

MATTHEW PALAVIDIS VICTOR FATTORETTO MATTHEW SHIELDS

# 176 Wollombi Road, Farley, Maitland

DA Acoustic Assessment

**SYDNEY** 9 Sarah St MASCOT NSW 2020 (02) 8339 8000 ABN 98 145 324 714 www.acousticlogic.com.au

The information in this document is the property of Acoustic Logic Consultancy Pty Ltd ABN 11 068 954 343 and shall be returned on demand. It is issued on the condition that, except with our written permission, it must not be reproduced, copied or communicated to any other party nor be used for any purpose other than that stated in particular enquiry, order or contract with which it is issued.

\\SYD-DC01\Data\Australia\Jobs\2022\20220999\20220999.1\20220824PFA\_R0\_DA\_Acoustic\_Assessment.docx

Project ID	20220999.1
Document Title	DA Acoustic Assessment
Attention To	Universal Property Group Pty Limited

Revision	Date	Document Reference	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
0	24/08/2022	20220999.1/2408A/R0/PF	PF		GC

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INT	RODUCTION	4
2	SITE	DESCRIPTION	5
3	NOI	SE DESCRIPTORS	8
4	ENV	IRONMENTAL NOISE SURVEY	9
	4.1	MEASUREMENT LOCATION	9
	4.2	MEASUREMENT PERIOD	9
	4.3	MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT	9
	4.4	SUMMARISED RATING BACKGROUND NOISE LEVELS	9
	4.5	SUMMARISED TRAFFIC NOISE LEVELS	10
	4.6	SUMMARISED RAIL NOISE LEVELS	10
5	EXT	ERNAL NOISE INTRUSION ASSESSMENT	11
	5.1	NOISE INTRUSION CRITERIA	11
	5.1.1	Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011	11
	5.1.2	2 Australian and New Zealand AS2107:2016 'Recommended design sound levels and	1
	reve	rberation times for building interiors'	11
	5.1.3	NSW Department of Planning – 'State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP)	
	(INF	RASTRUCTURE) 2007'	
	5.1.4		
	Inte	rim Guideline	
	5.1.5		
	5.1.6		
	5.2	COMPLYING CONSTRUCTIONS	
	5.2.1		
	5.2.2		
	5.2.3		
6		LWAY STRUCTURE BORNE NOISE AND VIBRATION ASSESSMENT	
	6.1	PROJECT VIBRATION OBJECTIVES	
	6.1.1		
	6.1.2		
	6.2	RAIL VIBRATION MEASUREMENT RESULTS	
		Tactile Vibration Measurements	
	6.2.2		
7		SE EMISSION REQUIREMENTS	
	7.1	MAITLAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN (DCP) 2011	
	7.2	NSW EPA NOISE POLICY FOR INDUSTRY (NPFI) 2017	
	7.2.1		
	7.2.2	5	
	7.2.3	I contraction of the second	
~	7.3	SUMMARISED NOISE EMISSION CRITERIA	
8		SE EMISSION ASSESSMENT	
~	8.1	MECHANICAL PLANT	
9			
A	PPEND	DIX ONE – UNATTENDED NOISE MONITORING	24

# **1** INTRODUCTION

Acoustic Logic (AL) has been engaged to conduct an acoustic assessment of potential noise impacts associated with the proposed residential subdivision of Lot 23 DP701849 at 176 Wollombi Road, Farley, Maitland.

This document addresses noise impacts associated with the following:

- Noise intrusion to project site from adjacent roadways and rail lines, and
- Noise emissions from mechanical plant to service the project site (in principle).

AL have utilised the following documents and regulations in the noise assessment of the development:

- Maitland City Council 'Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011'
- Australian Standard AS2107:2016 'Recommended Design Sound Levels and Reverberation Times for Building Interiors'
- NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) 'Noise Policy for Industry (NPfl) 2017'

This assessment has been conducted using the subdivision plan provided to us prepared by The Bathla Group, dated July 2022. The subdivision plan has been reproduced in Figure 2.

# **2 SITE DESCRIPTION**

The proposed subdivision plan is comprised of 24 residential lots located at 176 Wollombi Road, Farley, Maitland for Lot 23 DP701849. A site survey has been carried out by this office regarding the existing acoustic environment around the proposed development, which has detailed below:

- Existing and future residential sites around the project site
- Wollombi Road to the south, and
- Rail corridor to the north

The nearest noise receivers around the site include:

- **Residential receiver R1:** Residential house to the east along Wollombi Road at 162 Wollombi Road, Farley
- Residential receiver R2: Future residential houses to the west, at 194 Wollombi Road, Farley, and
- **Residential receiver R3:** Existing and future residential developments to the south across Wollombi Road at 173-175 Wollombi Road, Farley.

A site map, measurement description and surrounding receivers are presented in Figure 1 below.



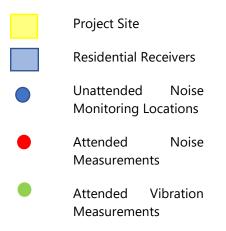


Figure 1 Site Plan and Monitoring Locations (Source from: NSW SIX MAP)

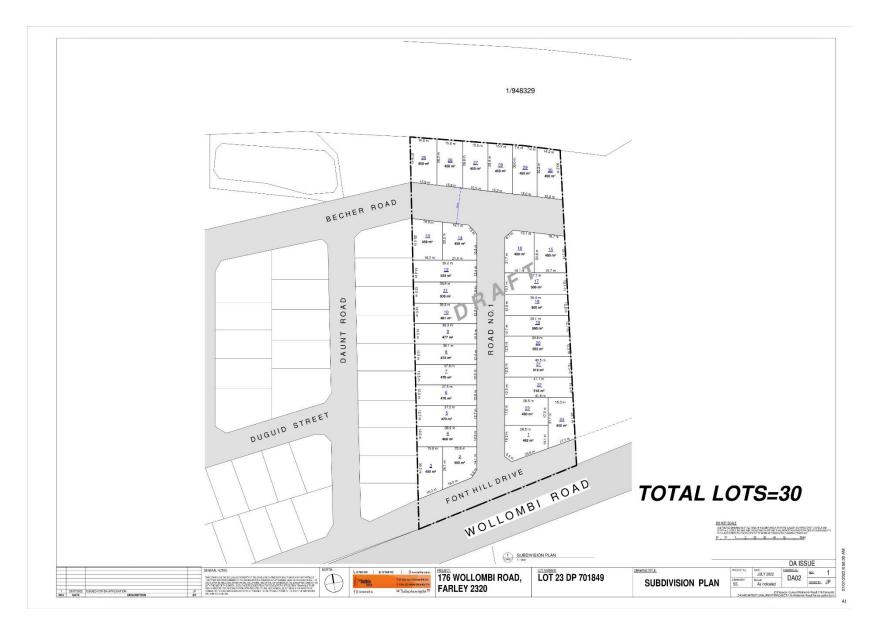


Figure 2 Subdivision Plan (Provided by The Bathla Group)

# **3 NOISE DESCRIPTORS**

Ambient noise constantly varies in level from moment to moment, so it is not possible to accurately determine prevailing noise conditions by measuring a single, instantaneous noise level.

To quantify ambient noise, a 15minute measurement interval is typically utilised. Noise levels are monitored continuously during this period, and then statistical and integrating techniques are used to characterise the noise being measured.

The principal measurement parameters obtained from the data are:

 $L_{eq}$  - 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 noise impact as it closely corresponds with how humans perceive the loudness of time-varying noise sources (such as traffic noise).

 $L_{90}$  – This is commonly used as a measure of the background noise level as it represents the noise level heard in the typical, quiet periods during the measurement interval. The L<sub>90</sub> parameter is used to set noise emission criteria for potentially intrusive noise sources since the disturbance caused by a noise source will depend on how audible it is above the pre-existing noise environment, particularly during quiet periods, as represented by the L<sub>90</sub> level.

 $L_{10}$  is used in some guidelines to measure noise produced by an intrusive noise source since it represents the average of the loudest noise levels produced at the source. Typically, this is used to assess noise from licenced venues.

 $L_{max}$  is the highest noise level produced during a noise event, and is typically used to assess sleep arousal impacts from short term noise events during the night. It is also used to assess internal noise levels resulting from aircraft and railway ground vibration induced noise.

 $L_1$  is sometimes used in place of  $L_{max}$  to represent a typical noise level from a number of high level, short term noise events.

# 4 ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE SURVEY

## 4.1 MEASUREMENT LOCATION

One unattended noise monitor was located to the existing backyard of the project site. Refer to Figure 1 for detailed location. Noise level data obtained at this location is considered representative of background noise levels for all surrounding residents.

Attended measurements were conducted around the site at several locations including the south and north boundary of the site and 2 m from the kerb of Wollombi Road. See Figure 1 for detailed locations.

### 4.2 MEASUREMENT PERIOD

Unattended noise monitoring at this location was conducted between Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2022 to Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2022. Attended noise measurements were undertaken on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2022.

### 4.3 MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT

Unattended noise monitoring was conducted using one Acoustic Research Laboratories Pty Ltd noise logger. The logger was set to A-weighted fast response and programmed to store 15-minute statistical noise levels throughout the monitoring period. The monitor was calibrated at the start and end of the monitoring period using a Rion NC-73 calibrator. No significant drift was noted. Noise logger data is provided in Appendix One – Unattended Noise Monitoring.

Attended noise measurements were conducted using a Norsonic 140 Sound Analyser. The analyser was set to fast response and calibrated before and after the measurements using a Norsonic Sound Calibrator type 1251. No significant drift was noted.

### 4.4 SUMMARISED RATING BACKGROUND NOISE LEVELS

Summarised rating background noise levels for the project site and immediate surroundings are presented below.

Location	Time of day	Rating Background Noise Level dB(A) <sub>L90(Period)</sub>
	Day (7am – 6pm)	43
Residential Receivers	Evening (6pm – 10pm)	41
	Night (10pm – 7am)	36

## **Table 4-1 – Summarised Rating Background Noise Levels**

On review of the monitoring data, the measured  $L_{90}$  noise levels during high wind speed days do not increase background noise levels significantly as periods with little to no wind. This demonstrates that even though wind speeds measured at Maitland airport (the closest weather station) exceed EPA guidelines, either:

- The wind speed on site at this time was significantly lower than at Maitland airport (which is likely given Maitland airport is located in a very exposed area) and/or
- The wind on site was not sufficiently consistent to increase background noise levels compared to calm periods.
- BOM wind speeds are obtained at 10m above ground and wind speeds close to ground level are lower.

Therefore, only periods of adverse weather that were determined to have affected the noise data have been eliminated when determining the rating background noise level at the site, which is presented above.

### 4.5 SUMMARISED TRAFFIC NOISE LEVELS

Existing traffic noise levels are summarised based on attended and unattended noise measurements conducted on-site. Summarised traffic noise levels for the project site are presented below.

# Table 4-2 – Summarised Traffic Noise Levels

Location	Time of day	Noise Level dB(A) <sub>Leq</sub>
Future south facade facing	Day (7am – 10pm)	64
Wollombi Road	Night (10pm – 7am)	60

### 4.6 SUMMARISED RAIL NOISE LEVELS

Existing rail noise levels are summarised based on attended and unattended noise measurements conducted onsite as well as corrections for distance. Summarised rail noise levels for the project site are presented below.

# Table 4-3 – Summarised Rail Noise Levels

Location	Time of day	Noise Level dB(A) <sub>Leq</sub>	
Future south facade facing	Day (7am – 10pm)	57	
Wollombi Road	Night (10pm – 7am)	53	80dB(A)L <sub>max</sub>

# 5 EXTERNAL NOISE INTRUSION ASSESSMENT

Site investigation indicates that the primary external noise sources around project site are from traffic movements along surrounding roads and rail noise to the north.

# 5.1 NOISE INTRUSION CRITERIA

A noise intrusion assessment has been conducted based on the requirements of the following acoustic noise criteria and standards.

- Maitland City Council 'Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011'
- NSW Department of Planning 'State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (INFRASTRUCTURE) 2007'
- NSW Department of Planning 'Developments near Rail Corridors or Busy Roads Interim Guideline', and
- Australian Standard AS2107:2016 'Recommended Design Sound Levels and Reverberation Times for Building Interiors.'

# 5.1.1 Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011

Section C.10 Subdivision of Part C Design Guideline of the Maitland DCP does not provide specific criteria in relation to noise intrusion. Australian Standard AS2107 will hence be adopted.

# 5.1.2 Australian and New Zealand AS2107:2016 '*Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors*'

AS2107:2016: Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors specifies allowable internal noise levels for internal spaces within residential buildings. Table 1, in Section 5 of AS2107:2016, gives the following maximum internal noise levels for residential buildings near roadways.

# **Table 5-1 – Recommended Design Sound Levels**

Space /Activity Type	Recommended Maximum Design Sound Level	
Bedrooms	35-40 dB(A)L <sub>eq(10pm-7am)</sub>	
Living Rooms	35-45 dB(A)L <sub>eq(anytime)</sub>	

# 5.1.3 NSW Department of Planning – 'State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (INFRASTRUCTURE) 2007'

## Clause 87: Impact of rail noise or vibration on non-rail development

- (3) If the development is for the purposes of a building for residential use, the consent authority must not grant consent to the development unless it is satisfied that appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that the following LAeq levels are not exceeded:
  - a) in any bedroom in the building--35 dB(A) at any time between 10.00 pm and 7.00 am,
  - *b)* anywhere else in the building (other than a garage, kitchen, bathroom or hallway)--40 dB(A) at any time.

### 5.1.4 NSW Department of Planning – Development near Rail Corridors or Busy Roads – Interim Guideline

Section 3.5 of the NSW Department of Planning's 'Development near Rail Corridors and Busy Roads (Interim Guideline)' states:

"The following provides an overall summary of the assessment procedure to meet the requirements of clauses 87 and 102 of the Infrastructure SEPP. The procedure covers noise at developments for both Road and Rail.

- If the development is for the purpose of a building for residential use, the consent authority must be satisfied that appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that the following LAeq levels are not exceeded:
  - in any bedroom in the building: 35dB(A) at any time 10pm-7am
  - anywhere else in the building (other than a garage, kitchen, bathroom or hallway):
    40dB(A) at any time."

# 5.1.5 Sleep Disturbance (Peak Noise) Events

An assessment of sleep is not mandatory in the SEPP controls. However, given that there are typically 3-4 late night freight train movements, an assessment of sleep disturbance will also be presented.

In addition to the SEPP criteria noise levels (the  $L_{eq}$  noise levels) referred to above, an assessment will be conducted of sleep disturbance as a result of rail noise. This sleep disturbance assessment is necessitated as a result of the late night train movements.

Potential sleep disturbance impacts to residents as a result of late night train movements will be assessed using the methodology set out in section 5.4 of the NSW EPA Road Noise Policy. For the purpose of this assessment, acoustic controls will be determined such that there will be less than one sleep disturbance per night as a result of external noise intrusion. In our opinion, a maximum of one awakening per night is considered acceptable, as, on average, a sleeper will have one awakening during the night as result of some disturbance other than external noise.

# 5.1.6 Summarised External Noise Intrusion Criteria

The internal noise criteria adopted for each internal space is therefore summarised below based on the relevant State, Council and Australian Standard requirements.

	Maximum Internal Noise Levels		
Space / Activity Type	Average Noise Levels	Sleep Disturbance/Peak Noise Events	
Living Areas	40 dB(A) L <sub>eq (15hr)</sub>	N/A	
Sleeping Areas (night-time)	35 dB(A) L <sub>eq (9hr)</sub>	55-60 dB(A)L <sub>max</sub>	

# Table 5-2 – Adopted Internal Noise Levels

## 5.2 COMPLYING CONSTRUCTIONS

Assessment of façade requirements to achieve required indoor noise levels has been undertaken. Dimensions of rooms, setbacks from roadways, window openings and floor areas have been used. As no architectural drawings have been issued for specific layouts, the following assumptions have been made:

- All residents are two-storey dwellings
- Living rooms will be on ground level with a typical size of 6m x 8m x 2.7m with 6m x 2.7m of glazing
- Bedrooms are on the first floor with a typical size of 3m x 4m x 2.7m with 3m x 2.7m of glazing
- Bedrooms will have lightweight ceiling/ roof construction
- All spaces have complying constructions for both lightweight and concrete/masonry walls, and
- Note: super lots likely to develop residential flat buildings shall be separately assessed.

## 5.2.1 Glazed Windows and Doors

The following constructions are recommended to comply with the project noise objectives. Aluminium framed/sliding glass doors and windows will be satisfactory provided they meet the following criteria. All external windows and doors listed are required to be fitted with Q-lon type acoustic seals. (**Mohair Seals are unacceptable**).

Thicker glazing may be required for structural, safety or other purposes. Where it is required to use thicker glazing than scheduled, this will also be acoustically acceptable. The recommended constructions are detailed in Table 5-3.

Lots	Room	Glazing Thickness	Acoustic Seals
Lots 1, 2-4, 24 Southern façade with direct line of slight to the Wollombi Road (Lightweight walls only)	Bedroom	10.38 mm Laminated	Yes
	Living Room	10 mm Float	Yes
Lots 1, 2-4, 24 Southern façade with direct line of slight to the Wollombi Road (Masonry walls)	Bedroom	10.38 mm Laminated	Yes
	Living Room	6.38 mm Laminated	Yes
All other Lots	Bedroom	10.38 mm Laminated	Yes
	Living Room	6 mm Float	Yes

# Table 5-3 - Complying Glazing Construction

In addition to complying with the minimum scheduled glazing thickness, the R<sub>w</sub> rating of the glazing fitted into open-able frames and fixed into the building opening should not be lower than the values listed in Table 5-4 for all areas. It is recommended that only window systems having test results indicating compliance with the required ratings obtained in a certified laboratory be used where windows with acoustic seals have been recommended.

Where nominated, this will require the use of acoustic seals around the full perimeter of open-able frames and the frame will need to be sealed into the building opening using a flexible sealant.

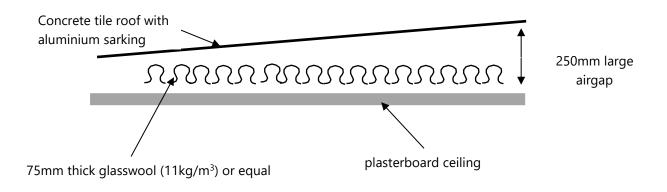
Glazing Assembly	Minimum R <sub>w</sub> of Installed Window
6mm Float	29
6.38mm Laminated	31
10 mm Float	33
10.38mm Laminated	35

Note: Façade constructions to be reviewed at CC stage based on construction drawings. The glazing types listed above are indicative and for authority approvals purposes only.

### 5.2.2 **External Roof/Ceiling Construction**

All other lots

External roof construction from light weight elements will require acoustic upgrading. A complying roof construction for lightweight roof/ceiling constructions is detailed below in Figure 5-1 and Table 5-5 below.



# Figure 5-1 – Roof/ Ceiling Construction

Table 5-5 – External Light Weight Roof Construction				
Lots	Internal Lining	Truss System	External Lining	
Lots 1, 2-4, 24 Southern façade with direct line of slight to the Wollombi Road (Lightweight walls only)	2 x 10 mm plasterboard	Pitched roof, minimum of 250mm truss with 75mm thick 11kg/m <sup>3</sup> glasswool insulation in cavity	Concrete tile roof with aluminium sarking	
Lots 1, 2-4, 24 Southern façade with direct line of slight to the Wollombi Road (Masonry walls)	1 x 16 mm plasterboard			

In the event that any penetrations are required thru the external skin, an acoustic sealant should be used to minimise all gaps.

1 x 13 mm plasterboard

# 5.2.3 External Wall Construction

External wall construction will be constructed from the combination of masonry and light weight elements. For masonry walls, no further acoustic upgrading is required. For light weight elements, the complying constructions are shown below:

Lots	Space	Internal Lining	Studwork System	External Lining
Lots 1, 2-4, 24 Southern façade with direct line of slight to the Wollombi Road	Bedrooms	2 x 13 mm plasterboard	A min 90 mm stud with 75mm thick 11kg/m <sup>3</sup> glasswool insulation	1 x 9 mm fibre cement sheet (or equivalent in
All Lots	Bedrooms & Living room	1 x 13 mm plasterboard		density)

# Table 5-6 – External Light Weight Wall Construction

In the event that any penetrations are required through the external skin, an acoustic sealant should be used

There should not be vents on the internal skin of external walls. In the event that any penetrations are required through the external skin, an acoustic sealant should be used to minimise all gaps.

# 6 RAILWAY STRUCTURE BORNE NOISE AND VIBRATION ASSESSMENT

Trains induce ground borne vibration that is transmitted through the subsoil. These vibrations can be perceptible close to railways, as tactile vibrations and as structure borne noise.

# 6.1 **PROJECT VIBRATION OBJECTIVES**

A rail vibration assessment has been conducted based on the requirements of NSW EPA document – 'Assessing Vibration – A Technical Guideline'.

# 6.1.1 Tactile Vibration

The NSW EPA document "Assessing Vibration: A Technical Guideline" provides procedures for assessing tactile vibration and regenerated noise within potentially affected buildings and is used in the assessment of vibration impact on amenity. This guideline draws on both the British Standard BS 6472:1992 Part 2 as well as Australian Standard AS2670.2-1990.

This standard assesses the annoyance of intermittent vibration by using the Vibration Dose Value (VDV). Alternatively, the VDV may be estimated by the eVDV which is derived by a simpler calculation using an empirical factor. The VDV or eVDV is calculated for the two periods of the day being the "Daytime" (7am-10pm) and "Night time" (10pm-7am). The overall value is then compared to the levels in table 2.4 of the EPA guideline. For this project the aim will be for a low probability of adverse comment.

# Table 6-1 – Vibration Dose Values (m/s<sup>1.75</sup>) above which various degrees of adverse comment may be expected in residential buildings.

Place	Low Probability of adverse comment	Adverse comment possible	Adverse comment probable
Residential buildings 15hr day (Daytime)	0.2 to 0.4	0.4 to 0.8	0.8 to 1.6
Residential buildings 9hr night (Night time)	0.13	0.26	0.51

## 6.1.2 Structure Borne Noise

The Department of Planning '*Development Near Rail Corridors and Busy Road – Interim Guideline*' only requires structure borne noise assessment to be conducted where buildings or adjacent lands are over railway tunnels. Section 3.6.2 of the standard states the following:

"...Where buildings are constructed over or adjacent to land over tunnels, ground-born noise may be present without the normal masking effects of air born noise. In such cases, residential buildings should be designed so that the 95th percentile of train pass-bys complies with a ground-born LAmax noise limit of 40 dB(A) (daytime and 35 dB(A) (night time) measured using the "slow" response time setting on a sound level meter...

In some rare instances, ground borne noise may be an issue for noise sensitive locations adjacent to surface or elevated track (ie. not just track in tunnel locations). These instances are uncommon, are not easily predicted, and will need to be assessed and managed on an individual basis, with the assistance of an acoustic consultant."

### 6.2 RAIL VIBRATION MEASUREMENT RESULTS

### 6.2.1 Tactile Vibration Measurements

Rail noise measurements were conducted next to the project site facing rail corridor at surface level of the development. Measurements were conducted at the potentially worst affected areas. Measurements were firstly taken at the new east façade of the development, with a distance of 1 m from the boundary. Additional vibration measurements were taken at the northeast corner of the proposed development. See Figure 1 for detailed locations.

Attended train vibration measurements were conducted on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2022. A Svantek 958 Vibration Analyser was used for the vibration measurements. The analyser was fitted with a Svantek SV80 accelerometer. The accelerometer was screwed to a spike which was hammered to the soil at the measurement location.

The measured VDV of a typical rail pass-by is presented below:

# Table 6-2 – Measured Vibration

Location	Measured VDV m/s <sup>1.75</sup> *	
Measured at the North façade facing the rail corridor	0.0006	

\*Highest VDV of measured rail pass-bys.

The measured vibration levels, duration of train pass-by and the number of rail movements per hour were used to determine the overall vibration dose (eVDV) at the proposed development for both daytime and night time periods. This is calculated based on the measured VDV of a typical train pass-by and taking into account the number of rail movements in a typical daytime/night time period (based on rail timetables).

The results are presented in the table below.

# Table 6-3 – Calculated Vibration Dose Values

Time Period	Calculated eVDV m/s <sup>1.75</sup>	Criteria VDV m/s <sup>1.75</sup>	Compliance
Day (7am – 10pm)	0.004	0.2 to 0.4	Yes
Night (10pm -7am)	0.003	0.13	Yes

The measurements above indicated that the overall vibration dose (VDV) at the proposed development for both daytime and night time period comply with the requirements of the EPA Guidelines.

# 6.2.2 Structure Borne Noise Generated by Train Movements

The structure borne noise generated by the vibration has been predicted below based on the measured vibration level from 1Hz to 10KHz.

Predictions structure borne noise has been made for ground floor units, and the results have been summarised in and Table 6-4.

# Table 6-4 – Predicted Structure Borne Noise dB(A) Lmax

Location	Predicted Structure Borne Noise Level	Criteria	Compliance
North facade of the proposed site boundary	Freight Train Movements 27 dB(A) L <sub>max</sub>	40 dB(A) L <sub>max</sub> (daytime) 35 dB(A) L <sub>max</sub> (night time)	Yes

# 7 NOISE EMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The noise emission from the project site shall comply with the requirements of the following documents:

- Maitland City Council 'Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011', and
- NSW Department of Environmental Protection Agency Noise Policy for Industry (NPFI) 2017.

### 7.1 MAITLAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN (DCP) 2011

Given there are no other specific controls for noise emissions in the Maitland DCP relating to site, the requirements of NSW EPA's Noise Policy for Industry (2017) will be adopted.

### 7.2 NSW EPA NOISE POLICY FOR INDUSTRY (NPFI) 2017

The EPA NPFI has two criteria which both are required to be satisfied, namely Intrusiveness and amenity. The NPFI sets out acceptable noise levels for various localities. The policy indicates four categories to assess the appropriate noise level at a site. They are rural, suburban, urban and urban/industrial interface. Under the policy the nearest residential receivers would be assessed against the suburban criteria.

Noise levels are to be assessed at the property boundary or nearby dwelling, or at the balcony or façade of an apartment.

### 7.2.1 Intrusiveness Criterion

The 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 5dB(A). Where applicable, the intrusive noise level should be penalised (increased) to account for any annoying characteristics such as tonality.

Background noise levels adopted are presented in Section 4.4. Noise emissions from the site should comply with the noise levels presented below when measured at nearby property boundary.

## 7.2.2 Project Amenity Criterion

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

The EPA's NPFI sets out acceptable noise levels for various localities. The recommended noise amenity area is based upon the measured background noise levels at the sensitive receiver. Based on the measured background noise levels detailed in Section 4.4, the Noise Policy for Industry suggests the adoption of the 'urban' categorisation.

The NPFI requires project amenity noise levels to be calculated in the following manner;

 $L_{Aeq,15min}$  = Recommended Amenity Noise Level – 5 dB(A) + 3 dB(A)

The amenity levels appropriate for the receivers surrounding the site are presented in Table 7-1.

Type of Receiver	Time of day	Recommended Noise Level dB(A)L <sub>eq(period)</sub>	Project Amenity Noise Level dB(A)L <sub>eq(15 minute)</sub>
All Surrounding Residential - Rural	Day	50	48
	Evening	45	43
	Night	40	38

# Table 7-1 – EPA Amenity Noise Levels

The NSW EPA Noise Policy for Industry (2017) defines;

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

# 7.2.3 Sleep Arousal Criteria

The Noise Policy for Industry recommends the following noise limits to mitigate sleeping disturbance:

*Where the subject development / premises night -time noise levels at a residential location exceed:* 

- L<sub>eq,15min</sub> 40 dB(A) or the prevailing RBL plus 5 dB, whichever is the greater, and/or
- *L<sub>Fmax</sub> 52 dB(A) or the prevailing RBL plus 15 dB, whichever is the greater,*

a detailed maximum noise level even assessment should be undertaken.

# **Table 7-2 – Sleep Arousal Criteria for Residential Receivers**

Receiver	Rating Background Noise Level (Night) dB(A)L <sub>90</sub>	Emergence Level
Residential receivers Night (10pm – 7am)	36 dB(A) L <sub>90</sub>	41 dB(A)L <sub>eq, 15min</sub> ; 52 dB(A)L <sub>Fmax</sub>

# 7.3 SUMMARISED NOISE EMISSION CRITERIA

Applicable noise limits are bolded in the table below.

# Table 7-3 – Project Trigger Levels – Residential Receivers

Time Period	Assessment Background Noise Level dB(A)L <sub>90</sub>	Project Amenity Criteria dB(A) L <sub>eq</sub>	Intrusiveness Criteria L <sub>eq(15min)</sub>	NPFI Criteria for Sleep Disturbance
Day	43	48	48	N/A
Evening	41	43	46	N/A
Night	36	38	41	41 dB(A)L <sub>eq, 15min</sub> ; 52 dB(A)L <sub>Fmax</sub>

\*Project trigger levels have been highlighted in bold in the table.

# 8 NOISE EMISSION ASSESSMENT

### 8.1 MECHANICAL PLANT

The detailed design and selection of plant has not been undertaken, but would generally consist of carpark ventilation plant, apartment air conditioning condensing units, bathroom ventilation fans (which would typically be small fans located internally) and miscellaneous ventilation fans.

The plant would be selected to meet the noise levels required by the noise limits indicated above, and where required would be treated by enclosing the equipment, treating ducting, acoustic louvres, as required to meet limit noise emissions.

Designers should have regard for the fact that allowances should be made in respect of plant locations to minimise impacts on sensitive receivers and to provide sufficient space to incorporate treatment to plant areas to meet the above guidelines.

Information is provided however, for the location and indicative quantity of residential condensing units. As such, a preliminary assessment of noise impacts has been undertaken.

# 9 CONCLUSION

This report presents an acoustic assessment of noise impacts associated with the development to be located at 176 Wollombi Road, Farley, Maitland.

Provided that complying constructions detailed in section 5 are adopted, internal noise levels for the residential development will comply with the acoustic requirements of the following documents:

- Maitland City Council 'Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011'
- NSW Department of Planning 'State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (INFRASTRUCTURE) 2007'
- NSW Department of Planning 'Developments near Rail Corridors or Busy Roads Interim Guideline', and
- Australian Standard AS2107:2016 'Recommended Design Sound Levels and Reverberation Times for Building Interiors.'

Vibration from rail movements has been assessed and complies with the following documents:

• NSW EPA document – 'Assessing Vibration – A Technical Guideline'.

Noise emissions criteria has been set up in Section 6 using the following documents:

- Maitland City Council 'Maitland Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011', and
- NSW Department of Environmental Protection Agency 'Noise Policy for Industry' (NPFI) 2017.

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

Yours faithfully,

Acoustic Logic Pty Ltd PeiPei Feng

**APPENDIX ONE – UNATTENDED NOISE MONITORING** 

