

FINAL

February 2024



NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Wallerawang Quarry

FINAL

Prepared by
Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited
on behalf of
Walker Quarries Pty Limited

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1.0 Scope

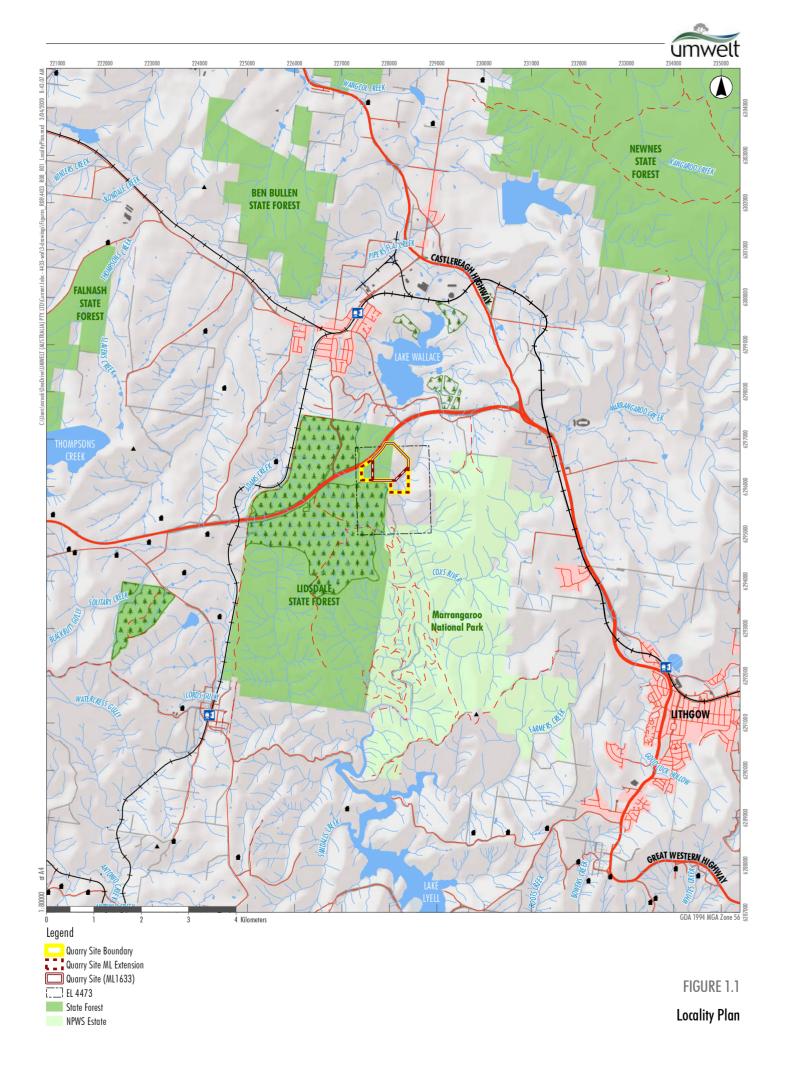
This Noise Management Plan (NMP) for the Wallerawang Quarry (the Quarry) has been reviewed and updated by Umwelt on behalf of Walker Quarries Pty Ltd (Walker Quarries) in accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 5 of Development Consent DA 344-11-2001. This version of the NMP (V5.0) follows a review of NMP V4.0 following the update of Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 13172 on 15 November 2022, submission of the 2023 Annual Review (30 September 2023), and notification provided to the former Department of Planning & Environment (DPE) (now Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)) on 20 December 2023 of the review and proposed revision.

The Quarry is located approximately 8 kilometres (km) northwest of Lithgow (**Figure 1.1**) and is approved to produce 500 000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of Quarry products. DA 344-11-2001 approves disturbance up to a maximum of 28.6 hectares (ha) for the purpose of hard rock extraction, processing, stockpiling, management and on-site disposal of non-saleable (overburden) materials, and ancillary infrastructure (**Figure 1.2**).

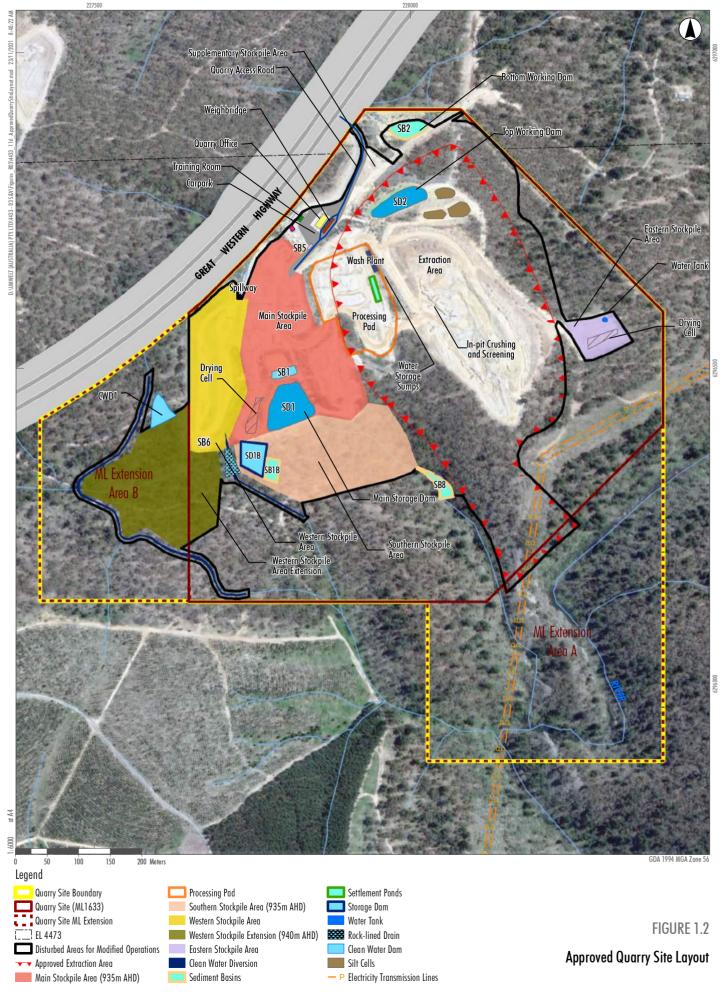
Noise generating activities at the Quarry principally relate to the following operational activities:

- Vegetation clearing and topsoil and subsoil stripping.
- Drill and blast extraction of raw materials.
- Load and haul of materials for processing through crushing and screening or emplacement of overburden.
- Stockpiling and transport of final products.
- Miscellaneous equipment use within the Quarry.

The NMP has been prepared with reference to previous noise impact assessments (the most recent being Muller Acoustic Consultants (MAC), 2019), as well as regular monitoring and audits of the acoustic setting at the Quarry conducted by Atkins and MAC since 2014. The NMP identifies key risk factors as well as appropriate noise management and monitoring measures. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) was consulted in the preparation of the original NMP. The EPA was consulted again in the preparation of this version of the NMP with an email inviting the EPA to provide any requirements for the update of the NMP (refer to **Appendix 1**). As required by Schedule 3, Condition 5(a), Revision 2 of the original NMP was submitted to DPHI within 3 months of determination of Modification 1 (November 2017) and was approved. A new NMP was prepared following the approval of Modification 2 in February 2019 (V0 of this NMP) and updated following approval of Modification 3 in April 2020 (V2.2).











2.0 Regulatory Requirements

2.1 Development Consent DA 344-11-2001

Table 2.1 identifies consent requirements relating to noise management and identifies the section of this NMP where each requirement is addressed.

Table 2.1 Noise-Related Conditional Requirements of DA 344-11-2001

	Noise-Related Conditional Requirements of DA 344-11-2001				
Condition No.	Conditions			Section	
Hours of Opera	Hours of Operation				
Schedule 3, Condition 1	The Applicant must comply with the operating hours set out in Table 1. Table 1: Operating Hours Activity Permissible Hours		Section 6.2		
	Quarrying operations	8 am to 1 pm At no time or	Sundays or public holi		
	Loading and dispatch of trucks		ucted at any time, provi e criteria in Table 2	ided these activities comply	
	Blasting	 9 am to 1 pm 	n Monday to Friday n on Saturdays n Sundays or public holi	days	
	Maintenance	 May be cond 		ided that these activities are	
Schedule 3, Condition 2	The following activities will be carried out outside the hours specified in condition 1 above:			Section 6.2	
	a. delivery or dispatch of materials as requested by Police or other public authorities; and				
	b. emergency work to avoid the loss of lives, property or to prevent environmental harm.				
	In such circumstances, the Applicant must notify the Secretary and affected residents prior to undertaking the activities, or as soon as is practical thereafter.				
Operational No	al Noise Criteria				
Schedule 3, Condition 3	The Applicant must ensure that the noise generated by the development does not exceed the criteria in Table 2 at any residence on privately-owned land. Table 2: Operational noise criteria dB(A)			Section 5.0, Section 7.2	
	Noise Assessment	Day	Evening	Night	
	Location	L _{Aeq (15 min)}	L _{Aeq} (15 min)	LAeq (15 min)	
	All privately-owned residences	43	39	35	
Schedule 3, Condition 3A	Noise generated by the development must be monitored and measured in accordance with the relevant procedures and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions) of the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (EPA, 2017).				
Schedule 3, Condition 3B	The noise criteria in Table 2 do not apply if the Applicant has an agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land to exceed the noise criteria, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.			Section 5.0	





Condition No.	Conditions		
Operating Cond	itions		
Schedule 3, Condition 4	The Applicant must: a. implement best practice management to minimise the construction, operational and road transportation noise of the development	Section 6.2– Section 6.5	
	 b. minimise the noise impacts of the development during meteorological conditions when the noise criteria in this consent do not apply (see Appendix 3) 	Section 6.4	
	c. carry out noise monitoring (at least every 3 months or as otherwise agreed with the Secretary) to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent	Section 7.2	
	 regularly assess noise monitoring data and modify and/or stop operations on site to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary. 	Section 6.3, Section 7.4, Section 8.0	
	Note: required frequency of noise monitoring may be reduced if approved by the Secretary.	Noted	
Noise Managen	nent Plan		
Schedule 3, Condition 5	The Applicant must prepare a Noise Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the secretary. This plan must:	Section 1.0	
	a. be prepared in consultation with the EPA		
	b. be submitted to the Secretary within three months of the determination of Modification 1, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary	Section 1.0	
	c. describe the measures to be implemented to ensure:	Section 6.0,	
	compliance with the noise criteria and operating conditions of this consent	Section 7.1	
	best practice management is being employed		
	 the noise impacts of the development are minimised during meteorological conditions under which the noise criteria in this consent do not apply (see NPfI). 		
	d. describe the proposed noise management system	Section 6.0	
	e. include a monitoring program to be implemented to measure noise from the development against the noise criteria in Table 2, and which evaluates and reports on the effectiveness of the noise management system on site.	Section 7.0	
	The Applicant must implement the Noise Management Plan as approved from time to time by the Secretary.	Noted	
Management P	lan Requirements		
Schedule 5, Condition 3	Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include:	Section 4.0	
	a. a summary of relevant background or baseline data;		
	b. details of:	Section 2.0	
	the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions)		
	any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria	Section 5.0	





Condition No.	Conditions	Section
	the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures.	Section 6.3, Section 8.0
	c. any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the document/s listed in condition 2(c) of Schedule 2.	Section 2.3
	d. a description of the measures that to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria	Section 6.0
	e. a program to monitor and report on the:	Section 7.0
	impacts and environmental performance of the development	
	 effectiveness of any management measures set out pursuant to condition 2(c) of Schedule 2; 	
	f. contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible	Section 8.0
	g. a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time	Section 6.4, Section 7.2, Section 8.0, Section 9.0, Section 12.0
	h. a protocol for managing and reporting any:	
	incident, non-compliance or exceedance of the impact assessment criteria or performance criteria	
	complaint; orfailure to comply with statutory requirements;	
	i. public sources of information and data to assist stakeholders in understanding environmental impacts of the development	
j. a protocol for periodic review of the plan.		Section 12.0
	Note: The Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.	
Schedule 5, Condition 3A	The Applicant must ensure that management plans prepared for the development are consistent with the conditions of this consent and any EPL issued for the site.	Section 2.1, Section 2.2
Schedule 5, Condition 4	The Applicant must continue to apply existing approved management plans, strategies or monitoring programs that have most recently been approved under this consent, until the approval of a similar plan, strategy or program under this consent.	Noted
Schedule 5,	Within 3 months of the submission of an:	Section 12.0
Condition 5	a. incident report under condition 9 below	
	b. Annual Review under condition 11 below	
	c. audit report under condition 14 below	
	d. any modifications to this consent.	
	the Applicant must review the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The applicant must notify the Department in writing of any such review being undertaken. Where this review leads to revisions in any such document, then within 6 weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted for the approval of the Secretary.	





2.2 Environment Protection Licence 13172

EPL 13172 contains requirements related to the prevention of noise pollution. **Table 2.2** identifies each of these requirements and identifies the section of this NMP where each is addressed.

 Table 2.2
 Noise-Related Conditional Requirements of EPL 13172

No	Condition	Section
L4.1	Noise from the premises must not exceed: a. 43 dB(A) LAeq(15 minute) during the day (7 am to 6 pm) Monday to Friday and 8 am to 1 pm Saturday e. 39 dB(A) LAeq(15 minute) during the evening (6 pm to 10 pm) Monday to Friday; and f. at all other times 35 dB(A) LAeq (15 minute), except as expressly provided by this licence. Where LAeq means the equivalent continuous noise level – the level of noise equivalent to the energy-average of noise levels occurring over a measurement period.	Section 5.0
	Note: The above noise limits do not apply at any noise sensitive location where the licensee has a written agreement with the noise sensitive receiver to exceed the noise limit.	Section 5.0
	Note: 'Noise sensitive locations' include buildings used as a residence, hospital, school, child care centre, places of public worship and nursing homes. A noise sensitive location includes the land within 30 metres of the building.	Noted
L4.2	 The noise emission limits identified in this License apply under all meteorological conditions except: a. Wind speeds greater than 3 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or b. Stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or g. Stability category G temperature inversion conditions. 	Section 5.0
L4.3	For the purposes of determining the noise generated at the premises the modification factors in Fact Sheet C of the Noise Policy for Industry (EPA, 2017) must be applied, as appropriate, to the noise levels measured by the noise monitoring equipment.	Section 7.2
M1.1	Monitoring Records The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by this license or a load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in this condition.	Section 9.1
M1.2	 All records required to be kept by this license must be: a. in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form b. kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place h. produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them. 	Section 9.1
M4.1	For each monitoring point specified in the table below the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the parameters specified in Column 1. The licensee must use the sampling method, units of measure, averaging period and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns.	Section 7.1





No	Condition			Section		
	Parameter	Units of Measure	Frequency	Averaging Period	Sampling Method	
	Siting				AS/NZS 3580.1.1 and AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Sigma Theta	0	Continuous	15 minutes	AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Temperature at 2 m	Kelvin	Continuous	15 minutes	AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Wind direction	0	Continuous	15 minutes	AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Rainfall	mm	Continuous	1 hour	AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Relative humidity	%	Continuous	1 hour	AS/NZS 3580.14	
	Wind speed	m/s	Continuous	15 minutes	AS/NZS 3580.14	
M5.1	Recording of pollution The licensee must keep employee or agent of ti which this licence appli	a legible re he licensee	cord of all con	•		Section 8.3
M5.2	The record must include details of the following: a) the date and time of the complaint; b) the method by which the complaint was made; c) any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect; d) the nature of the complaint; e) the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and f) if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.					
M5.3	The record of a compla made.	int must be	kept for at lea	st 4 years afte	r the complaint was	Section 8.3
M5.4	The record must be pro them.	oduced to ar	ny authorised o	officer of the E	PA who asks to see	Section 8.3
M6.1	Telephone complaints line The licensee must operate during its operating hours a telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises or by the vehicle or mobile plant, unless otherwise specified in the licence. Section 8.3					
M6.2	The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.			Section 8.3		
M6.3	The preceding two con- of this licence.	ditions do n	ot apply until 3	3 months after	r: the date of the issue	Noted
R2.1	Notification of Environ Notifications must be n			nvironment Li	ne service on 131 555.	Section 8.2
R2.2				Section 8.2		





2.3 **Environmental Assessment Commitments**

Neither the most recent Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) prepared to assess the environmental impacts of the Modification 3 (Umwelt, 2019), nor previous environmental assessments prepared to support the Quarry, include a formal 'Statement of Commitments'.

Noise management measures were nominated in Umwelt (2019) and these have been included as part of the Quarry noise management system described in Section 6.0.





3.0 Objectives and Outcomes

Table 3.1 presents the objectives and key performance outcomes relating to noise management for the NMP and the Quarry.

Table 3.1 Noise Management Objectives and Key Performance Outcomes

Objectives	Key Performance Outcomes
To ensure compliance with the conditions of DA 344-11-2001 and EPL 13172.	Compliance with all relevant criteria as determined in consultation with the relevant government agencies.
To implement appropriate noise management and mitigation measures during all stages of Quarry operation to ensure that harm to the environment is minimised.	All noise management and mitigation measures nominated in the NMP are implemented. Confirmation of implementation provided in the Annual Review and each Independent Environmental Audit.
To implement an appropriate noise monitoring program to establish compliance or otherwise with relevant criteria during all stages of Quarry operation.	All identified monitoring undertaken in accordance with the relevant procedures and at the relevant intervals.
To implement an appropriate complaint handling and response protocol.	Complaints documented and responded to in accordance with Section 8.3 of this NMP. Complaints and responses documented in the Quarry Annual Review.
To implement appropriate corrective and preventative actions, if required.	Corrective and preventative actions implemented, if required, and recorded.
To implement an appropriate incident reporting program, if required.	Incidents (if any) reported in accordance with Section 8.2 of this NMP.





4.0 Baseline Noise Levels

To establish contemporary background noise levels, referred to as the Rating Background Level (RBL), in accordance with the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (EPA, 2017) (NPfI), unattended noise monitoring was completed by Muller Acoustic Consulting (MAC) (2019c) at two representative locations adjacent to the Project (Figure 4.1). The RBL is measured as the L90 noise level, being noise level that is exceeded 90% of the time during the day, evening and night-time periods and the results summarised in **Table 4.1**.

Table 4.1 Background Noise Levels

Location	Period ¹	Measured Rating Background Level (RBL) (dB LA90)
NM1	Day	38
987 Great Western Highway	Evening	34
	Night	30 (29) ²
NM2	Day	40
1B Cypress Place	Evening	35
	Night	30 (27) ²

Note 1: Day is 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Saturday or 8 am to 6 pm on Sundays and public holidays.

Evening is 6 pm to 10 pm.

Night is the remaining periods.

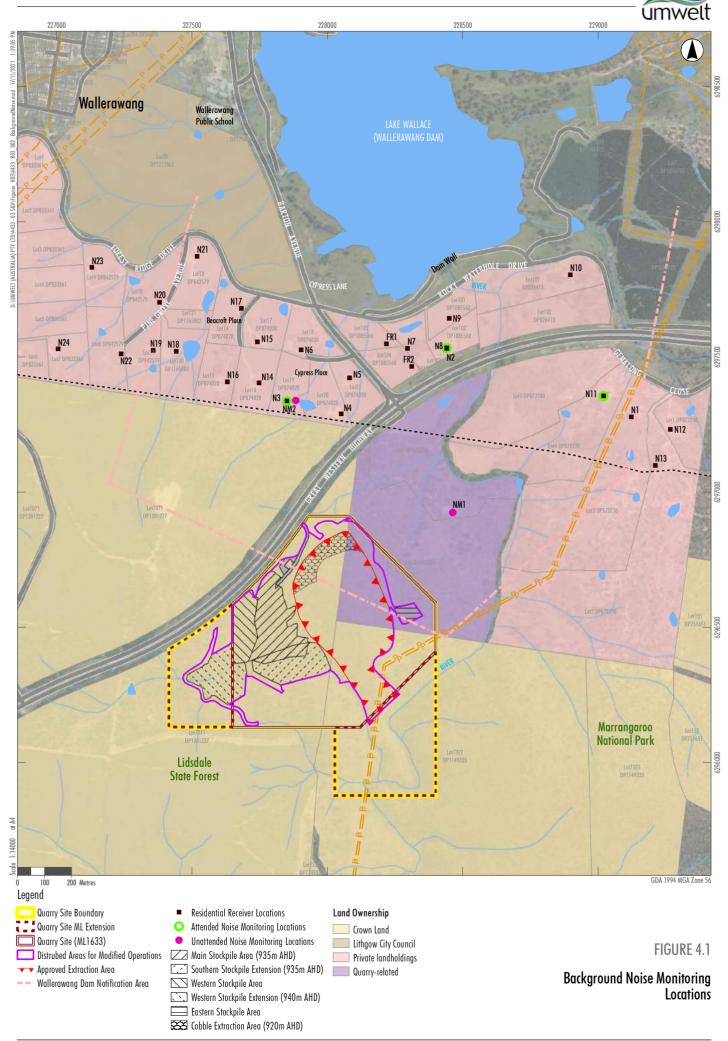
Note 2: Where the measured RBL (denoted by the bracketed value) is less than 30 dB(A), the RBL is taken to be 30 as noise levels <30 dB(A) are considered inaudible.

For the purpose of establishing the background noise environment, the noise levels of NM1 were used (being the lower RBL of the two monitored locations). The adopted RBL was therefore:

• Day: 38dB(A).

Evening: 34dB(A).

Night: 30dB(A).







5.0 Noise Criteria

In accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 3 of DA 344-11-2001 and Condition L4.1 of EPL 13172, the noise criteria for all operations undertaken on the Quarry Site are provided in **Table 5.1**.

Table 5.1 Quarry Noise Criteria

Location	Day (dB(A) LAeq (15 min)	Evening (dB(A) LAeq (15 min))	Night (dB(A) LAeq (15 min))
All privately owned residences ¹	43	39	35

Note: 1 The criteria do not apply where an agreement is negotiated with a landowner to exceed the noise criteria, and the DPHI has been advised in writing of the terms of this agreement (Schedule 3, Condition 3B of DA 344-11-2001).

As noted by Condition L4.2 of EPL 13172, the noise criteria is applicable under all meteorological conditions, except for the following:

- wind speeds greater than 3 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- stability category F temperature inversion conditions and wind speeds greater than 2 metres/second at 10 metres above ground level; or
- stability category G temperature inversion conditions.

Walker Quarries holds an agreement with the landowner of "Cockatoo Pines" (unattended noise monitoring location NM1 as identified in **Figure 4.1**) for noise levels exceeding those nominated in **Table 5.1**. This location represents a shed, not a residence. A copy of the noise agreement has been provided to DPHI in accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 3B of DA 344-11-2001.





6.0 Noise Management System

6.1 Risk of Noise Related Impacts from the Quarry

The most recent noise modelling completed for the Quarry, which considered highly conservative scenarios with noise emitting equipment operating at surface as opposed to behind extraction area walls and stockpiles, predicted compliance with the noise criteria at all receivers. The rate of production modelled represented the maximum approved under DA 344-11-2001.

The results of historical noise monitoring programs undertaken at the Quarry have identified compliance with the relevant noise criteria applicable at the time.

6.2 Hours of Operation

All operations will be undertaken in accordance with the approved hours of operation presented in **Table 6.1** as replicated from Schedule 3, Condition 1 of DA 344-11-2001.

Table 6.1 Approved Hours of Operation

Activity	Permissible Hours	
Quarrying operations	7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday. 8 am to 1 pm Saturday. At no time on Sundays or public holidays.	
Loading and Dispatch of Trucks	Any time provided it meets the criteria set out in Table 5.1 .	
Blasting	9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday. 9 am to 1 pm Saturday. At no time on Sundays or public holidays.	
Maintenance	Any time provided the activities are inaudible at any privately-owned residence.	

It is noted that under Schedule 3, Condition 2 of DA 344-11-2001 the following activities can be carried out outside the hours specified above:

- Delivery or dispatch of materials as requested by Police or other public authorities.
- Emergency work to avoid the loss of lives, property or to prevent environmental harm.
- In such circumstances, prior notification shall be provided to the DPHI and affected residents prior to undertaking the activities. Where prior notification associated with emergency work is not possible, this will be undertaken at the first safe opportunity following the works.

6.3 Noise Management Measures

The Quarry Site has been designed with an objective to minimise the noise generated by extraction, processing and transport activities. The design features and operational noise controls to meet this objective are presented in **Table 6.2**.





Table 6.2 **Operational Designs and Controls**

	Jerational Designs and Controls
Design	Control
Design features	The extraction area is oriented to provide noise mitigation throughout the life of the Quarry. A highwall will be maintained to limit sound promulgation to the north and northeast, toward sensitive receptors.
	• Stockpiles on the Western Stockpile Area, which are more elevated than on the Main or Southern Stockpile Areas, are positioned against the east and northeast perimeter. As a result, truck loading, tipping and movements will predominantly occur behind these stockpiles (with reference to sensitive receptors to the northeast).
	 All drilling (for blasting) will be undertaken within the extraction area and therefore behind the northern and eastern extraction walls (with reference to sensitive receptors to the northeast).
	Blast management controls are described in the Blast Management and Explosives Control Plan.
Operational	Operations
Safeguards	All approved operating hours will be strictly adhered to.
	All site personnel, subcontractors and suppliers shall undergo an induction that includes requirements in relation to the mitigation and management of potential noise impacts.
	The operation of crushing equipment will be retained within the disturbed area, either behind perimeter batters of the pit or constructed earth bunding.
	 Loading of trucks will generally be undertaken from the southern aspect of stockpiles (to retain the remaining stockpile as a noise barrier to receivers to the north) wherever feasible.
	 All relevant equipment will be regularly serviced to ensure sound power levels (SPLs) of each item remains as low as possible. An annual audit of SPLs is completed (refer Section 7.3).
	 The internal road network will be maintained to the current standard and if any new roads are proposed these will be constructed to similar standards to limit body noise from empty trucks.
	Blasting
	Blast monitoring is undertaken using real time blast monitors to measure the air blast overpressure (noise) (dB(L)) (refer to the Blast Management and Explosives Control Plan).
Maintenance	 Maintenance work on all plant and equipment will only be undertaken outside the standard hours of operation if these are inaudible at all residential premises surrounding the Quarry.
	Maintenance after 6 pm will only be undertaken if these works cannot be completed within the standard operating hours.
	If noise from the Quarry is audible at residential receivers after 6 pm, the activity will be ceased or modified to make the activity inaudible.
Assessment of meteorological conditions	At the commencement of each shift, the Quarry Manager will review meteorological conditions (refer to Table 7.2) and note the presence of conditions where the noise emission criteria do not apply.
	 These observations will allow the Quarry Manager to assess the potential for noise enhancement at sensitive receivers to the north/northeast and apply supplementary noise management measures as described in Section 6.4.





6.4 Noise Management TARPS

Table 6.3 outlines the triggers, responses and corrective actions to be implemented in the event of a noise complaint being received, elevated noise levels being observed or at times where noise criteria do not apply as a result of meteorological conditions.

Table 6.3 Triggers, Responses and Corrective Actions

Trigger	Response and Corrective Actions	
Noise Complaint	Any complaint received, either directly or via Lithgow City Council, EPA or other regulatory agency, will trigger the implementation of the response and corrective action measures described in Section 8.3 .	
Exceedance of Noise Criteria	Any record of Quarry-attributed noise exceeding the criteria nominated in Section 5.0 , identified by attended monitoring as will trigger the response and corrective action measures described in Section 8.0 .	
Emergency Works	In the event deliveries or dispatch are requested during an emergency, at unusual times, by Police or other authorities or in the event of an emergency, the Quarry Manager will act appropriately to ensure noise is minimized as far as practicable without jeopardizing the general safety of employees and the local community.	
Meteorological conditions where noise criteria do not apply	 The Quarry Manager will review operations and implement measures which may include: Advise operating personnel to moderate activities to reduce noise, i.e. switch off idling engines if not required, avoid reversing where practicable, avoid excessive revving of engines. Restrict crushing operations to the use of one crushing plant until inspections confirm that the Quarry is not audible at sensitive receptors. Turning off or limiting operations of mobile equipment or fixed plant. Redirecting operations to more sheltered areas within the extraction area. Complete a check of nearby sensitive receptors to determine if the operations are audible. 	

6.5 Best Practice Management

Schedule 3, Conditions 4(a) and 5(c)of DA 344-11-2001 requires the application of best practice noise management at the Quarry. The noise management measures described in **Section 6.3** and **Section 6.4** demonstrate consideration of both design and operational controls to reduce noise levels. Noise modelling undertaken for the Quarry identified compliance with noise criteria could be achieved even in scenarios where all noise sources were operating concurrently in exposed surface locations.

Walker Quarries is committed to implementing the controls in **Section 6.3** and **Section 6.4** and will consider any opportunities to further minimise noise during operations. Opportunities for improvement will be identified in the Annual Review or in the attended noise monitoring program (**Section 7.2**).





7.0 Monitoring

This section describes the attended noise monitoring program that is implemented at the Quarry. The results of noise monitoring conducted since 2014 have consistently returned results confirming the Quarry as generally inaudible or below the noise criteria of **Table 5.1**.

7.1 Meteorological Monitoring

Figure 7.1 identifies the location of a meteorological station that has been installed in accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 15 of DA 344-11-2001 and Condition M4.1 of EPL 13172. The meteorological station is located away from natural or artificial obstructions and areas with the potential to influence local thermodynamics, e.g. concrete or bitumen surfaces, and generally in accordance with the Approved Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales (EPA, 2022) which supersedes Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2007).

The parameters, units of measure, averaging period and frequency recorded by the meteorological station are specified in **Table 7.1** and compliant with Condition M4.1 of EPL 13172.

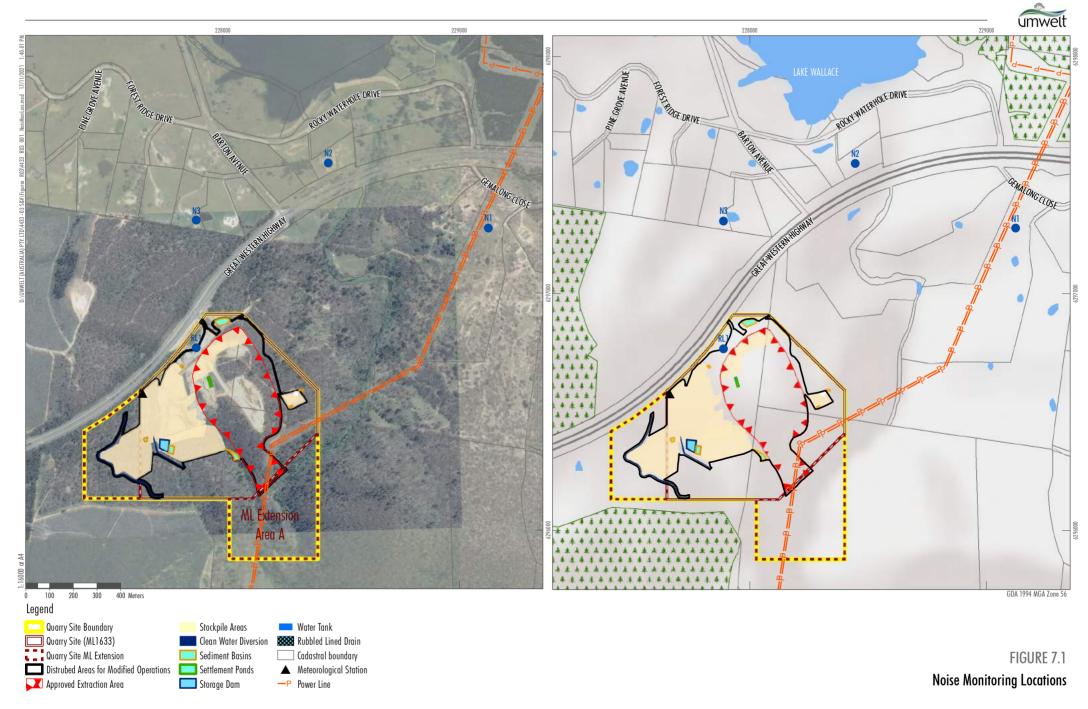
Table 7.1 Meteorological Monitoring

Parameter	Units of Measure	Frequency	Averaging Period
Rainfall	mm	Continuous	1 hour
Air temperature (2 m and 10 m)	°C	Continuous	10 minutes
Relative humidity	%	Continuous	10 minutes
Wind direction at 10 m	٥	Continuous	10 minutes
Wind speed at 10 m	m/s	Continuous	10 minutes
Sigma theta	0	Continuous	10 minutes

The measurement of sigma theta, which is standard deviation of horizontal wind direction, is an indicator of atmospheric stability and can be used to estimate the vertical temperature gradient (and therefore temperature inversion). **Table 7.2** identifies the associated Pasquill-Gifford (PG) stability class and associated vertical temperature gradient.

Table 7.2 Sigma Theta, Pasquill-Gifford Stability and Vertical Temperature Gradient

Sigma Theta (°)	PG Stability Class	Vertical Temperature gradient (°C/100 m)
25	А	-1.9
20	В	-1.9 to -1.7
15	С	-1.7 to -1.5
10	D	-1.5 to -0.5
5	E	-0.5 to 1.5
2.5	F	1.5 to 4.0
1.7	G	>4.0







The Quarry weather station has been updated with software which calculates sigma theta and converts this to a PG stability class at hourly intervals to allow for the measure of atmospheric stability and potential temperature inversion. PG classes F and G represent very stable conditions where temperature inversions are likely to occur.

The Quarry Manager will also record notable weather conditions at the commencement of each shift, i.e. fog, frost, strong wind and heavy rain. The Quarry Manager's notes will allow for targeted analysis of meteorological station data either on request or in response to a complaint or noise exceedance as identified by attended monitoring.

7.2 Attended Noise Monitoring

Noise monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the following guidelines:

- NSW Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI) (EPA, 2017).
- AS 1055-2018 "Acoustics Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise".

Schedule 3, Condition 4(c) of DA 344-11-2001 states that noise monitoring is to be undertaken at least every three months, or as otherwise agreed with the Secretary. It is noted the Quarry has recorded only two noise related complaints during the period 2015 to 2023 and not identified any noise related exceedance of approval requirements during attended monitoring in this time.

Consistent with the previously approved version of the NMP and in consideration of the noise performance of the Quarry, Walker Quarries will undertake attended noise monitoring twice each year (nominally September/October and March/April) to evaluate compliance with the noise criteria described in **Section 5.0** (refer to **Table 5.1**).

Biannual noise monitoring will be undertaken as follows:

- As operations are restricted to the day period (refer Section 6.2), two measurements, each of 15 minutes in duration, will be completed at each monitoring location (one morning and one afternoon).
 - Note that DA 344-11-2001 approves transportation activities during the evening (6 pm to 10 pm) and night (10 pm to 7 am) periods. Should this become a feature of operations, additional monitoring will be undertaken, with the permission of the landowner, during the evening or night.
- Wherever possible, the LA₉₀ noise level (i.e. levels without contributions from Quarry activities) will be recorded to identify the prevailing background noise level.
- The timing and frequency of noise monitoring may be modified where it is identified that operational or meteorological conditions will affect the validity of the monitoring results. These may include:
 - Periods of reduced operational activity or shut down.
 - o Periods of high rainfall or winds.

Under these circumstances, and where there may be a significant delay in monitoring, the DPHI will be notified.





In the event of a noise-related complaint, Walker Quarries will review the results of the noise
monitoring program and make the results of that monitoring and/or subsequent investigation available
to the complainant. The complaints procedure will be followed as nominated in Section 8.3.

The following monitoring locations have been chosen as the closest residential receivers to the Quarry Site to enable assessment against the noise criteria (of **Table 5.1**) (refer to **Figure 7.1**). If access to any of these locations is unavailable, the closest possible location will be chosen for the purpose of monitoring:

- N1: 139 Gemalong Close, Marrangaroo, known as "Gemalong" (residence).
- N2: 42 Rocky Waterhole Drive (elevated residence).
- N3: 2 Cypress Place, Wallerawang (residence).

A fourth monitoring location is included on the Quarry Site:

• RL1: Reference Location 1, adjacent to the Quarry office.

RL1 allows for the combined noise level of the operating Quarry to be measured. The relative contribution of the Quarry at locations N1, N2 and N3 will be calculated through extrapolation and assessment of other relevant factors.

7.3 Sound Power Level Audit

On an annual basis, Walker Quarries will monitor the SPL of active mobile and fixed plant operating at the Quarry. The SPL will be measured, using a calibrated hand-held noise meter at a distance of 10 m from the operating plant. The SPL audit will be used to inform necessary maintenance or equipment upgrade requirements, ensuring noise generated by the Quarry remains equivalent to that predicted and compliance with noise criteria.

7.4 Noise Monitoring Report

A noise monitoring report will be prepared by the consultancy engaged to complete the monitoring. The report will include an assessment of the monitoring results against the criteria identified in **Section 5.0** and the effectiveness of the mitigation measures in place to reduce noise levels received. Recommendations for additional or improved noise mitigation will be provided where relevant.

The monitoring reports will be reviewed by the Quarry Manager with any recommendations for improved noise mitigation to be implemented where reasonable and feasible. A comprehensive summary of monitoring results will be available on the Walker Quarries website in accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 17(a(vii)) of DA 344-11-2001 and a summary of results included in the Annual Review.

If the noise monitoring report identifies an exceedance of the relevant criteria, the procedures identified in **Section 8.2** will be implemented.





8.0 Management of Incidents and Complaints

8.1 Incident Identification

Condition R2 of EPL 13172 requires that Walker Quarries must notify all relevant authorities of incidents causing or threatening material harm to the environment immediately after the person becomes aware of the incident. In accordance with the definition provided by Section 147 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act), harm to the environment is deemed to be material if:

- it involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or
- it results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (or such other amount as is prescribed by the regulations).

An exceedance of the noise criteria of EPL 13172 or DA 344-11-2001, is referred to as a non-compliance.

An incident which causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment is referred to as a pollution incident.

The EPA excludes noise pollution from the requirements of a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan.

8.2 Incident and Non-compliance Notification and Reporting

If attended noise monitoring (refer to **Section 7.2**) indicates that noise exceeds the approved criteria (refer to **Table 5.1**), the following actions will be taken:

- The acoustic consultant will alert the Quarry Manager to the exceedance, confirm the meteorological conditions at the time, i.e. that the criteria apply, and identify the noise source most contributing to the elevated noise level.
- The Quarry Manager will investigate the source of the noise, review the performance of equipment and if necessary, make arrangements to alter the configuration of equipment, or stand down specific equipment, so that the noise levels are reduced.
- The Quarry Manager will schedule supplementary noise monitoring to confirm that the modified operations or remedial measures have reduced the noise levels to compliant levels.
- Within seven days of becoming aware of a non-compliance, Walker Quarries will provide written
 notification to the DPHI identifying the nature of the non-compliance and the actions taken to address
 the non-compliance. Non-compliances will also be reported to the EPA Environment Line telephone
 service.
- Within 2 weeks of obtaining any data showing an exceedance of noise criteria, the Walker Quarries will
 notify in writing any affected landowners or tenants.





Incident management, identification and reporting is provided in Section 7.3 of the Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). The process involves recording, notifying and investigating incidents in accordance with statutory and internal requirements and implementing corrective/preventative actions, if required.

A summary of all pollution incidents and non-compliances, including dates of occurrence, corrective measures taken, and success of these measures will be compiled and reported in the Annual Return to the EPA and the Annual Review to DPHI.

8.3 Noise Related Complaints

A Complaints Management Procedure is provided in Section 6.2 of the EMS. Walker Quarries operates a telephone line available for complaints, which is provided on the company website.

Following receipt of a complaint, appropriate action will be taken to determine the cause of the complaint and identify appropriate actions to remediate the complaint source. The following details will be recorded following receipt of any noise-related complaint:

- The date and time of the complaint.
- The method by which the complaint was made.
- Any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect.
- The nature of the complaint.

Within 48 hours of receipt of a complaint, action to identify the cause of the complaint and identify appropriate actions to respond to the complaint will be commenced. On completion of actions to address the complaint, the following information will be added to the internal complaint record.

- The action taken in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant.
- If no action was taken, the reasons why no action was taken.

Complaint records will be stored for at least four years from when the complaint was made, and will be made available to any authorised EPA officer who asks to see them.

A public complaints register is maintained on the Walker Quarries website and is updated monthly.





9.0 Data Management and Reporting

9.1 Review and Recording of Monitoring Data

Walker Quarries will retain records of meteorological monitoring and noise monitoring for a minimum period of four years. Monitoring records will be made available in a legible form to relevant government authorities following a written request.

9.2 Reporting and Publication of Monitoring Data

A comprehensive summary of noise monitoring results will be made available on the Quarry website and Walker Quarries will include an evaluation of the results in the Annual Review.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 66(6) of the POEO Act, Walker Quarries will publish noise monitoring data on their website within 14 days of obtaining the report. In addition, Walker Quarries will provide a copy of noise reports, to a member of the public when requested in writing. These requirements are presented in detail in Requirements for Publishing Pollution Monitoring Data (EPA, 2013).





10.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Table 10.1 outlines the roles and responsibilities of personnel with reference to management of noise.

Table 10.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Personnel with Respect to Management of Noise

Role	Responsibilities
Managing Director	Ensure adequate resources are available to implement the NMP. Ensure suitably trained personnel are available to implement the responsibilities of the Quarry Manager during any time of the Quarry Manager's absence from site.
Quarry Manager, or his/her nominee	Ensure implementation and compliance with the NMP. Ensure noise monitoring results are regularly reviewed/evaluated and entered into the environmental database. Ensure reviews of meteorological forecasts are undertaken on a daily basis prior to the commencement of operations. Implementation of the Noise Management System (Section 6.0). Relocate or postpone relevant activities in the event of adverse weather conditions, where practical. Provide primary contact for complaints and supply follow-up information to any complainant. Initiate investigations of complaints as received from the public or government agency. Report incidents and non-compliances (Section 8.0). Inform the Managing Director of identified causes of elevated noise and any alterations to site operations that has influenced the noise environment. Coordinate the review of the NMP (Section 12.0).
All On-site Personnel	Operate in a manner that minimises risks of incidents to themselves, fellow workers or the surrounding environment. Fully implement the relevant control measures within the NMP. Report any anomalous noise or extraordinary events to the Quarry Manager. Follow any instructions provided by the Quarry Manager.
All Truck Drivers	Follow any instructions provided by any on-site personnel.





11.0 Competence Training and Awareness

All personnel and contractors working at the Quarry undergo an induction. This induction includes information on the management of noise while working on site.

Regular toolbox meetings are held to discuss whole-of-site production, management, safety and environmental issues. Matters relating to managing and mitigating noise are raised during these meetings, when necessary.





12.0 Plan Review

In accordance with the EMS, Schedule 5, Condition 5 of DA 344-11-2001, the NMP will be reviewed within three months of the submission of an:

- a. Incident report as defined by Section 8.0.
- b. Annual Review.
- c. An Independent Environmental Audit.
- d. Any modification to DA 344-11-2001.

Walker Quarries will notify the DPHI in writing of any review being undertaken and if this review results in any revisions to the NMP, submit a copy to the Secretary of the DPHI for approval (within six weeks of the review). The reviews will ensure the adequacy of the NMP and allow for opportunities of adaptive management and continual improvement. This will include a review of monitored noise levels and monitoring frequency and methods, as necessary. Each review will also evaluate the effectiveness of the overall noise monitoring program and whether it needs to be modified.





13.0 References

Australian Standard (AS) 1055-2018. Acoustics – Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise.

Australian Standard (AS) IEC 61672 2004. Electroacoustics – Sound Level Meters.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2007). Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2013). Requirements for Publishing Pollution Monitoring Data.

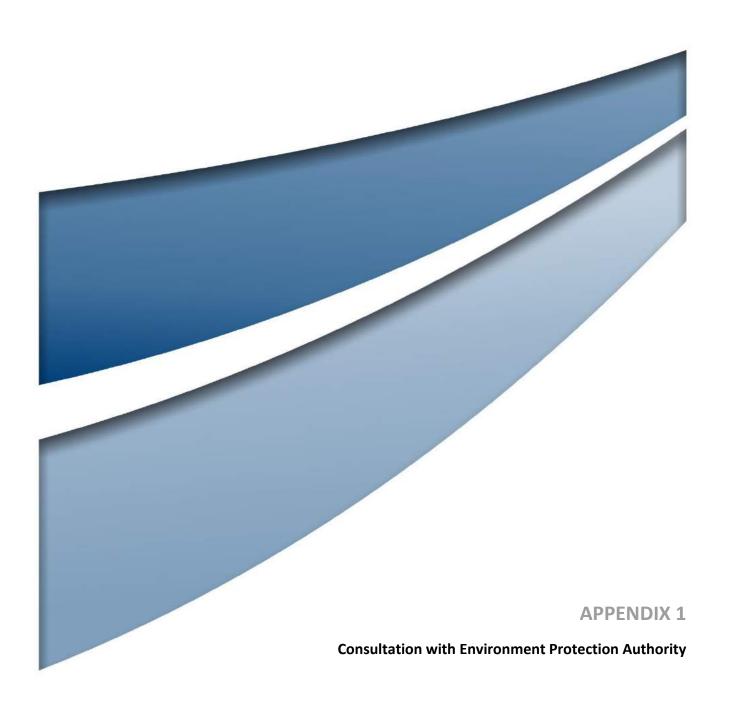
Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2017). NSW Noise Policy for Industry.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2022). Approved Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales.

Muller Acoustic Consulting (MAC) (2019). Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, Wallerawang Quarry, Wallerawang, NSW. Prepared for Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited, May 2019.

RW Corkery & Co. Pty Limited (RWC) (2017). Environmental Assessment for Modification to Operations at the Wallerawang Quarry (DA 344-11-2001). Prepared on behalf of Walker Quarries Pty Ltd (Report No. 949/05).

Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited (Umwelt) (2019). Statement of Environmental Effects Wallerawang Quarry Modification 3 (DA 344-11-2001).





Your reference Our reference Contact

: EF13/4384; DOC16/386834 : Mr Allan Adams; (02) 6332 7610

Mr Ray Sharwood Quarry Manager Walker Quarries Pty Ltd PO Box 307 Lithgow NSW 2790

Attn. Mr Alex Irwin

3 August 2016

Dear Mr Sharwood

I refer to the email correspondence from Mr Irwin (RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited) to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 20 July 2016 providing the opportunity to review and comment on the draft copies of the 'Wallerawang Quarry – Noise Monitoring Program' and the 'Wallerawang Quarry – Blast Management Plan'.

The EPA acknowledges that the development of these plans in consultation with the EPA is a general requirement of the development consent for each mine.

The EPA encourages the development of Environmental Management Plans and Programs to ensure that licensees have determined how they will meet their statutory obligations and environmental objectives as specified by any Project/Development Approval and/or the conditions of an environment protection licence (EPL). However, the EPA does not review these plans/programs (unless in circumstances deemed necessary) as the role of the EPA is to establish and regulate against environment protection and management criteria. As such, the EPA does not become directly involved in the development of strategies to comply with such conditions/criteria, and will not be providing any further comment.

As a management tool, such plans and programs should assist Walker Quarries in meeting their commitment to statutory compliance and wider environmental management and where appropriate should be integrated with other operational or management plans. The EPA recommends that such plans be audited to an industry standard or certified to the ISO 14001 standard (if applicable) as part of any overall environmental management systems.

Should you have any further enquiries in relation to this matter please contact Mr Allan Adams at the Central West (Bathurst) Office of the EPA by telephoning (02) 6332 7610.

Yours singerely

DARRYL CLIFT

Head Central West Unit

Environment Protection Authority

Alex Irwin

From: Alex Irwin

20 October 2017 12:41 PM Sent: To: 'central.west@epa.nsw.gov.au'

Allan Adams Cc:

Subject: 949 - Wallerawang Quarry - Consultation required for Management Plans

Notice of Modification_25 August 2017.pdf; 94902b_Noise MP - September 2016.pdf; Attachments:

94902f_WMP 2016 - September 2016.pdf

Good afternoon Allan,

Walker Quarries Pty Ltd received approval for a modification to the project approval for the Wallerawang Quarry (DA 344-11-2001) on 25 August 2017 (attached). Walker Quarries Pty Ltd holds EPL 13172 for the Wallerawang Quarry.

Conditions 3(5) and 3(18) of DA 344-11-2001 require Walker Quarries to consult with the EPA in the preparation of a Noise Management Plan and Soil and Water Management Plan respectively.

With respect to the nominated conditions, and noting that Walker Quarries is currently operating under a Noise Management Plan and Water Management Plan (also attached), can you provide any specific requirements of the EPA for the preparation or update of these.

I note DA 344-11-2001 requires these plans to be submitted to the Secretary for approval by 25 November 2017 and so we would appreciate any advice as soon as possible.

Regards,

Alex Irwin

Senior Environmental Consultant (Mobile 0429 635 975)

RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited

Geological and Environmental Consultants

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Phone: (07) 3205 5400 Fax: (02) 6361 3622 Email: <u>brisbane@rwcorkery.com</u>

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Alex Irwin

From: Alex Irwin

Sent: Wednesday, 18 March 2020 9:59 AM **To:** EPA RSD Central West Mailbox

Subject: 4433_Wallerawang Quarry_Review of Management Plans_Request for EPA

Requirements

Attachments: Final Consolidated Consent Mod 3_.pdf

To the relevant officer,

As you may be aware, Walker Quarries received approval for a proposed modification to operations at the Wallerawang Quarry which is operated under State Significant Development 344-11-2001 and EPL 13172.

Wallerawang Quarry currently operates in accordance with a number of environmental management plans required by DA 344-11-2001. Condition 5(5) of DA 344-11-2001 requires that these management plans are reviewed and updated as necessary within 3 months of receiving approval for a modification.

Several of the management plans are prepared in accordance with conditions of DA 344-11-2001 which require consultation with the EPA, namely:

- Condition 5 of Schedule 3 requires the Noise Management Plan to be prepared in consultation with the EPA.
- Condition 18 of Schedule 3 requires the Soil and Water Management Plan to be prepared in consultation with the EPA.

I have attached DA 344-11-2001 for the EPA's benefit. The current version of the management plans can be viewed and downloaded from Walker Quarries website:

https://walkerquarries.com.au/statutory-information/#section3

It is requested that the EPA provide any requirements for the update of the nominated management plans. It is noted that Umwelt is currently updating these management plans to reflect the modified operations and conditions relating to noise and water.

Alternatively, should the EPA decline the invitation to provide requirements or recommendations for the management plans (as has previously been the case), a response from the EPA to confirm this is requested.

As Walker Quarries has until the 26 May 2020 to resubmit the management plans, a response from the EPA by 17 April is requested. Should the EPA's preference be to review updated versions of the management plans and comment on these, an earlier response would be appreciated.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Alex Irwin

Principal Environmental Consultant

Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited Office 1, 3 Hampden Avenue Orange, NSW 2800

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Please consider the environment before printing this email



Our reference Contact

DOC20/251208-2

David Joseph; (02) 6333 3822

Alex Irwin Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd Office 1, 3 Hampden Avenue Orange NSW 2800

09 April 2020

Dear Mr Irwin

Request to Review Environmental Management Plans for Wallerawang Quarry

I refer to the request to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to provide input to assist Umwelt to update the Environmental Management Plans for the Wallerawang Quarry (the premises).

The EPA encourages the development of Environmental Management Plans to ensure that proponents have determined how they will meet their statutory obligations and environmental objectives as specified by any Project Approval and/or the conditions of an environment protection licence.

Please note, the EPA's role is to set conditions/criteria for environmental protection and management, not to be directly involved in the development of strategies to comply with such conditions/criteria. On this occasion the EPA will not be providing requirements to update these plans.

Where the EPA does conduct reviews and provide comments on management plans its preference is to do this for updated versions of the plans. The EPA therefore requests that these updated versions be forwarded to the EPA when available.

As a management tool, such plans should assist Wallerawang Quarry in meeting its commitment to statutory compliance and wider environmental management and where appropriate should be integrated with other operational or management plans. The EPA recommends that such plans be audited to an industry standard or certified to the ISO 14001 standard (if applicable) as part of any overall environmental management system.

Should you have any further enquiries in relation to this matter please contact Mr David Joseph at the Central West (Bathurst) Office of the EPA by telephoning (02) 6333 3822 or via email to central.west@epa.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

SHERIDAN LEDGER

Unit Head Central West Region Environment Protection Authority

Phone 131 555

Phone +61 2 6333 3800 TTY 133 677 (from outside NSW)

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