



# **Stratford Mining Complex**

# Monthly Compliance Noise Monitoring – February 2025

## **Stratford Coal Pty Ltd**

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## **Basis of Report**

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Stratford Coal Pty Ltd (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.



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#### 1.0 Introduction

Stratford Coal Pty Limited (SCPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Yancoal Australia Limited (Yancoal), has commissioned SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (SLR) to conduct monthly noise monitoring for the Stratford Mining Complex (SMC) operations guided by the requirements of the Stratford Mining Complex (Stratford Extension Project) Noise Management Plan (NMP), Document No. NMP-R04-A, dated 4 October 2022. This report presents the results and findings from the operator-attended noise surveys conducted across Thursday 6 February 2025 to Friday 7 February 2025.

Current operations at the SMC are now focused on the progressive rehandling of waste material to achieve the final landform design, following the completion of active mining.

The objectives of the noise monitoring programme for this operating period were as follows:

- Conduct three rounds of external operator-attended noise measurements at the eight nominated locations in the NMP as well as additional locations, representative of receivers in the area surrounding the SMC. The eight external operator-attended noise measurement locations are:
  - Atkins Off Wenhams Cox Road, Stratford
  - Clarke Off Wenhams Cox Road, Stratford
  - Wadland Off Wenhams Cox Road, Stratford
  - Hall Upper Avon Road
  - Lowrey Off Crowthers Road, Stratford
  - Pryce Jones The Bucketts Way, Craven
  - Van der Drift Wood Street. Stratford
  - Greenwood Off Glen Road, Craven

Monitoring will align with the latest NMP (October 2022) once access to the proposed new monitoring site "Williams" has been granted and agreed upon. Monitoring at "Williams" will replace monitoring at "Clarke" and "Atkins" to better represent and determine compliance with receivers to the North-West. It is noted that monitoring locations "Clarke" and "Atkins" are currently being used, and will continue to be used until access to monitoring location "Williams" is granted.

Noise monitoring will occur for a day, evening and night period. The day, evening and night periods being those defined in the NSW Industrial Noise Policy (EPA 2000).

- The operator will quantify and characterise the maximum (LAmax) and the intrusive (LAeq and LCeq) noise level contributions from SMC operations over a 15 minute measurement period. In addition, the operator will quantify and characterise the overall levels of ambient noise (i.e. LAmax, LA1, LA10, LA50, LA90, and LAeq) over the 15 minute measurement interval.
- Assess the noise emissions of SMC and determine compliance with respect to the limits contained in the NMP.

In addition to monthly noise monitoring at the nominated residential receivers, the NMP requires quarterly noise monitoring of rail activity and verification monitoring of the Real Time Noise Monitor (RTNM) network.

The following report uses specialist acoustic terminology. An explanation of common terms is provided in **Appendix A**.



#### 2.0 SMC Noise Criteria

The figures presented in this Section are extracts from the *Stratford Extension Project* (SSD-4966) Development Consent dated 29 May 2015.

# 2.1 Project Approval Schedule 3 Environmental Performance Conditions

#### ACQUISITION UPON REQUEST

 Upon receiving a written request for acquisition from an owner of the land listed in Table 1, the Applicant shall acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 5-6 of Schedule 4.

Table 1: Land subject to acquisition upon request

Property ID								
40/51/Cr1 – L. Blanch 42 – D. Blanch								
Cr7 – Pryce-Jones Cr 2 – Boorer								

Note: To interpret the location referred to in Table 1 see the applicable figure in Appendix 5.

However, the obligation to acquire a property does not apply if the Applicant has a negotiated agreement with the owner/s of the relevant land that sets aside acquisition under the terms of this consent, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.

#### ADDITIONAL MITIGATION UPON REQUEST

2. Upon receiving a written request from the owner of any residence on the land listed in Tables 1 and 2, the Applicant shall implement additional noise mitigation measures (such as double glazing, insulation, and/or air conditioning) at the residence in consultation with the owner. These measures must be reasonable and feasible and directed towards reducing the noise impacts of the development on the residence.

If within 3 months of receiving this request from the owner, the Applicant and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.

Table 2: Land subject to additional noise mitigation upon request

Property ID	Property ID
31(1) - Isaac	60 – Healy / Greenwood
44 - Cross / Jane	36 - Wallace
37 – Worth	29 – Ward
15(3) – Falla	

Note: To interpret the locations referred to in Table 2 see the applicable figure in Appendix 5.

However, the obligation to implement noise mitigation measures does not apply if the Applicant has a negotiated agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land that sets aside noise mitigation measures under the terms of this consent, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.



#### NOISE

#### **Hours of Operation**

3. The Applicant shall comply with the operating hours in Table 3.

Table 3: Operating hours

Activity	Operating Hours		
<ul> <li>Open cut mining operations in the Bowens Road North and Roseville West Extension pits</li> <li>Recovery and transport of CHPP rejects for re-processing</li> <li>Construction of the noise mitigation bunds on the western side of the Avon North, Roseville West Extension and Stratford East pits</li> </ul>	7 am to 6 pm, 7 days per week		
<ul> <li>Open cut mining operations in the Avon North and Stratford East pits</li> <li>Coal processing, loading and dispatch of product coal trains</li> </ul>	24 hours a day, 7 days per		
Maintenance activities	week		

#### Noise Criteria

 The Applicant shall ensure that the noise generated by the development does not exceed the criteria in Table 4 at any residence on privately-owned land.

Table 4: Noise criteria dB(A)

Land	Day L <sub>Aeq(15 min)</sub>	Evening L <sub>Aeq(15 min)</sub>	Night L <sub>Aeq(15 min)</sub>	Night L <sub>A1 (1 min)</sub>	
40/51/Cr1 – L. Blanch	43	43	43	50	
Cr7 – Pryce-Jones	43	43	43	49	
42 - D. Blanch	42	42	42	50	
Cr 2 – Boorer	41	41	41	49	
31(1) - Isaac	40	40	40	48	
36 – Wallace	39	39	39	47	
44 – Cross / Jane					
60 – Healy / Greenwood	39	39	39	45	
37 – Worth	38	38	38	46	
29 – Ward	38	38	37	45	
23 – Bagnall	37	37	37	45	
31(2) - Isaac					
296 – Watson					
297 – Bosma					
298 – Yates	36	36	36	45	
15(3) - Falla	39	35	35	45	
15(2) – Falla	36	35	35	45	
Stratford Village	37	36	35	45	
All other privately- owned residences	35	35	35	45	

To interpret the locations referred to in Table 4 see the applicable figure(s) in Appendix 5.



Stratford village is shown on the figure(s) in Appendix 5.

Noise generated by the development is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the *NSW Industrial Noise Policy*. Appendix 6 sets out the meteorological conditions under which these criteria apply and the requirements for evaluating compliance with these criteria.

However, these criteria do not apply if the Applicant has a negotiated agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.

# 2.2 Project Approval Appendix 6: Noise Compliance Assessment

#### **Applicable Meteorological Conditions**

- 1. The noise criteria in Table 4 in Schedule 3 are to apply to a receiver under all meteorological conditions except under:
  - (a) wind speeds greater than 3 m/s at 10 m above ground level; or
  - (b) temperature inversion conditions between 1.5°C and 3°C/100 m and wind speed greater than 2 m/s at 10 m above ground level; or
  - (c) temperature inversion conditions greater than 3°C/100 m.

#### **Determination of Meteorological Conditions**

2. Except for wind speed at microphone height, the data to be used for determining meteorological conditions shall be that recorded by the meteorological station required under condition 25 of Schedule 3.

#### Compliance Monitoring

- 3. Attended monitoring is to be used to evaluate compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent.
- 4. This monitoring must be carried out at least 12 times in each calendar year (ie at least once in every calendar month), unless the Secretary directs otherwise.
- 5. Unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, this monitoring is to be carried out in accordance with the relevant requirements for reviewing performance set out in the NSW Industrial Noise Policy (as amended from time to time), in particular the requirements relating to:
  - (a) monitoring locations for the collection of representative noise data;
  - (b) equipment used to collect noise data, and conformity with Australian Standards relevant to such equipment;
  - (c) modifications to noise data collected, including for the exclusion of extraneous noise and/or penalties for modifying factors apart from adjustments for duration; and
  - (d) the use of an appropriate modifying factor for low frequency noise to be applied during compliance testing at any individual residence if low frequency noise is present (in accordance with the INP) and before comparison with the specified noise levels in the consent.

The implementation and transitional arrangements for the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI) notes the following:

The NSW Industrial Noise Policy (2000) will continue to apply where it is referenced in existing statutory instruments (such as consents and licences), except for the NSW Industrial Noise Policy Section 4 modifying factors, which will be transitioned to the Noise Policy for Industry (2017) Fact Sheet C through a NSW Industrial Noise Policy application note. This approach has been taken because the Noise Policy for Industry (2017) modification factor approach reflects more recent understanding of the impact of tonal and low-frequency noise on the community.

As such appropriate modifying factors such as low frequency noise have been assessed against NPfI requirements.



#### 2.3 EPL Noise Limits – SMC Operations

The noise limits specified in EPL 5161 are consistent with the noise criteria specified in SSD-4966.

# 2.4 Noise Limits at the Nominated Attended Noise Monitoring Locations

The site-specific noise limits for the eight nominated attended noise monitoring locations are summarised in **Table 1**.

Table 1 Noise Limits for the Nominated Noise Monitoring Locations

Locality		siveness Cr q(15minute) <b>(</b> d		Night Criterion LA1(1minute) (dBA)		
	Day	Evening	Night	Night		
Atkins <sup>1,2</sup>	35	35	35	45		
Clarke <sup>1,2</sup>	37	37	37	45		
Wadland <sup>1,2</sup>	37	37	37	45		
Hall	35	35	35	45		
Lowrey	35	35	35	45		
Pryce Jones <sup>3</sup>	43	43	43	49		
Van der Drift	37	36	35	45		
Greenwood	35	35	35	45		

Note 1: Owned by Stratford Coal Pty Ltd

#### 2.5 Rail Noise Goals

The NMP has adopted ARTC's EPL 3142 noise goals as criteria for the assessment of SMC rail transport noise. The noise objectives specified in ARTC's EPL 3142 apply at 1 m from the façade of affected residential properties and are provided in **Table 2**.

Table 2 ARTC EPL 3142 Noise Objectives

Descriptor	Rail Traffic Goal (dBA)
Daytime/Evening LAeq(15hour)	65
Night-time LAeq(9hour)	60
Maximum Pass-by LAmax	85

The SMC is not longer actively mining and all rail movements to and from the site have been suspended. As such there is no current requirement to measure SMC related rail movements.



Note 2: Criteria adopted from Bagnall as a guide only and are not definitive at this location.

Note 3: Land subject to acquisition upon request.

## 3.0 Operational Noise Monitoring Methodology

#### 3.1 NMP Monitoring Requirements

Noise monitoring will occur for a day, evening and night period. The day, evening and night periods being those defined in the NSW *Industrial Noise Policy* (EPA 2000).

- The operator will quantify and characterise the maximum (LAmax) and the intrusive (LAeq and LCeq) noise level contributions from SMC operations over a 15 minute measurement period. In addition, the operator will quantify and characterise the overall levels of ambient noise (i.e. LAmax, LA1, LA10, LA50, LA90, and LAeq) over the 15 minute measurement interval.
- Assess the noise emissions of SMC and determine compliance with respect to the limits contained in the NMP.

Relevant modifying factors are assessed by analysis of the measured SMC Leq spectrum where applicable.

#### 3.2 General Requirements

All acoustic instrumentation employed throughout the monitoring programme has been designed to comply with the requirements of AS IEC 61672.1 – 2019 *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters*, AS IEC 60942 2017 *Electroacoustics – Sound calibrators* and carried current NATA or manufacturer calibration certificates. Instrument calibration was checked before and after each measurement survey, with the variation in calibrated levels not exceeding ±0.5 dBA.

All operator-attended noise measurements were conducted using a one-third octave integrating Brüel & Kjær Type 2250L (s/n 3003389) together with a Svantek SV30A acoustical calibrator (s/n 39462).

## 3.3 Operator-attended Noise Monitoring Locations

Noise monitoring was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NMP.

Operator-attended noise measurements were conducted during the day, evening and night-time period for a minimum of 15 minutes per period at each of the eight noise monitoring locations. Additional noise monitoring at Wadland has been implemented to enable a robust acoustic relationship between the Clarke and Wadland monitoring locations and the Bagnall residence to the east.

The details of the operator-attended SMC operational noise monitoring locations are contained within **Table 3** and shown generally in **Figure 1**. During the operator-attended noise measurements, the character and relative contribution of ambient noise sources and SMC contributions were determined by observations on site.



Table 3 SMC Operational Noise Monitoring Locations

Monitoring Location	Receiver Type	Resident / Owner	Monitoring Location - MGA Zone 56			
Location		Owner	Easting (m)	Northing (m)		
Atkins	Mine owned Residence	SCPL	401544	6447134		
Clarke	Mine owned Residence	SCPL	404406	6445783		
Wadland	Intermediate Monitoring Location	SCPL	404739	6445272		
Hall	Residence	Hall	398269	6443709		
Lowrey	Residence	Lowrey	399193	6445879		
Pryce Jones	Residence	Pryce Jones	400807	6441846		
Van der Drift	Residence	SCPL	400171	6445775		
Greenwood	Residence	Greenwood	402617	6440457		

# 3.4 Extrapolation Methodology for Intermediate Monitoring Locations

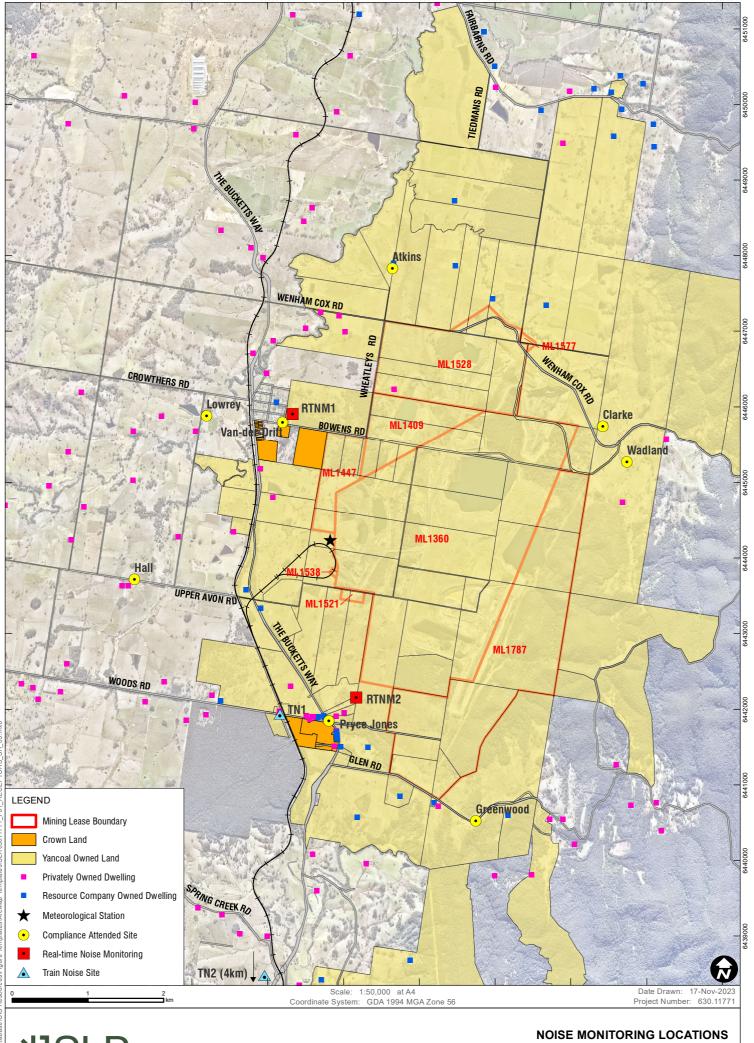
The NPfI provides the most contemporary advice on compliance assessment techniques for industrial noise assessment. The NPfI provides a direct commentary on the use of 'alternative or intermediate' locations to determine compliance as follows:

#### Direct measurement at alternative or intermediate location/s

Where direct measurement of noise at a compliance location is not practical because of poor signal-to-noise ratios (that is, extraneous noise is louder than the noise under investigation), or where access to the location has been denied or is unavailable, measurements at intermediate locations between the source and the receiver location, where signal-to-noise ratios are higher, may be a viable option. For this approach to be effective there needs to be well-established theoretical and/or empirical relationships between the intermediate location and the receiver location in terms of noise exposure. Noise modelling may be one option to establish this relationship. The techniques under the above section 'Direct measurement at a receiver location' would also be relevant in terms of quantifying the level of noise from the source at the intermediate location(s). Where this technique is relied upon, it is the responsibility of the proponent to demonstrate a robust acoustic relationship between the compliance location and the intermediate location.

As such an ENM noise model of typical site operations is used to predict noise levels at the Bagnall residence for all monitoring periods. The noise model is calibrated using the operator attended noise monitoring results (where available) and weather conditions at the time of the Clarke and Wadland noise monitoring.





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#### 3.5 Compliance Assessment Protocol

In accordance with the NMP the results of noise monitoring at the compliance attended monitoring sites will be compared against the relevant noise criteria. The comparison will be undertaken following the exclusion of data where meteorological conditions are outside those provided in Appendix 6 of SSD-4966 and extraneous noise sources.

If SMC related noise contributions exceed the noise criteria under applicable meteorological conditions, then in accordance with the NMP:

- The exceedance will be reported to DP&E and EPA in accordance with Section 10 of the NMP:
- A second reading will be undertaken at the location within 75 minutes; and
- The exceedance will be reported in the Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report and Annual Review

If the second reading is also confirmed to exceed the relevant criteria, then:

- The sustained exceedance will be deemed to be a noise incident:
- The noise incident will be reported to DP&E and EPA as a non-compliance in accordance with Section 10 of the NMP;
- Follow up monitoring will be conducted at the location within one week of the recorded non-compliance; and
- The non-compliance and the outcome of the follow-up monitoring will be reported in the Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report and Annual Review.

A confirmed noise incident (i.e. sustained exceedance and non-compliance) as determined by attended noise monitoring will be deemed to be a breach of the noise criteria.

#### 4.0 Results

# 4.1 Operator-attended Noise Monitoring – SMC Operational Activity

Operator-attended noise measurements were conducted across Thursday 6 February 2025 to Friday 7 February 2025. Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at residential locations are provided in **Sections 4.1.1 to 4.1.7.** 

A summary of the results for the attended noise monitoring are displayed graphically in **Appendix B** showing LAmax, LAeq, and LAeq(<1.25kHz) in 1-second intervals throughout the monitoring survey.

Ambient noise levels presented include all noise sources such as transport (roads, rail and aircraft), fauna (insects, frogs, birds, and bats), farm animals (cows, bulls), the natural environment (wind, wind in trees), domestic noises, other industrial operations as well as SMC noise emissions. Weather data during the monitoring period has been obtained from the weather station located on the SMC site.

The tables below provide the following information on operator-attended noise surveys:

- Date and start time, operator and equipment details.
- Monitoring location.
- Wind velocity (m/s) and temperature (°C) at the measurement location.
- Typical maximum (LAmax) and contributed LAeq(15minute) noise levels.



#### 4.1.1 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Atkins'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Atkins' are provided in **Table 4**. Monitoring location 'Atkins' represents residential receptors located to the north of the site. Due to access issues, monitoring during this quarter at this location was conducted closer to SMC at the Atkins property boundary.

Table 4 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Atkins'

Daviad	Date/	Primary Noise Descriptor dBA (15minute)						Modifying	Description of N Emissions and T	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise (dBA)	Levels
Day	07/02/2025	51	43	36	29	34	29	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	10:21								SMC: Audible	
	26°C								SMC Ops	23-27
	2.5m/s NNW								LAeq(15minute) contribution	25 dBA
									Other noise even	ts:
									Birdsong	33-48
									Livestock	40-51
Evening	06/02/2025	73	55	50	47	50	45	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	20:18								SMC: Audible	
	23°C								SMC Ops	31-34
	2.1m/s NE								LAeq(15minute) contribution	33 dBA
									Other noise even	ts:
									Insect/bird noise	45-54
									Aeroplane	30-39
									Traffic noise	30-73
Night	06/02/2025	52	49	47	45	46	32	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	22:45								SMC: Audible	
	20°C								SMC Ops	30-38
	2.6m/s NNW								LAeq(15minute) contribution	31 dBA
									LAmax	38 dBA
									Other noise even	ts:
									Insect/bird noise	40-52

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during all periods of the operator attended noise surveys at this location. During the day, evening, and night-time, operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 25 dBA, 33 dBA, and 31 dBA respectively. During the night-time, SMC generated an LAmax noise contribution of up to 38 dBA.



#### 4.1.2 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Clarke' and 'Wadland'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Clarke' and Wadland are provided **Table 5**. These monitoring locations represent residential receptors located to the east of the site and are SMC owned properties. The monitoring results at Clarke and Wadland, under appropriate meteorological conditions, are used to determine SMC contributions at the 'Bagnall' residence located further to the east.

Table 5 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Clarke' and 'Wadland'

	Date/	Primar	Primary Noise Descriptor dBA (15minute)					Modifying	Description of Noise Emissions and Typical
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise Levels (dBA)
Day - Clarke	07/02/2025 09:36 24°C 2.3m/s NNW	51	41	35	27	32	28	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  SMC Ops <25  LAeq(15minute) contribution <25 dBA  Other noise events: Insect noise 25-30  Birdsong 34-51
Day - Wadland	07/02/2025 09:55 26°C 2.6m/s N	57	47	40	32	37	33	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Inaudible  Other noise events: Insect/frog noise Insect noise 32-36 Birdsong 41-57 Aeroplane 35-48
Evening - Clarke	06/02/2025 21:45 21°C 2.1m/s NNE	56	55	54	47	51	25	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  SMC Ops 23-25  LAeq(15minute)  contribution 24 dBA  Other noise events:  Insect/frog noise 47-56
Evening - Wadland	06/02/2025 21:23 22°C 1.9m/s N	53	52	51	49	50	28	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Inaudible  Other noise events:  Insect/frog noise 59-53  Livestock 28-51
Night - Clarke	06/02/2025 22:01 21°C 2.0m/s NNE	58	57	55	48	53	27	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Inaudible  Other noise events: Insect/frog noise 47-58 Aeroplane 23-39



	Date/	Primar	y Nois	e Desci	riptor d	BA (15	minute)	mountying	Description of N Emissions and	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise (dBA)	Levels
Night -	06/02/2025	53	51	51	48	49	28	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
Wadland	22:22								SMC: Audible	
	21°C								SMC Ops	22-23
	1.7m/s NW								LAeq(15minute) contribution	22 dBA
									LAmax	23 dBA
									Other noise even	ts:
									Insect/frog noise	49-53
									Livestock	28-42
									Aeroplane	28-42

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

At Clarke, SMC operations were audible during the day, and evening periods of the operator attended noise surveys. During the day, and evening, operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of less than 25 dBA, 24 dBA respectively.

At Wadland, SMC operations were audible during the night-time period of the operator attended noise surveys. During the night-time operator attended noise survey, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 22 dBA and an LAmax noise contribution of up to 23 dBA.



Noise modelling has been conducted to the Bagnall residence using an ENM model for all monitoring periods. The results of the noise modelling are provided **Table 6.** 

Table 6 Predicted Noise Levels – Bagnall

Period and Location	Meteorological Parameters	Noise Level at Monitoring Location LAeq(15minute)	Predicted Noise Level at Bagnall LAeq(15minute)	Propagation Attenuation – Monitoring Location to Bagnall (dB)		
Day – Clarke	Temp 24°C Humidity 84% Wind Speed 2.3m/s Wind Direction 350° Lapse Rate -0.7°C/100m	< 25 dBA < 16 dBA		9.4 dB		
Day – Wadland	Temp 26°C Humidity 78% Wind Speed 2.6m/s Wind Direction 22° Lapse Rate -1.8°C/100m	I/A <sup>2</sup>				
Evening – Clarke	Temp 21°C Humidity 83% Wind Speed 2.1m/s Wind Direction 36° Lapse Rate 0.6°C/100m	24 dBA	12 dBA	11.8 dB		
Evening – Wadland	Temp 22°C Humidity 82% Wind Speed 1.9m/s Wind Direction 21° Lapse Rate -0.4°C/100m	I/A <sup>2</sup>				
Temp 21°C Humidity 84% Wind Speed 2.0m/s Wind Direction 30° Lapse Rate 0.8°C/100m		I/A <sup>2</sup>				
Night – Wadland	Temp 21°C Humidity 84% Wind Speed 1.7m/s Wind Direction 337° Lapse Rate 0.3°C/100m	22 dBA 23 dBA LAmax	18 dBA 19 dBA LAmax	· 3.9 dB		

Note 1: Criteria not applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions.

Note 2: I/A = Inaudible.

At Bagnall, during the day, evening, and night-time operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations are predicted to generate an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of up to less than 16 dBA, 12 dBA, and 18 dBA respectively. During the night-time, SMC operations are predicted to generate an LAmax noise contribution of up to 19 dBA at Bagnall.



#### 4.1.3 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Hall'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Hall' are provided in **Table 7**. Monitoring location 'Hall' represents residential receptors located to the southwest of the site.

Table 7 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Hall'

Davis	Date/	Primar	y Nois	e Desc	riptor d	BA (15	minute)	Modifying	Description of N Emissions and T	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise (dBA)	
Day	07/02/2025 11:07 28°C 2.3m/s N	76	50	39	32	49	48	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Inaudible Other noise even Birdsong Traffic noise	
Evening	06/02/2025 19:04 25°C 3.8m/s ENE	72	57	52	43	50	49	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Inaudible Other noise even Insect/frog noise Birdsong Traffic noise Farm noise Train	
Night	07/02/2025 00:02 20°C 1.8m/s N	49	41	40	39	39	23	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Audible SMC Ops LAeq(15minute) contribution LAmax Other noise even Insect/frog noise Livestock Dog bark Traffic noise Extraneous	20-27 <b>22 dBA</b> <b>27 dBA</b>

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during the night-time period of the operator attended noise surveys at this location. During the night-time operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 22 dBA and an LAmax noise contribution of up to 27 dBA.



#### 4.1.4 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Lowrey'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Lowrey' are provided in **Table 8**. Monitoring location 'Lowrey' represents residential receptors located to the west of the site and west of Bucketts Way.

Table 8 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Lowrey'

	Date/	Prima	ry Nois	e Desc	riptor d	IBA (15	minute)	Modifying	Description of N Emissions and	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise (dBA)	
Day	07/02/2025	55	48	44	36	41	39	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	09:08								SMC: Inaudible	
	23°C								Other noise ever	its:
	2.2m/s N								Birdsong	55
									Traffic noise	38-50
Evening	06/02/2025	54	50	47	40	44	42	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	19:30								SMC: Inaudible	
	24°C								Other noise ever	its:
	3.5m/s ENE								Insect/frog noise	38-43
									Traffic noise	35-54
									Aeroplane	40-50
Night	06/02/2025	59	55	52	44	49	28	N/A	Site related noise	e events:
	23:34								SMC: Audible	
	18°C								SMC Ops	22-27
	1.7m/s N								LAeq(15minute) contribution	25 dBA
									LAmax	27 dBA
									Other noise events:	
									Insect/frog noise	42-59
									Traffic noise	45-59

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during the night-time period of the operator attended noise surveys. During the night-time operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 25 dBA and an LAmax noise contribution of up to 27 dBA.



#### 4.1.5 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Pryce-Jones'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Pryce-Jones' are provided in **Table 9.** Monitoring location 'Pryce Jones' represents residential receptors located in Craven to the south of the site.

Table 9 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Pryce-Jones'

	Date/	Prima	y Nois	e Desc	riptor d	IBA (15	minute)	Modifying	Description of Noise Emissions and Typical	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise Levels (dBA)	
Day	07/02/2025 11:31 28°C 2.4m/s NNW	79	68	60	38	57	55	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Inaudible  Other noise events: Insect noise 30  Birdsong 42  Traffic noise 79  Construction 42	
Evening	06/02/2025 18:41 26°C 3.8m/s ENE	74	70	60	37	57	56	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  SMC Ops 28-36  LAeq(15minute) contribution 30 dBA  Other noise events: Insect/bird noise 38-62  Traffic noise 38-62  Train 51	
Night	07/02/2025 00:28 19°C 1.2m/s NW	71	63	49	39	50	48	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  Vehicle noise 27-33  LAeq(15minute) contribution 29 dBA  LAmax 33 dBA  Other noise events:  Insect/frog noise 35-41  Traffic noise 33-69	

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during the evening, and night-time periods of the operator attended noise surveys. During the evening, and night-time operator attended noise survey, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 30 dBA and 29 dBA respectively. During the night-time, SMC operations are predicted to generate an LAmax noise contribution of up to 33 dBA.



#### 4.1.6 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Van der Drift'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Van der Drift' are provided in Table 10.

Table 10 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results - 'Van der Drift'

	Date/	Primar	ry Nois	e Desc	riptor d	BA (15	minute)	Modifying	Description of N Emissions and	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise (dBA)	
Day	07/02/2025 10:42 27°C 2.2m/s N	65	57	42	34	44	37	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Barely au SMC Ops LAeq(15minute) contribution Other noise even Birdsong Traffic noise	<25 dBA
Evening	06/02/2025 19:54 23°C 3.2m/s ENE	60	51	47	38	44	37	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Audible Engine noise LAeq(15minute) contribution Other noise ever Insect/frog noise Birdsong Dog bark Traffic noise Aeroplane Train Wind in trees	28-41 <b>32 dBA</b> nts:
Night	06/02/2025 23:09 20°C 1.7m/s N	45	41	40	37	39	25	N/A	Site related noise SMC: Barely au SMC Ops LAeq(15minute) contribution LAmax Other noise even Insect/frog noise Birdsong Animal noise Aeroplane	22-30 24 dBA 30 dBA

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during all periods of the operator attended noise surveys at this location. During the day, evening, and night-time, operator attended noise surveys, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of less than 25 dBA, 32 dBA, and 24 dBA respectively. During the night-time, SMC generated an LAmax noise contribution of up to 30 dBA.



#### 4.1.7 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Greenwood'

Results of the operator-attended noise surveys at 'Greenwood' are provided in Table 11.

Table 11 Operator-attended Noise Survey Results – 'Greenwood'

Daviad	Date/	Primar	y Nois	e Desc	riptor d	BA (15	minute)	Modifying	Description of Noise Emissions and Typical	
Period	Start Time/ Weather	LAmax	L <sub>A</sub> 1	LA10	LA90	LAeq	LAeq (≤1.25kHz)	Factors Applicable	Maximum Noise Levels (dBA)	
Day	07/02/2025 11:52 30°C 2.4m/s NNW	76	53	41	31	48	47	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  Engine noise 22-31  LAeq(15minute) contribution 25 dBA  Other noise events:  Birdsong 42  Traffic noise 76	
Evening	06/02/2025 18:18 27°C 3.0m/s E	75	44	38	32	39	37	N/A	Wind in trees 31-47  Site related noise events:  SMC: Inaudible  Other noise events:  Insect noise 36-39  Birdsong 39-46  Wind in trees 29-46  Extraneous 75	
Night	07/02/2025 00:51 19°C 1.6m/s NNW	59	58	57	42	53	19	N/A	Site related noise events:  SMC: Audible  SMC Ops 16-21  LAeq(15minute) contribution 18 dBA  LAmax 21 dBA  Other noise events:  Insect/frog noise 37-59  Extraneous 58	

Note: N/A = Not Applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions and/or SMC being inaudible or 5 dB or more below the noise criteria.

SMC operations were audible during the day, and night-time periods of the operator attended noise surveys. During the day, and night-time operator attended noise survey, SMC operations generated an LAeq(15minute) noise contribution of 25 dBA and 18 dBA respectively. During the night-time, SMC operations generated an LAmax noise contribution of up to 21 dBA.



#### 5.0 Performance Assessment

Results of the operator-attended noise measurements compared with the relevant noise criteria contained in the SMC Development Consent are given in **Table 12**.

**Table 12 Performance Assessment – Operations** 

Location	N	imated S oise Lev <sup>15minute)</sup>	el		ise Crite I5minute)		Compliance		
	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night	Day	Eve	Night
Atkins <sup>2,4</sup>	25	33	31	35	35	35	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Clarke <sup>2,4</sup>	<25	24	I/A <sup>1</sup>	37	37	37	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Wadland <sup>2,4</sup>	I/A¹	I/A <sup>1</sup>	22	37	37	37	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Bagnall <sup>3</sup>	<16	12	18	37	37	37	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>
Hall	I/A¹	I/A¹	22	35	35	35	Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes
Lowrey	I/A¹	I/A¹	25	35	35	35	Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes
Pryce-Jones	I/A¹	30	29	43	43	43	Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes
Van der Drift	<25	32	24	37	36	35	Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes
Greenwood	25	I/A¹	18	35	35	35	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note 1: I/A = Inaudible.

Note 2: Owned by Stratford Coal Pty Ltd.

Note 3: Modelled result.

Note 4: Criteria adopted as a guide only.

Note 5: Criteria not applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions.



### 6.0 Sleep Disturbance

Results of the night period sleep disturbance measurements compared with the relevant noise criteria contained in the Development Consent are given in **Table 13**.

Table 13 Performance Assessment - Sleep Disturbance

Location	SMC LA1(1minute) Contribution	Noise Criteria LA1(1minute)	Compliance
Atkins <sup>2,4</sup>	38	45	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Clarke <sup>2,4</sup>	I/A¹	45	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Wadland <sup>2,4</sup>	23	45	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Bagnall <sup>3</sup>	19	45	Yes <sup>3</sup>
Hall	27	45	Yes <sup>5</sup>
Lowrey	27	45	Yes
Pryce Jones	33	49	Yes <sup>5</sup>
Van der Drift	30	45	Yes
Greenwood	21	45	Yes

Note 1: I/A = Inaudible.

Note 2: Owned by Stratford Coal Pty Ltd.

Note 3: Modelled result.

Note 4: Criteria adopted as a guide only.

Note 5: Criteria not applicable due to non-compliant weather conditions.

#### 7.0 Conclusion

SLR was engaged by Stratford Coal Pty Limited to conduct monthly noise monitoring for the Stratford Mining Complex (SMC) operations guided by the requirements of the *Stratford Mining Complex Noise Management Plan* (NMP), Document No. NMP-R04-A, dated 4 October 2022.

Operator-attended noise monitoring was conducted at eight residential receiver locations. Monitoring was completed across Thursday 6 February 2025 to Friday 7 February 2025 in order to determine the noise performance of the SMC operations against the Development Consent conditions.

Based on the measured SMC noise contribution, compliance with the relevant operational noise criteria was achieved at all noise monitoring locations during the day, evening and night monitoring periods under applicable weather conditions.

Based on the measured SMC noise contribution, compliance with the relevant sleep disturbance noise criteria was achieved at all privately owned noise monitoring locations during the night-time noise monitoring period under applicable weather conditions.





# Appendix A Glossary of Acoustic Terminology

# **Stratford Mining Complex**

Monthly Compliance Noise Monitoring – February 2025

**Stratford Coal Pty Ltd** 

SLR Project No.: 630.031384.00001

26 March 2025



#### 1 Sound Level or Noise Level

The terms 'sound' and 'noise' are almost interchangeable, except that 'noise' often refers to unwanted sound.

Sound (or noise) consists of minute fluctuations in atmospheric pressure. the human ear responds to changes in sound pressure over a very wide range with the loudest sound pressure to which the human ear can respond being ten million times greater than the softest. the decibel (abbreviated as dB) scale reduces this ratio to a more manageable size by the use of logarithms.

the symbols SPL, L or LP are commonly used to represent Sound Pressure Level. the symbol LA represents Aweighted Sound Pressure Level. the standard reference unit for Sound Pressure Levels expressed in decibels is 2 x 10<sup>-5</sup> Pa.

#### 2. 'A' Weighted Sound Pressure Level

The overall level of a sound is usually expressed in terms of dBA, which is measured using a sound level meter with an 'A-weighting' filter. This is an electronic filter having a frequency response corresponding approximately to that of human hearing.

People's hearing is most sensitive to sounds at mid frequencies (500 Hz to 4,000 Hz), and less sensitive at lower and higher frequencies. Different sources having the same dBA level generally sound about equally loud.

A change of 1 dB or 2 dB in the level of a sound is difficult for most people to detect, whilst a 3 dB to 5 dB change corresponds to a small but noticeable change in loudness. A 10 dB change corresponds to an approximate doubling or halving in loudness. the table below lists examples of typical noise levels.

ypical fiologic levels.									
Sound Pressure Level (dBA)	Typical Source	Subjective Evaluation							
130	Threshold of pain	Intolerable							
120	Heavy rock concert	Extremely							
110	Grinding on steel	noisy							
100	Loud car horn at 3 m								
90	Construction site with pneumatic hammering	Very noisy							
80	Kerbside of busy street	Laval							
70	Loud radio or television	Loud							
60	Department store	Moderate to							
50	General Office	quiet							
40	Inside private Office	Quiet to							
30	Inside bedroom	very quiet							
20	Recording studio	Almost silent							

Other weightings (eg B, C and D) are less commonly used than A-weighting. Sound Levels measured without any weighting are referred to as 'linear', and the units are expressed as dB(lin) or dB.

#### 3 Sound Power Level

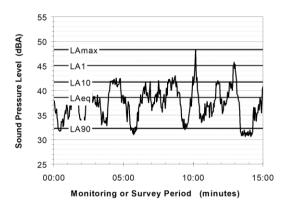
The Sound Power of a source is the rate at which it emits acoustic energy. As with Sound Pressure Levels, Sound Power Levels are expressed in decibel units (dB or dBA), but may be identified by the symbols SWL or LW, or by the reference unit 10<sup>-12</sup> W.

the relationship between Sound Power and Sound Pressure is similar to the effect of an electric radiator, which is characterised by a power rating but has an effect on the surrounding environment that can be measured in terms of a different parameter, temperature.

#### Statistical Noise Levels

Sounds that vary in level over time, such as road traffic noise and most community noise, are commonly described in terms of the statistical exceedance levels LAN, where LAN is the A-weighted sound pressure level exceeded for N% of a given measurement period. for example, the LA1 is the noise level exceeded for 1% of the time, LA10 the noise exceeded for 10% of the time, and so

The following figure presents a hypothetical 15 minute noise survey, illustrating various common statistical indices of interest.



Of particular relevance, are:

- The noise level exceeded for 1% of the 15 minute interval
- La10 The noise level exceeded for 10% of the 15 minute interval. This is commonly referred to as the average maximum noise level.
- LA90 The noise level exceeded for 90% of the sample period. This noise level is described as the average minimum background sound level (in the absence of the source under consideration), or simply the background level.
- LAeq The A-weighted equivalent noise level (basically, the average noise level). It is defined as the steady sound level that contains the same amount of acoustical energy as the corresponding timevarying sound.



#### 5. Frequency Analysis

Frequency analysis is the process used to examine the tones (or frequency components) which make up the overall noise or vibration signal.

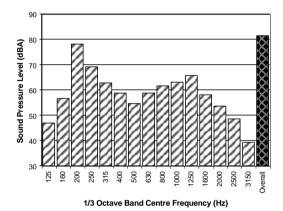
The units for frequency are Hertz (Hz), which represent the number of cycles per second.

Frequency analysis can be in:

- Octave bands (where the centre frequency and width of each band is double the previous band)
- 1/3 octave bands (three bands in each octave band)

Narrow band (where the spectrum is divided into 400 or more bands of equal width)

the following figure shows a 1/3 octave band frequency analysis where the noise is dominated by the 200 Hz band. Note that the indicated level of each individual band is less than the overall level, which is the logarithmic sum of the bands



# 6. Annoying Noise (Special Audible Characteristics)

A louder noise will generally be more annoying to nearby receivers than a quieter one. However, noise is often also found to be more annoying and result in larger impacts where the following characteristics are apparent:

- Tonality tonal noise contains one or more prominent tones (ie differences in distinct frequency components between adjoining octave or 1/3 octave bands), and is normally regarded as more annoying than 'broad band' noise.
- Impulsiveness an impulsive noise is characterised by one or more short sharp peaks in the time domain, such as occurs during hammering.
- Intermittency intermittent noise varies in level with the change in level being clearly audible. An example would include mechanical plant cycling on and Off.
- Low Frequency Noise low frequency noise contains significant energy in the lower frequency bands, which are typically taken to be in the 10 to 160 Hz region.





# Appendix B Operator Attended Noise Survey Charts

# **Stratford Mining Complex**

Monthly Compliance Noise Monitoring – February 2025

**Stratford Coal Pty Ltd** 

SLR Project No.: 630.031384.00001

26 March 2025



Figure B1 – Day Period – 'Atkins' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

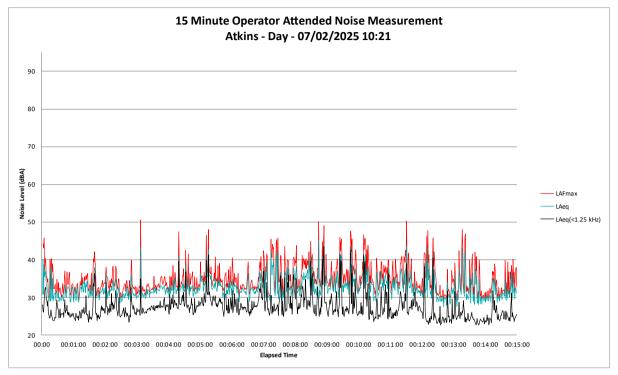


Figure B2 – Evening Period – 'Atkins' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

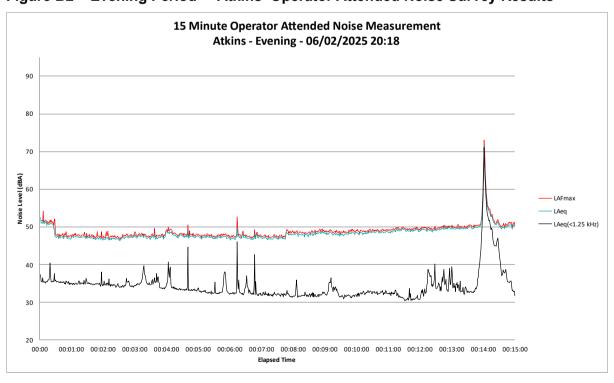




Figure B3 - Night Period - 'Atkins' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

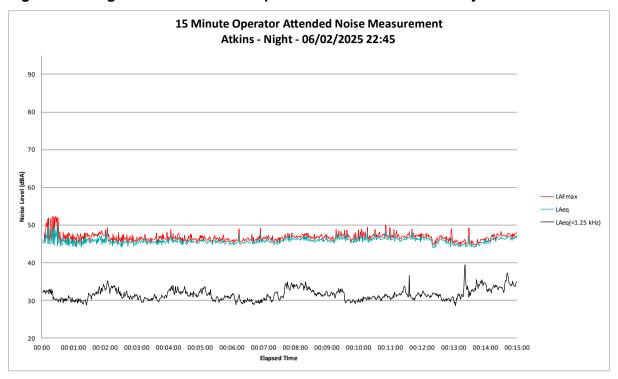


Figure B4 - Day Period - 'Clarke' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

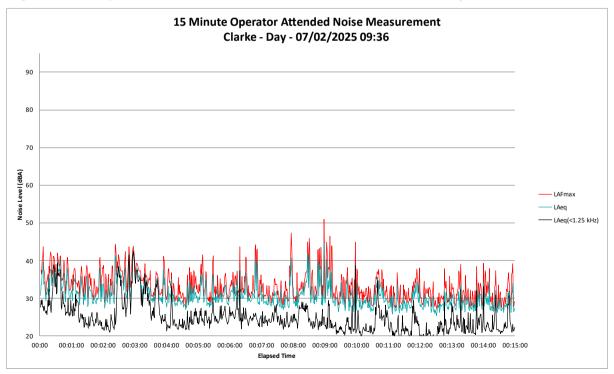




Figure B5 - Day Period - 'Wadland' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

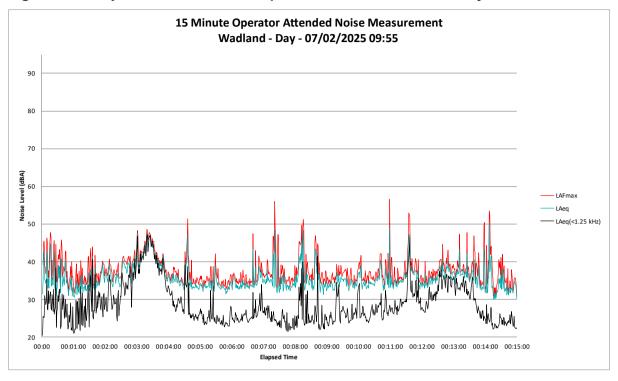


Figure B6 – Evening Period – 'Clarke' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

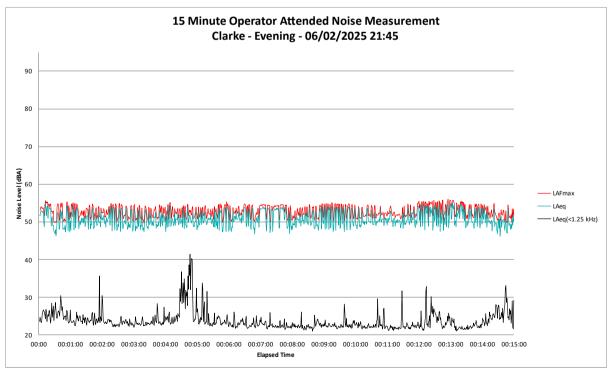




Figure B7 - Evening Period - 'Wadland' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

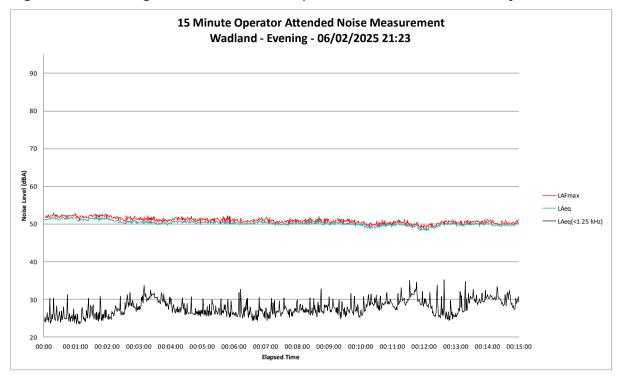


Figure B8 – Night Period – 'Clarke' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

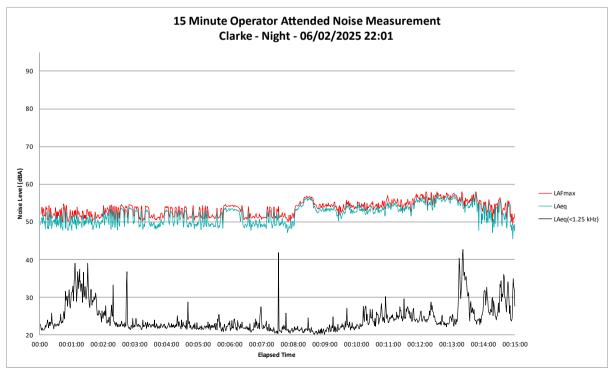




Figure B9 - Night Period - 'Wadland' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

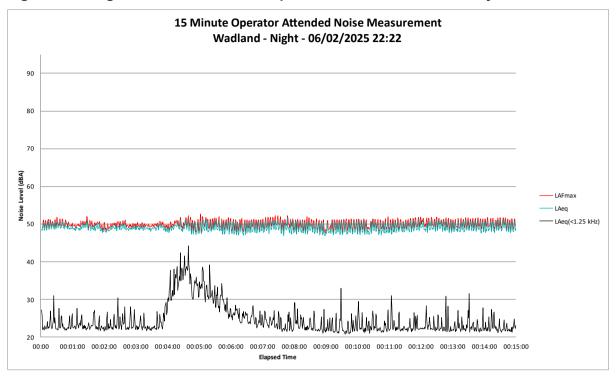


Figure B10 - Day Period - 'Hall' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

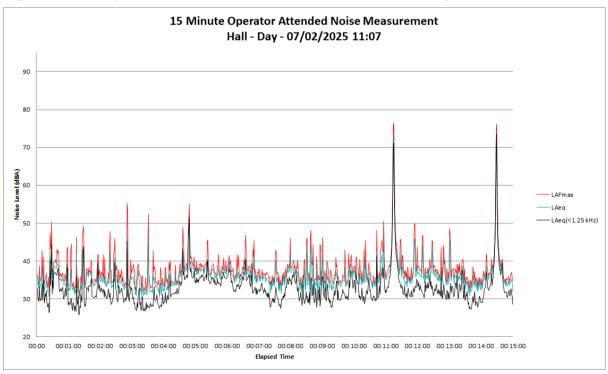




Figure B11 - Evening Period - 'Hall' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

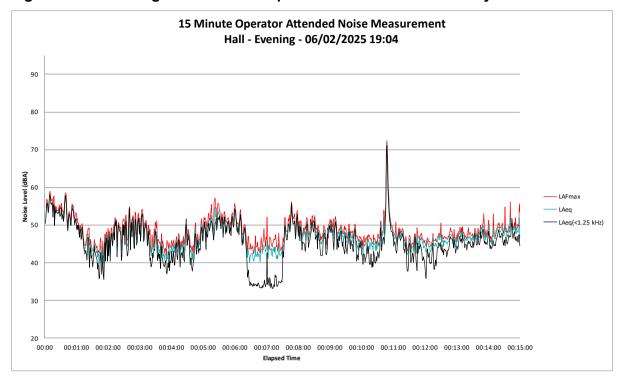


Figure B12 - Night Period - 'Hall' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

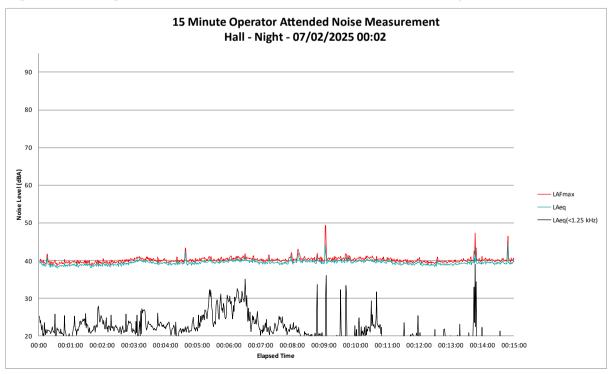




Figure B13 - Day Period - 'Lowrey' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

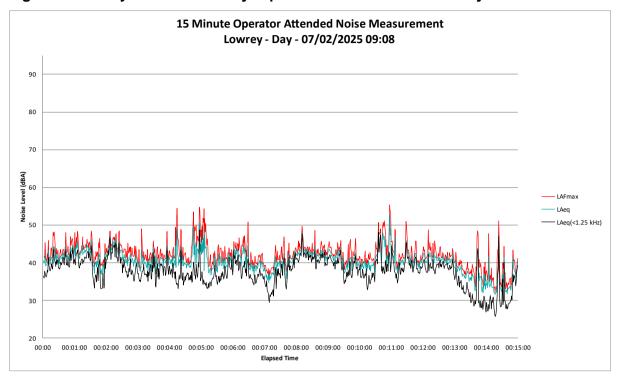


Figure B14 - Evening Period - 'Lowrey' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

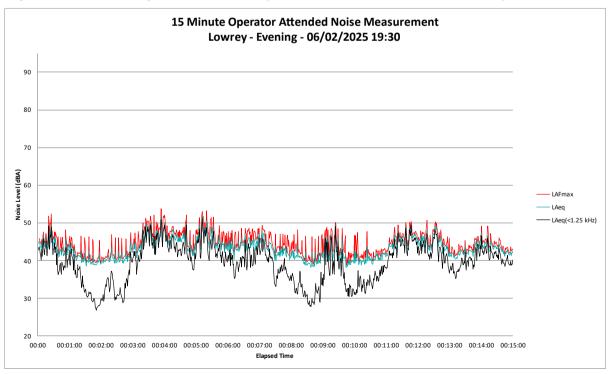




Figure B15 - Night Period - 'Lowrey' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

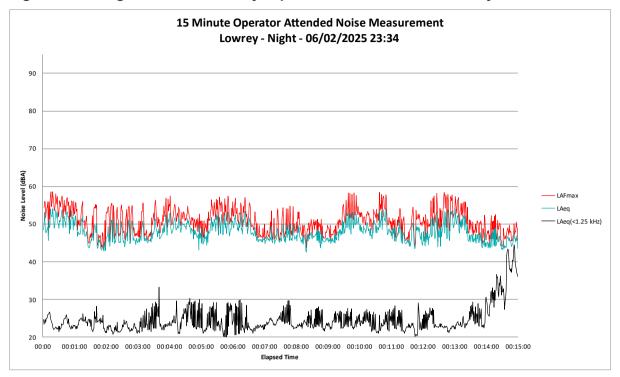


Figure B16 - Day Period - 'Pryce-Jones' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

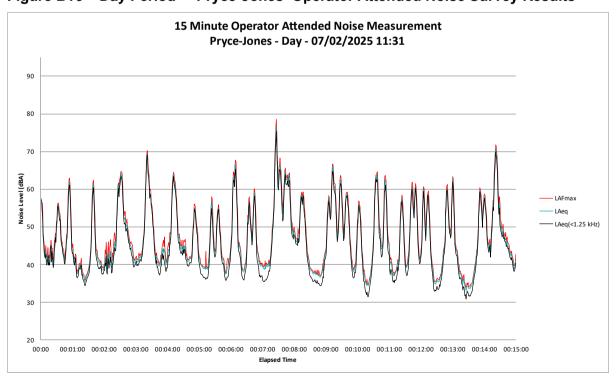




Figure B17 - Evening Period - 'Pryce-Jones' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

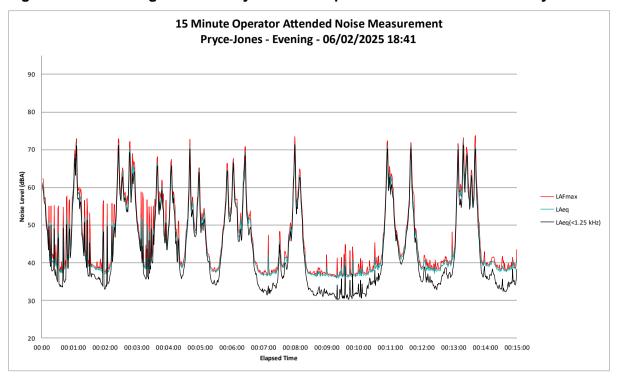


Figure B18 – Night Period – 'Pryce-Jones' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

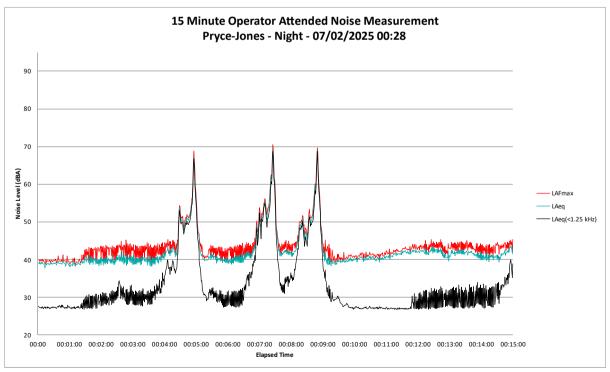




Figure B19 - Day Period - 'Van der Drift' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

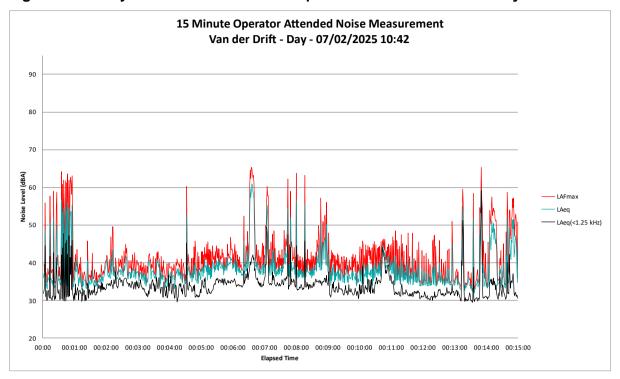


Figure B20 - Evening Period - 'Van der Drift' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

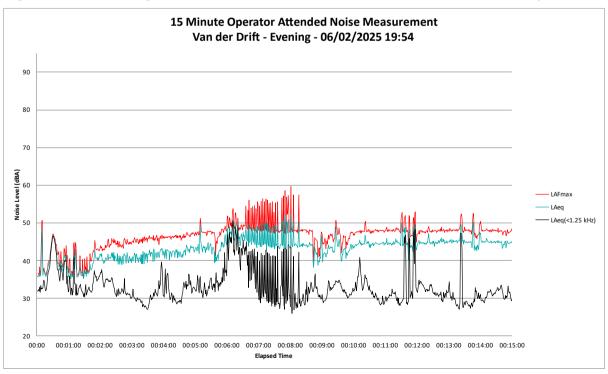




Figure B21 - Night Period - 'Van der Drift' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

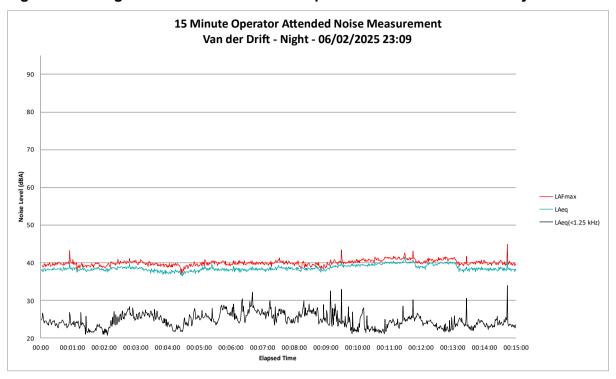


Figure B22 - Day Period - 'Greenwood' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

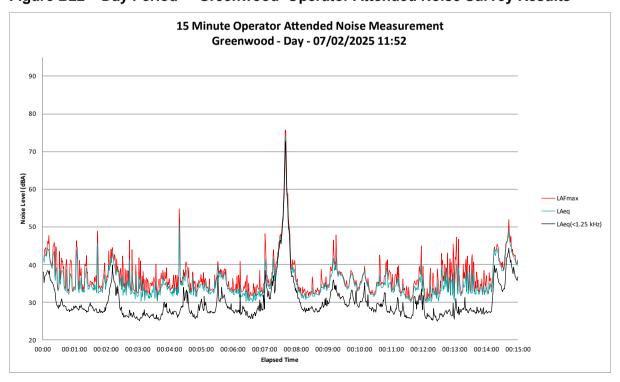




Figure B23 – Evening Period – 'Greenwood' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

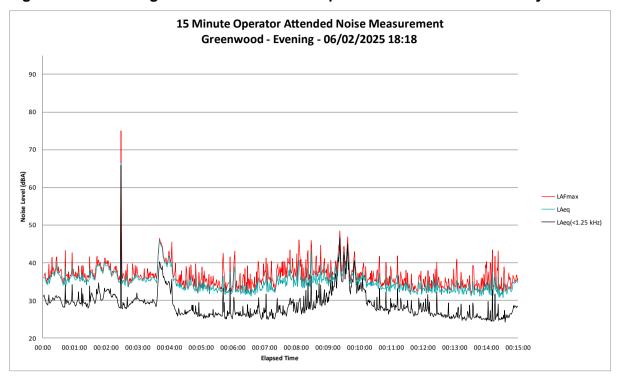


Figure B24 - Night Period - 'Greenwood' Operator Attended Noise Survey Results

