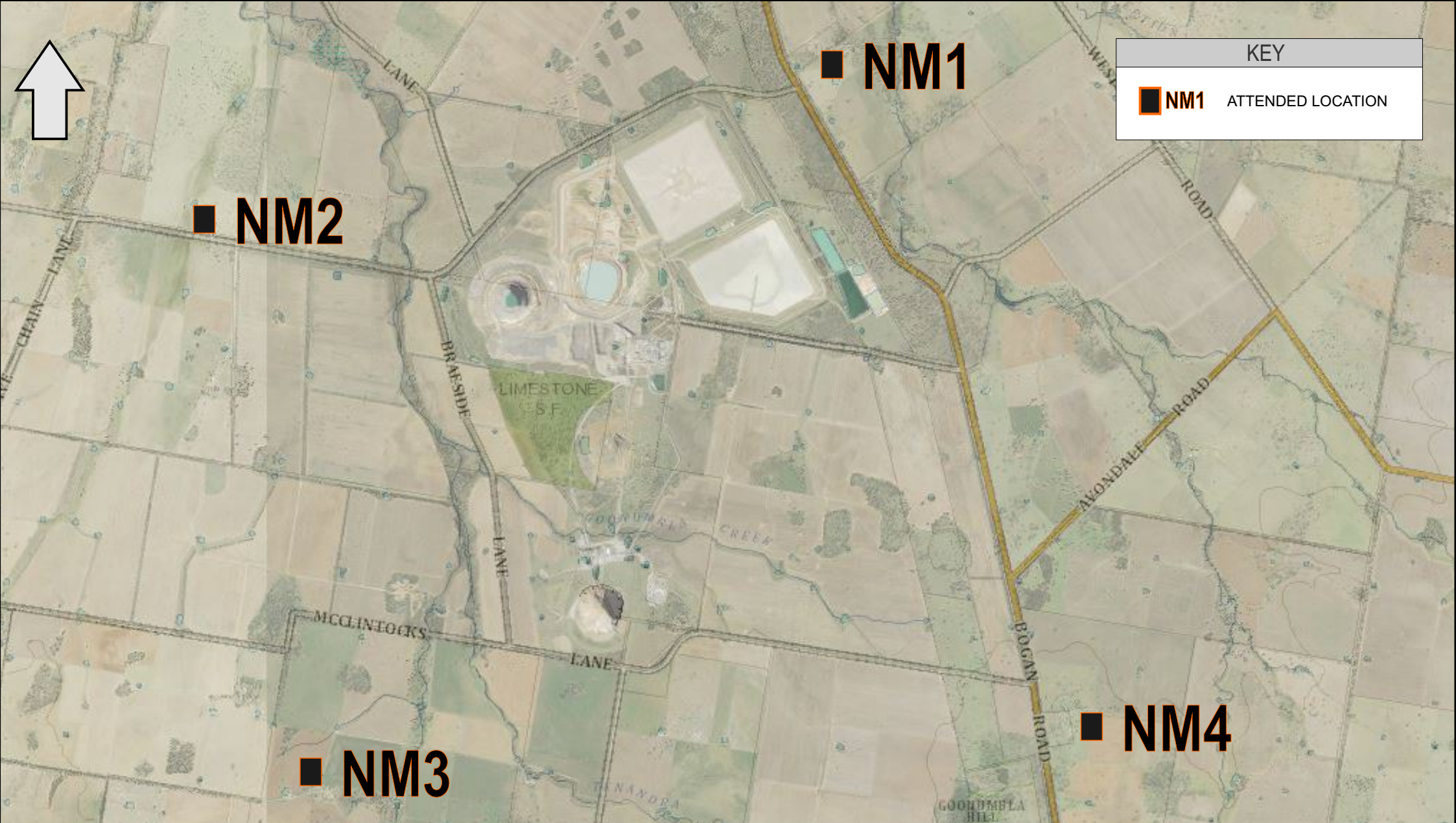
3.1 Operational Noise Measurement Methodology

The locality surrounding the mine is primarily rural/residential. In accordance with the NMP, four representative receivers were selected for this assessment and are presented in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Noise Monitoring Locations			
ID	Location	Coordinate Locations, MGA55	
		Easting (m)	Northing (m)
NM1	Hubberstone	600687	6360754
NM2	Lone Pine	593669	6358933
NM3	Milpose	594827	6352971
NM4	Hillview	602993	6353469

Monitoring locations with respect to the mine site are shown visually in **Figure 1**.

Measurements were carried out using a Svantek Type 1, 977 noise analyser from Wednesday 3 June 2020 to Thursday 4 June 2020. The monitoring regime consisted of three 15-minute measurements during the daytime, evening and night time periods at each monitoring location. Throughout each survey, the operator quantified the contribution of significant noise sources where possible.



4 Results

4.1 Operational Noise Results

The monitoring assessment results for each location are presented in **Table 3** to **Table 6**. Each table contains results for each of the three 15-minute measurements for daytime, evening and night-time periods for each location.

Table 3 Operator-Attended Noise Survey Results – Location NM1, Hubberstone

Date/Time (hrs)	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 μ Pa)			Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
	L _{Amax}	L _{Aeq}	L _{A90}		
Day					
04/06/2020 16:03	68	43	28		Birds 25-68 Traffic 25-44 Livestock 26-41
04/06/2020 16:18	67	44	30	WD: SW WS: 1.0m/s Stab Class: A	Agriculture 30-65 Residential Noise 22-26 Dogs 28-37
04/06/2020 16:33	67	48	30		NPM Haul Trucks <25 NPM Site Hum <25
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<25
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Evening					
03/06/2020 18:50	36	28	26		Traffic 26-56 Residential Noise 25-28
03/06/2020 19:05	56	36	26	WD: SW WS: <0.5m/s Stab Class: G	Livestock 25-48 NPM Site Hum <24-32 NPM Site Alarms <25
03/06/2020 19:20	46	31	28		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					27
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Night					
04/06/2020 0:07	37	28	25		Livestock 22-39
04/06/2020 0:22	39	27	25	WD: S WS: 0.5m/s Stab Class: G	NPM Site Hum <21-34 NPM Site Alarms <20-22
04/06/2020 0:37	38	27	25		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					25
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40

Table 4 Operator-Attended Noise Survey Results – Location NM2, Lone Pine

Date/Time (hrs)	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 µPa)			Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
	L _{Amax}	L _{Aeq}	L _{A90}		
Day					
04/06/2020 15:06	70	45	20		Birds 22-70 Wind 19-27
04/06/2020 15:21	55	32	20	WD: S WS: 1.0m/s Stab Class: A	Aircraft 24-48 Insects 22-28 Dogs 28 -38 Livestock 20-31 NPM Inaudible
04/06/2020 15:36	64	36	21		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<20
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Evening					
03/06/2020 19:52	45	27	23		Dogs 24-45 Birds <20
03/06/2020 20:07	40	26	23	WD: SW WS: <0.5m/s Stab Class: G	Livestock 24-31 Distant Traffic 23-28 NPM Site Hum <20-27
03/06/2020 20:22	38	25	23		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					23
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Night					
03/06/2020 23:08	38	29	27		Wind 24-34 Dogs 25-31 Livestock 25-34
03/06/2020 23:23	41	31	28	WD: S WS: 1.0m/s Stab Class: G	Birds 26-37 Operator/Car 41 NPM Site Hum <22-25
03/06/2020 23:38	40	27	25		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					26
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40

Table 5 Operator-Attended Noise Survey Results – Location NM3, Milpose

Date/Time (hrs)	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 µPa)			Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
	L _{Amax}	L _{Aeq}	L _{A90}		
Day					
04/06/2020 14:07	60	35	21		Dogs 20-60 Agriculture 23-49
04/06/2020 14:22	43	23	20	WD: S WS: 1.0m/s Stab Class: A	Birds 20-54 Aircraft 24-52 Wind 19-24
04/06/2020 14:37	53	26	20		Livestock 23-31 NPM Inaudible
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<20
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Evening					
03/06/2020 20:59	47	22	19		Dogs 20-47 Livestock 20-36
03/06/2020 21:14	35	21	19	WD: S WS: <0.1m/s Stab Class: G	Aircraft 24-38 Birds 22-26
03/06/2020 21:29	40	25	20		NPM Site Hum <20
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<20
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Night					
03/06/2020 22:04	38	22	21		Livestock 18-32
03/06/2020 22:19	35	24	22	WD: S WS: <0.1m/s Stab Class: G	Birds 21-63 NPM Site Hum <18-24
03/06/2020 22:34	63	35	22		
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					22
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40

Table 6 Operator-Attended Noise Survey Results – Location NM4, Hillview

Date/Time (hrs)	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 µPa)			Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
	L _{Amax}	L _{Aeq}	L _{A90}		
Day					
04/06/2020 12:50	62	44	24		Traffic 25-58 Birds 20-51
04/06/2020 13:05	72	46	24	WD: W WS: 0.5m/s	Residential noise 35-72 Offsite NPM
04/06/2020 13:20	63	43	25	Stab Class: A	Concentrate Truck 33-62 NPM Inaudible
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<20
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Evening					
04/06/2020 18:01	63	50	31		Traffic 22-68 Dogs 20-37
04/06/2020 18:16	59	44	22	WD: S WS: <0.5m/s	Aircraft 25-39 Livestock 20-31
04/06/2020 18:31	68	49	33	Stab Class: G	Residential noise 40-58 NPM Inaudible
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<25
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40
Night					
04/06/2020 01:06	45	33	30		Wind 30-50
04/06/2020 01:21	50	36	34	WD: SE WS: 1.5m/s	Livestock 30-41
04/06/2020 01:36	42	34	32	Stab Class: G	NPM Inaudible
Site L _{Aeq} (15min) Contribution					<25
Site L _{A1} (1min) Contribution					<40

4.2 Road Noise Results

As an additional initiative to operational attended noise monitoring, NPM include two 1-hour attended noise monitoring measurements at the Hillview monitoring location (NM4) to quantify NPM road noise levels associated concentrate trucks movements (where present) and shift change traffic flows. **Table 7** presents the results of the road traffic noise measurements with a comparison against the road noise criteria outlined in the NMP which is consistent with the NSW Road Noise Policy (DECCW, 2011).

Table 7 Operator-Attended Road Noise Survey Results – Location NM4, Hillview

Time (hrs)/Duration	Measured Noise		Criteria dB LAeq(1hr)	Description and SPL dBA
	Descriptor (re 20 µPa) dB LAeq	Meteorology		
04/06/2020 12:50 (Day) (1hour duration)	44	WD: W WS: 0.5m/s Stab Class: A	55	Traffic 25-62 Birds 20-48 Agriculture 35-72 NPM Concentrate Truck 33-62 (1 movement)
04/06/2020 18:01 (Evening) (1hour duration)	49	WD: S WS: <0.5m/s Stab Class: G	55	Traffic 22-68 Dogs 20-37 Aircraft 25-37 Livestock 20-31 Agriculture 40-58 NPM Concentrate Truck 35-60 (1 movement) Vehicles Enter/Exit NPM Site Approx. 65

Results of the road noise survey identify that the LAeq(1hr) noise contribution at NM4 is <50dBA for both measurements, hence, satisfied the relevant road noise criteria as outlined in the NMP and the RNP.

4.3 Unattended Noise Results

Unattended noise monitors are installed at the four attended monitoring locations. Data from the unattended monitors provide a real time method for monitoring noise events, although it is noted that the results include all noise sources (ie project noise and extraneous noise sources). The results are used as a management tool for the project site.

Averaged results of the LAeq(15min) and LA1(1min) metrics from the seven day monitoring period from Tuesday 2 June 2020 to Monday 8 June 2020 for NM1, NM2, NM3 and NM4 are summarised in **Table 8**.

Appendix C presents the unattended results in chart format.

Table 8 Unattended Noise Survey Results

Period ¹	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 µPa)	
	Weekly Average LAeq(15min) ²	Weekly Average LA1(1min) ²
Location NM1, Hubberstone		
Day	44	74
Evening	36	58
Night	33	59
Location NM2, Lone Pine		
Day	37	46
Evening	34	45
Night	35	45
Location NM3, Milpose		
Day	52	82
Evening	39	64
Night	39	69
Location NM4, Hillview³		
Day	48	79
Evening	43	61
Night	42	64

Note 1: Day - the period from 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday or 8am to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays; Evening - the period from 6pm to 10pm; Night - the remaining periods.

Note 2: Arithmetic average.

Note 3: Data only available for Tuesday 2 June 2020 and Wednesday 3 June 2020 due to logger maintenance/calibration.

5 Discussion

5.1 Operational Noise Discussion

5.1.1 Discussion of Results – Location NM1, Hubberstone

Attended measurement results for monitoring conducted at NM1, Hubberstone, for the June 2020 noise survey identified that NPM was audible on occasion during the day measurements and audible throughout the evening and night periods, although remained below relevant criteria. Generally, livestock, birds, traffic, dogs barking, residential noise and agricultural activities were audible during the monitoring period.

In summary, the noise contribution from NPM satisfied the relevant noise criteria for all monitored assessment periods at Location NM1.

5.1.2 Discussion of Results – Location NM2, Lone Pine

Attended measurement results for monitoring conducted at NM2, Lone Pine, for the June 2020 noise survey identified that NPM remained inaudible during the day measurements and audible throughout the evening and night periods although remained below relevant criteria. The NPM noise level contribution remained below the relevant noise criteria with wind in trees, birds, aircraft, traffic, insects, operator noise, livestock, distant traffic and dogs barking all audible during the monitoring period.

In summary, the noise contribution from NPM satisfied the relevant noise criteria for all monitored assessment periods at Location NM2.

5.1.3 Discussion of Results – Location NM3, Milpose

Attended measurement results for monitoring conducted at NM3, Milpose, for the June 2020 noise survey identified that NPM remained inaudible during the day measurements, was audible during one evening measurement and several night measurements although remained below the relevant NPM noise criteria. Generally, dogs barking, farm noise and vehicles, birds, wind in trees, aircraft and livestock were all audible during the monitoring period.

In summary, the noise contribution from NPM satisfied the relevant noise criteria for all monitored assessment periods at Location NM3.

5.1.4 Discussion of Results – Location NM4, Hillview

Attended measurement results for monitoring conducted at NM4, Hillview, for the June 2020 noise survey identified that NPM remained inaudible during all day, evening and night-time measurements. Generally, wind in trees, traffic, aircraft, livestock, residential vehicles and birds, were all audible during the monitoring period.

In summary, the noise contribution from NPM satisfied the relevant noise criteria for all monitored assessment periods at Location NM4.

6 Conclusion

Muller Acoustic Consulting Pty Ltd (MAC) has completed a Noise Monitoring Assessment (NMA) on behalf of CMOC Mining Services Pty Limited (CMOC). The assessment was completed to quantify site noise emissions against relevant noise criteria pertaining to NPM operations in accordance with Conditions 1 to 5 of Schedule 3 of the Project Approval Conditions (PA11_110060) and the Northparkes Noise Management Plan (NMP, 2019) for Quarter 2, ending June 2020.

Road noise monitoring identified that concentrate trucks (when present) and light vehicle movements associated with shift change generated levels below the relevant road noise criteria specified in the RNP and NMP.

Attended monitoring has identified that operational emissions generated by NPM comply with relevant statutory noise criteria at all monitoring locations for all assessment periods. Furthermore, project related noise emissions are generally barely audible at monitoring locations. Extraneous non-mining sources such as traffic, wind in trees, livestock, birds, aircraft, dogs barking and insects were audible during the monitoring period.

Appendix A – Glossary of Terms

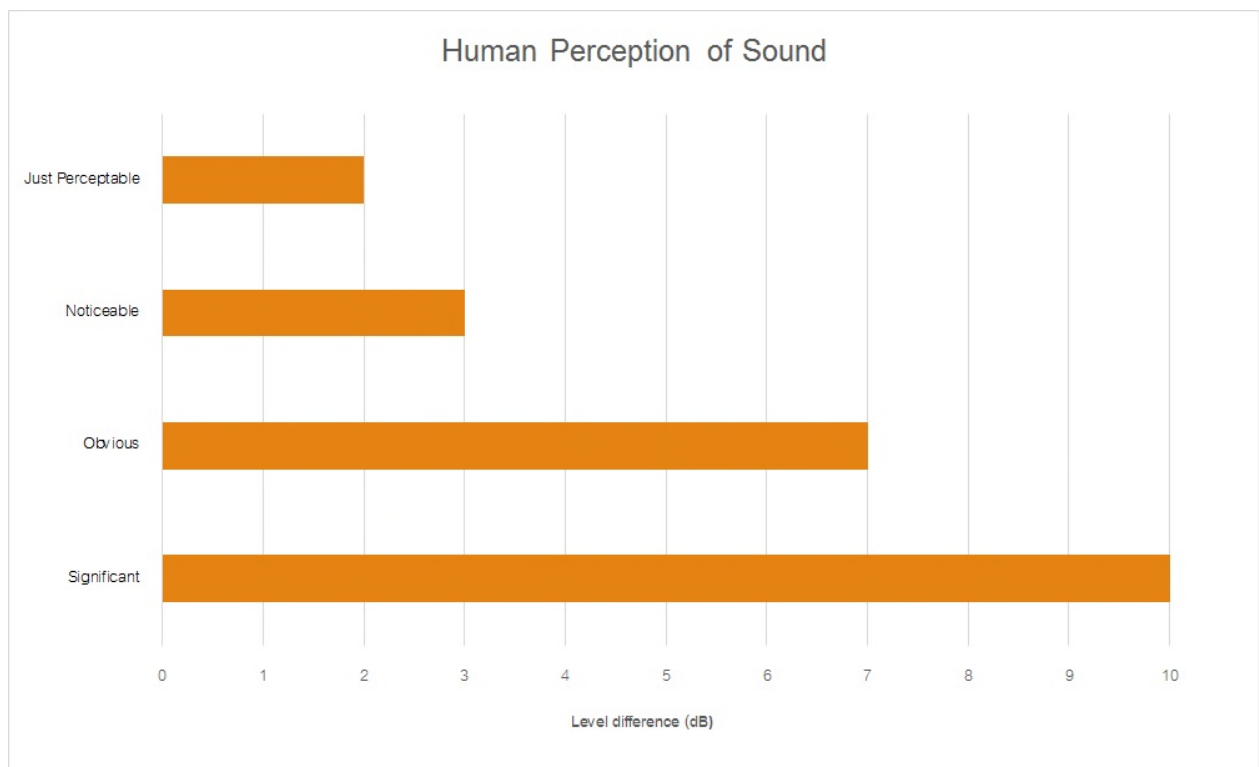
Table A1 provides a number of technical terms have been used in this report.

Table A1 Glossary of Terms	
Term	Description
1/3 Octave	Single octave bands divided into three parts
Octave	A division of the frequency range into bands, the upper frequency limit of each band being twice the lower frequency limit.
ABL	Assessment Background Level (ABL) is defined in the NPI as a single figure background level for each assessment period (day, evening and night). It is the tenth percentile of the measured LA90 statistical noise levels.
Adverse Weather	Weather effects that enhance noise (that is, wind and temperature inversions) that occur at a site for a significant period of time (that is, wind occurring more than 30% of the time in any assessment period in any season and/or temperature inversions occurring more than 30% of the nights in winter).
Ambient Noise	The noise associated with a given environment. Typically a composite of sounds from many sources located both near and far where no particular sound is dominant.
A Weighting	A standard weighting of the audible frequencies designed to reflect the response of the human ear to noise.
dBA	Noise is measured in units called decibels (dB). There are several scales for describing noise, the most common being the 'A-weighted' scale. This attempts to closely approximate the frequency response of the human ear.
dB(Z), dB(L)	Decibels Linear or decibels Z-weighted.
Hertz (Hz)	The measure of frequency of sound wave oscillations per second - 1 oscillation per second equals 1 hertz.
LA10	A noise level which is exceeded 10 % of the time. It is approximately equivalent to the average of maximum noise levels.
LA90	Commonly referred to as the background noise, this is the level exceeded 90 % of the time.
LAeq	The summation of noise over a selected period of time. It is the energy average noise from a source, and is the equivalent continuous sound pressure level over a given period.
LAm _{ax}	The maximum root mean squared (rms) sound pressure level received at the microphone during a measuring interval.
RBL	The Rating Background Level (RBL) is an overall single figure background level representing each assessment period over the whole monitoring period. The RBL is used to determine the intrusiveness criteria for noise assessment purposes and is the median of the ABL's.
Sound power level (LW)	This is a measure of the total power radiated by a source. The sound power of a source is a fundamental location of the source and is independent of the surrounding environment. Or a measure of the energy emitted from a source as sound and is given by : $= 10 \cdot \log_{10} (W/W_0)$ Where : W is the sound power in watts and W ₀ is the sound reference power at 10-12 watts.

Table A2 provides a list of common noise sources and their typical sound level.

Table A2 Common Noise Sources and Their Typical Sound Pressure Levels (SPL), dBA	
Source	Typical Sound Level
Threshold of pain	140
Jet engine	130
Hydraulic hammer	120
Chainsaw	110
Industrial workshop	100
Lawn-mower (operator position)	90
Heavy traffic (footpath)	80
Elevated speech	70
Typical conversation	60
Ambient suburban environment	40
Ambient rural environment	30
Bedroom (night with windows closed)	20
Threshold of hearing	0

Figure A1 – Human Perception of Sound



Appendix B – Regulatory Noise Limits

Appendix C – Unattended Monitoring Charts