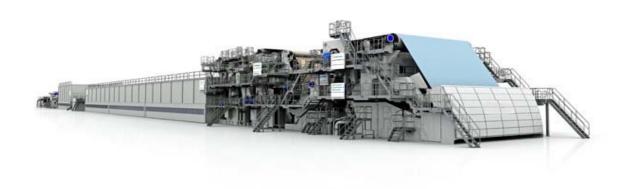
# **Orora Pty Ltd**

B9 Paper Mill – EPL Compliance August 2018 Quarterly noise monitoring report



5 September 2018

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Orora Pty Ltd B9 Paper Mill - EPL Compliance

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### **Glossary**

Acoustic and vibration related terms:

- Acoustic Spectrum: A representation of a sound sample (usually short term) of the amount of energy or sound level per frequency.
- **Ambient Noise**: Ambient noise encompasses all sound present in a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources near and far.
- **dB(A):** A unit of sound measurement which has frequency characteristics weighted so that it approximates the response of the human ear to sound waves
- Heavy Vehicle: A truck, transport or other vehicle with a gross vehicle weight above a specified level (for example: over 8 tonnes)
- **L**<sub>A90</sub>: Is the noise level that is exceeded 90 per cent of the measurement time. This parameter is commonly referred to as the background noise level
- L<sub>Aeq</sub>: Noise level that represents the energy average noise from the source during a specified time period, and is the equivalent continuous sound pressure level for a given period
- L<sub>Aeg(15hr)</sub>: The Leq noise level for the period from 7 am to 10 pm.
- L<sub>Aeq(9hr)</sub>: The Leq noise level for the period from 10 pm to 7 am.
- NCA: Noise Catchment Area. Grouping dwellings or receivers together in terms of similar noise environment.
- **Noise barrier**: Generally a wall or an earth mound that obstructs or restricts the passage of sounds waves from a noise source
- Noise Logger: A data logging (data and audio in some cases) which records noise. Usually used for unattended noise monitoring of background or ambient noise.
- **NML**: Noise Management Level as detailed in the NSW Interim Construction Noise Guideline. The NML is the noise goal for construction activities.
- Octave Bands: Sounds that contain energy over a wide range of frequencies are divided into sections called bands. A common standard division is in 10 octave bands identified by their center frequencies 31.5, 63, 250, 500, 1000, 2000, and 4000 Hz
- RBL: Rating Background Level is the overall single figure background level representing each assessment
  period over the whole monitoring period. The RBL is used for determining the appropriate construction
  noise criteria.
- RNP: Road Noise Policy (OEH, 2011)
- **Sound Level Meter**: An instrument consisting of a microphone, amplifier and data analysis package for quantifying and measuring noise.
- **Sound Power Level** (Lw): Sound power level or acoustic power level is a logarithmic measure of the sound power in comparison to a specified reference level.
- **Sound Pressure Level** (SPL or Lp): The level of noise, usually expressed in dB(A), as measured by a standard sound level meter.

### 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

ORORA Packaging operates the B9 Paper Mill at its Botany site in Sydney, NSW. The Paper Mill is subject to operational noise conditions set out in the Ministers Conditions of Approval (MCoA) (including subsequent modifications) and the Environment Protection Licence (EPL) No. 1594.

As part of the EPL, there is a requirement to undertake quarterly monitoring at receivers surrounding the site to show compliance with set noise limits. This report covers the July 2018 – September 2018 quarter.

Recent modifications to the site layout include the demolition of the majority of the old B7 paper machine building, a container noise wall on the northern boundary, and operation of the waste water treatment plant. A large warehousing development on the boundary of the site at the corner of McCauley Street and Australia Avenue was completed in 2016. This development has added a significant proportion of acoustic shielding for receivers directly north of the site, reducing noise sources in the south including Orora, Sydney Ports, and traffic on Botany Road.

Future work includes demolition of the B7 Reel store and additional container noise barriers along the adjacent section of the site boundary.

#### 1.2 Objective

This report addresses operational licence conditions relating to measurements of the quarterly monitoring of the noise environment around the Orora site, ie Condition M6.1 and M6.2 of EPL 1594. These require:

- M6.1 The licensee must undertake noise monitoring at least once every three months to check compliance with the noise limits specified in Condition L4.1.
- M6.2 All monitoring required by this licence must be undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard 2659.1 – 1998: Guide to the use of sound measuring equipment – Portable sound level meters, or any revisions of that standard which may be made by Australian Standards Authority, and the compliance monitoring guidance provided in the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

### 1.3 Operational noise limits

Operational noise limits for the new Orora Paper Mill are detailed in condition L4.1 of EPL 1594 and Condition 10 of the MCoA. These have been replicated in **Table 1**.

**Table 1 Operational noise limits** 

ID	Location	Day Evening $L_{Aeq,15min},dB(A) \qquad L_{Aeq,15min},dB(A)$			
R1	Corner of McCauley Street and Australia Avenue	46	45	43	55
R2	Australia Avenue	45	45	43	55
R3	Murrabin Avenue	46	45	43	55
R4	Partanna Avenue	42	41	41	55
R5	Corner of Partanna Avenue and Moorina Avenue	42	42	39	55
R6	Moorina Avenue	43	43	39	55

### 2. Existing environment

Typically, the noise environment around the Orora B9 paper Mill does not change over the short term. The influences are fairly consistent and constant in nature. The following details are general comments to describe these influences and their impact.

The site is located within a predominantly industrial area with residential properties located to the north and east of the site, as illustrated in Figure . The local noise environment beyond the Orora boundary varies throughout the day depending on the contribution of sources including trucks on Botany Road, aircraft, port noise, local business activities on McCauley Road, and local traffic movements.

The prevailing meteorological conditions include strong drainage flows for wind direction and also temperature inversions during the winter months influencing the propagation of noise. Weather conditions are also apparent as seasonal variations which are increasingly apparent in the long-term monitoring data for the local area.

### 2.1 Monitoring limitations

Total measured noise levels at monitoring locations are only partly due to Orora site operations. The local noise environment has been a feature of the area for many years. Direct monitoring of Orora noise emissions over this time has demonstrated that specific contribution from Orora cannot be provided with any certainty due to the contribution of other audible noise sources adjacent to the site.

#### 2.2 Receiver locations

The EPL specifies six locations for quarterly monitoring. These are illustrated in Figure 2-1 and described further in **Table 2**.

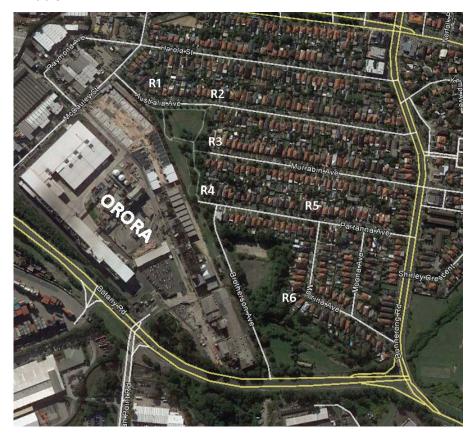


Figure 2-1 Site location and compliance monitoring locations (Source: Google Maps 2016)

**Table 2 Description of monitoring locations** 

Monitoring location	Description
R1	This location has a large degree of acoustic shielding from local noise sources due to the recent development of a warehousing facility on the corner of McCauly Avenue and Australia Avenue. The noise environment at this location is heavily influenced by traffic on McCauley Street, Perry Street and Beauchamp Road. Local industrial noise from Raymond Avenue is also audible during the day and night time. Some construction work was in progress at the property during the monitoring period.
R2	This receiver is located opposite the bottom apex of the Purcell Park on Australia Avenue. At this location the residents have a clear line of sight to the paper mill. Noise walls have less effectiveness for the residences due to the large separation distances. Noise from port activities also has less shielding from the Orora site. Background noise levels are heavily dominated by road traffic noise from all sources.
R3	The receivers at Partanna Avenue are physically closest to the Orora site but have the benefit of significant shielding of operational activities from the B7 paper machine building and the No. 7 reel store. Road traffic noise contributes to background noise for this receiver. Some construction work was in progress at the property during the monitoring period.
R4	Furthest location from the Orora site, a higher degree of influence from Botany Road, Bunnerong Road and the port. Noise from the Orora site is generally inaudible at this location although significant noise from the Orora site has been observed here during adverse meteorological conditions. Some construction activity was noted at the adjacent property during the monitoring period.
R5	In this location receivers are well shielded from operational noise from the Orora site due to the presence of the redundant No. 7 and No. 8 paper machine buildings. Noise levels at this location are heavily influenced by local bird colonies, port noise, traffic on Botany road and traffic on Bunnerong Road.
R6	In this location receivers are well shielded from operational noise from the Orora site due to the presence of the redundant No. 7 and No. 8 paper machine buildings. Noise levels at this location are heavily influenced by local bird colonies, port noise, traffic on Botany road and traffic on Bunnerong Road.

## 3. Operational noise monitoring

#### 3.1 Method

Operational noise monitoring for the survey period was completed between 31 July and 7 August 2018, using automatic noise loggers deployed at six representative locations.

Monitoring was performed using Acoustic Research Laboratories brand Ngara Type 1 noise loggers, set to A-weighting, fast-response, and recording noise levels continuously over consecutive 24-hour periods at each location. This survey period coincided with typical continuous operations of B9 paper mill.

Weather conditions during the survey period were obtained from the Automatic Weather Station (AWS) maintained by the Bureau of Meteorology at Sydney Airport. Weather conditions for the monitoring period have been plotted showing daily trends in wind direction and speed which are presented in Figure 3-1.

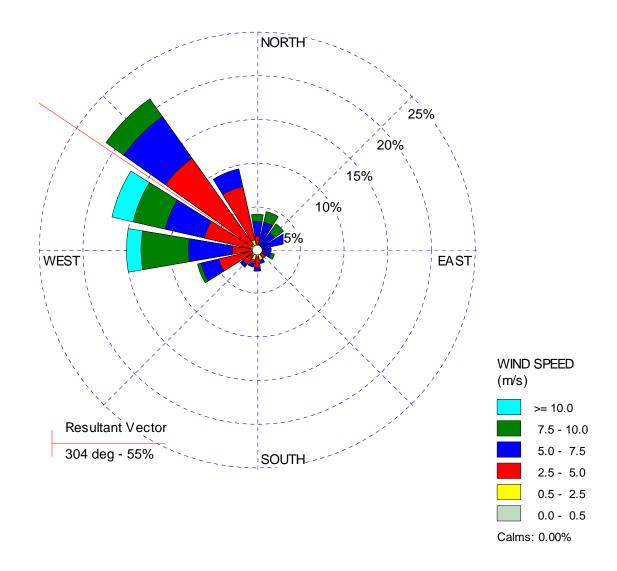


Figure 3-1 Wind speed and direction during monitoring period 31 July - 7 August 2018 (source BoM 2018)

The plotted data indicates that the wind direction during the monitoring period was dominated by winds from the north west. When the wind blows from this direction, noise influences from Orora and the ports are expected to be minimised as the noise front is pushed across the site to the south east and away from residences.

About 50% of the total measurements were observed between 0 to 5 m/s with wind speeds above 5 m/s present for a similar amount of time during the noise monitoring survey. Higher wind speeds and the general westerly direction will have the tendency to increase overall noise levels at receiver locations in this direction.

### 3.2 Monitoring results

During the August 2018 quarterly noise survey, the paper mill was in full production and there were no unusual activities occurring within the site. The measured  $L_{Aeq}$  noise levels taken across several days are affected by a multitude of noise sources such as road traffic, loud short-term noise such as birds, aircraft, and local heavy vehicle movements.

The Orora site itself has a noise profile consistent with plant and equipment that operate under steady state conditions and therefore has little variability in noise emissions. This type of noise environment is most appropriately described using the  $L_{A90}$  statistical parameter, which has been presented in the results summary to be considered in conjunction with the  $L_{Aeq}$  noise level when assessing compliance of the Orora site.

The results of monitoring survey for August 2018 have been graphed and are shown in Appendix A. The parameters of  $L_{Aeq}$  and  $L_{A90}$  presented in Table 3 are used to provide information for comparison against the project criteria and the background noise environment.

These periods were assessed to provide information of the Orora B9 Paper Mill noise contributions using the night time median  $L_{A90}$  noise levels as a benchmark. The measured data for the most recent monitoring for August 2018 indicates that  $L_{A90}$  noise levels were at or marginally above the  $L_{Aeq}$ , 15 minute criteria at the majority of monitoring sites.

The most recent round of compliance measurements has been added to the historical data collected during compliance monitoring, providing about six years worth of seasonal data. This data includes measurements of the noise environment both with the Orora site both operational and shut down for maintenance. Table 3 presents the assessment background noise levels and the rating background noise levels from the August 2018 survey as well as the  $L_{Aeq}$ , 15 minute for each assessment period.

### 3.3 Comparison with previous monitoring surveys

An indicator of the contribution of Orora operational noise to existing noise levels has been made using background noise levels measured during both shutdown and operational conditions. During the night time-period, fewer extraneous noise influences are present providing lower overall noise levels in the area. Under these conditions constant noise sources such as Orora operations are more likely to be apparent in the background noise levels measured during this time noting that the emission levels from the site remain relatively constant throughout the day, evening, and night time.

The data in Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 provides a chronological progression of the measured noise levels during shutdown and normal operations summarised for monitoring from 2012 to present. The results of the analysis indicate that background noise levels during operations in August 2018 were very similar at the representative receiver locations when compared to the same historical monitoring periods (see Figures 3-4 and 3-5).

Historical background noise levels from Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 are not directly related to the L<sub>Aeq</sub> criteria from the EPL; however, they provide an indication of the increase in background environmental noise levels corresponding to the regular noise surveys undertaken for the Orora site.

**Table 3 Summary of noise monitoring** 

	Profile of Noise Environment - Noise Monitoring Location												
Time and date*	R1		R2		R3		R4		R5		R6		
Day 7:00:00 AM to 6:00:00 PM Date	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	
Tuesday 31 July 2018	41.8	51.4	40.0	68.6	41.5	68.5	42.5	50.2	42.3	53.7	45.0	51.2	
Wednesday 1 August 2018	43.9	53.1	47.1	53.9	46.7	51.5	47.3	53.2	45.2	53.5	43.3	53.2	
Thursday 2 August 2018	40.1	54.7	37.6	51.7	39.5	49.0	41.0	51.6	39.4	51.6	40.0	50.5	
Friday 3 August 2018	44.0	53.5	41.5	54.3	44.4	51.7	43.3	56.1	45.2	54.1	44.7	52.6	
Saturday 4 August 2018	42.5	52.1	47.3	53.1	45.9	51.7	46.1	53.6	43.5	52.5	42.4	51.8	
Sunday 5 August 2018	39.3	53.2	37.6	50.9	39.9	49.8	40.4	52.0	38.5	52.3	38.7	51.1	
Monday 6 August 2018	46.7	53.7	52.4	56.8	-	-	47.4	56.1	48.0	55.9	45.4	52.5	
Tuesday 7 August 2018	47.2	54.5	-	-	-	-	49.2	56.5	47.3	68.6	45.7	54.8	
Median	42.5	53.2	41.5	53.9	42.9	51.6	44.7	53.4	44.3	53.6	44.0	52.2	

Evening 6:00:00 PM to 10:00:00 PM Date	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period										
Tuesday 31 July 2018	44.3	50.7	46.1	53.0	46.7	51.3	45.6	51.6	46.1	51.9	43.5	49.8
Wednesday 1 August 2018	41.9	48.5	45.6	51.0	45.8	48.6	45.7	50.0	40.2	46.2	40.2	46.9
Thursday 2 August 2018	41.3	49.9	38.3	48.7	41.8	48.3	40.3	45.6	41.4	50.2	42.5	49.7
Friday 3 August 2018	43.7	51.0	41.6	51.1	44.8	51.2	42.1	49.8	44.8	53.2	43.1	50.1
Saturday 4 August 2018	43.1	48.2	46.9	51.5	45.5	49.5	45.6	50.4	43.4	49.5	41.7	47.9
Sunday 5 August 2018	42.3	49.2	40.5	48.7	43.8	49.5	41.4	47.0	43.6	50.5	42.5	48.6
Monday 6 August 2018	45.4	51.3	-	-	-	-	47.7	52.2	47.6	54.0	44.8	50.0
Tuesday 7 August 2018	44.0	49.6	-	-	-	-	48.2	51.6	46.2	51.1	42.4	47.8
Median	43.1	49.6	43.6	51.0	45.1	49.5	45.6	50.2	44.2	50.8	42.5	49.1

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### ORORA – B9 COMPLIANCE NOISE MONITORING

	Profile of Noise Environment - Noise Monitoring Location											
Time and date*	R1		R2		R3		R4		R5		R6	
Night 10:00:00 PM to 7:00:00 AM Date	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period	L90 (10th Percentile)	Leq - over period
Tuesday 31 July 2018	41.5	47.9	42.6	50.1	44.7	48.9	43.1	48.6	44.2	49.2	40.7	45.4
Wednesday 1 August 2018	40.2	47.3	44.5	50.5	44.2	48.3	43.4	48.0	39.4	47.8	37.3	44.2
Thursday 2 August 2018	41.2	47.5	44.5	49.9	44.1	48.5	42.6	47.2	42.8	48.2	39.7	45.3
Friday 3 August 2018	41.2	47.9	45.2	50.1	45.2	50.0	44.9	49.8	43.1	50.6	39.1	48.1
Saturday 4 August 2018	41.2	46.8	47.3	50.8	46.0	49.1	45.7	50.4	44.1	51.0	40.2	45.5
Sunday 5 August 2018	39.3	46.2	39.1	48.2	42.4	44.7	40.1	48.4	42.0	49.8	39.0	44.6
Monday 6 August 2018	42.2	48.2	-	-	-	-	45.9	51.1	44.8	52.8	41.5	47.3
Tuesday 7 August 2018	41.3	47.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.5	47.1	40.5	44.4
Median	41.2	47.5	44.5	50.1	44.5	48.7	43.4	48.6	43.6	49.5	40.0	45.4

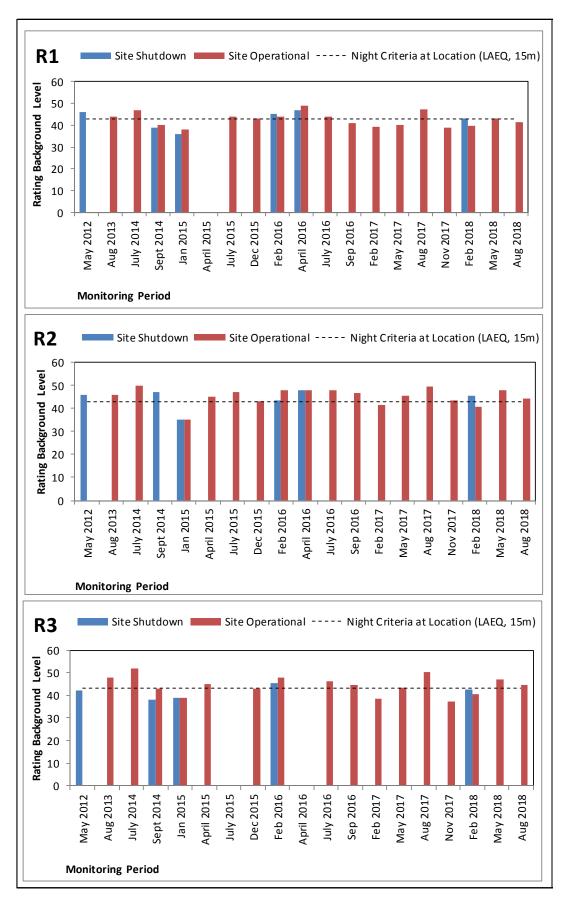


Figure 3-2: Comparison of background noise levels at R1 - R3

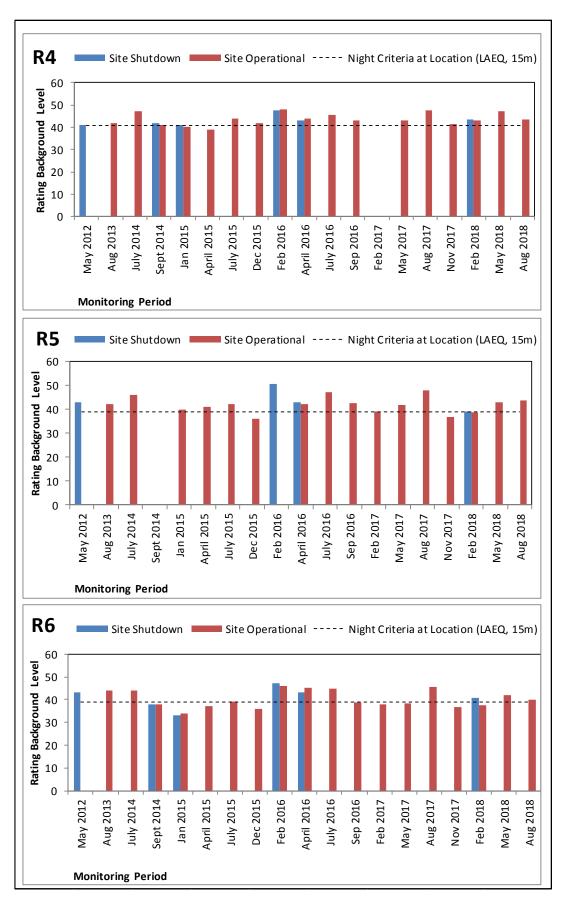


Figure 3-3: Comparison of background noise levels at R4 - R6

### 4. Summary

Orora B9 Paper Mill operations in its current form have been a part of the local noise environment for several years since the decommissioning of the B7 and B8 paper mills. Regular monitoring surveys have been used to collect data at residences in key locations around the paper mill to determine the contribution on ambient noise levels.

In general, the L<sub>Aeq</sub> measured noise levels will exceed the EPL criteria for day, evening, and night time whether the paper mill is operational or shut down indicating that the site does not have a significant influence on the local noise environment.

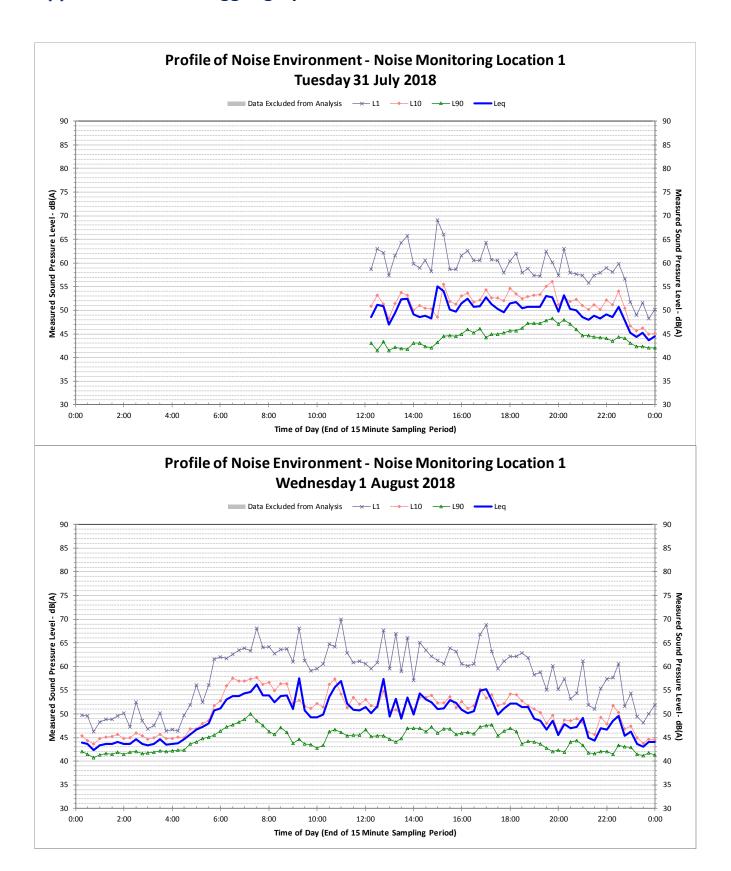
Recent results for the August 2018 monitoring period when the Orora site was operational, indicate that an exceedance of the EPL criteria is apparent at all the representative receiver locations. These exceedances of the  $L_{Aeq}$  criteria are not directly attributable to the operations of the B9 paper mill.

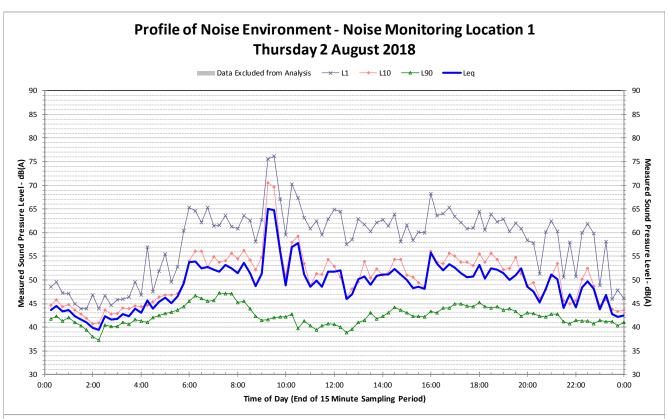
The  $L_{A90}$  results of this latest monitoring survey are marginally higher than the EPL criteria but follow the seasonal trends of higher levels during the winter months. With the meteorological data indicating that noise influences would be directed away from residences during this time, it is expected that the measured noise levels are likely to be due to the influence of higher wind speeds and noise sources other than the ports, or the paper mill.

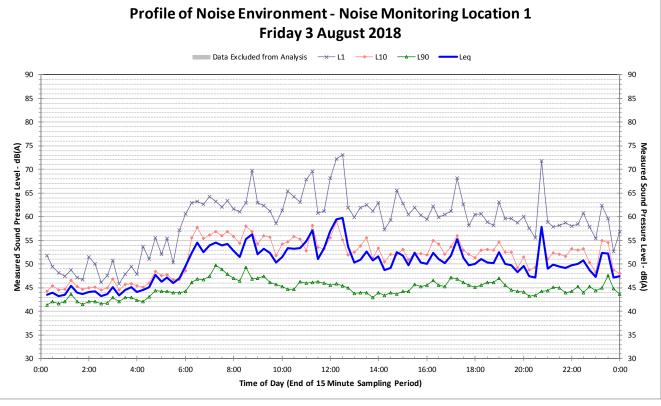
From the August 2018 quarterly monitoring the following conclusions can be drawn:

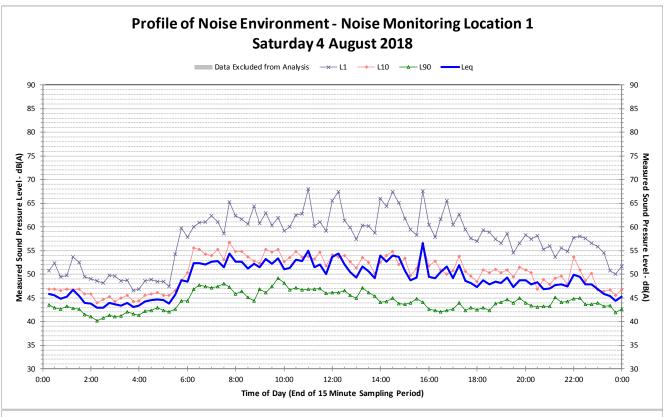
- The most recent noise monitoring results indicate that the measured L<sub>A90</sub> noise levels are higher than the L<sub>Aeq</sub> criteria, but are similar to corresponding seasonal measurement periods.
- Winds typically came from the north west, which tend to minimise any noise influence from Orora and the ports facilities at residential locations.
- The ambient noise environment in the local area is a product of the combined influence of all noise sources within the Port Botany area including the Orora site when operational.

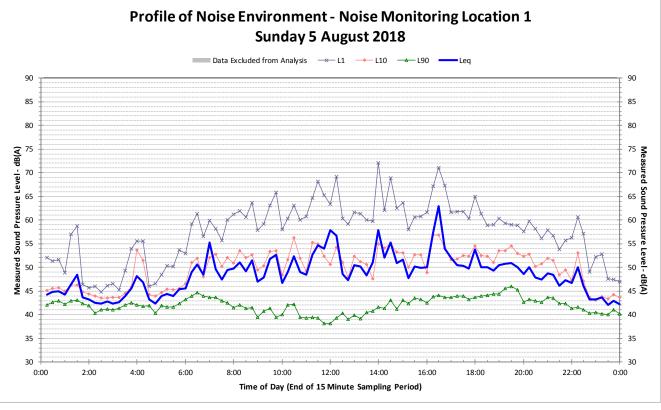
## Appendix A. Noise logger graphs

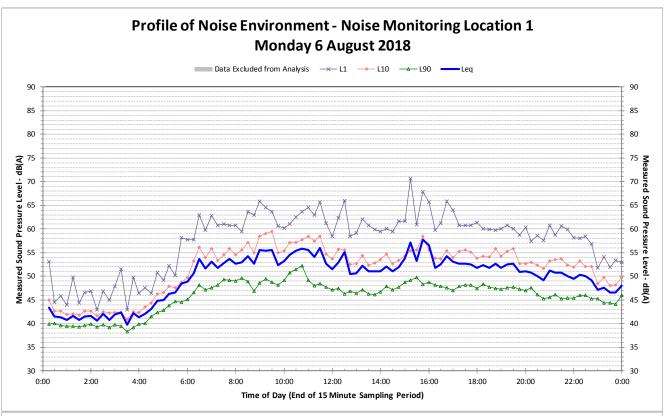


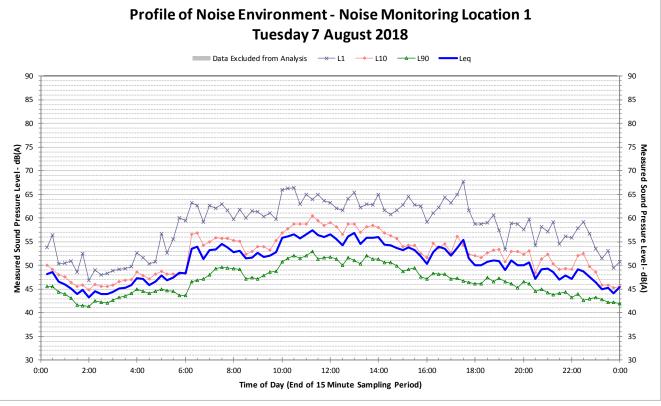


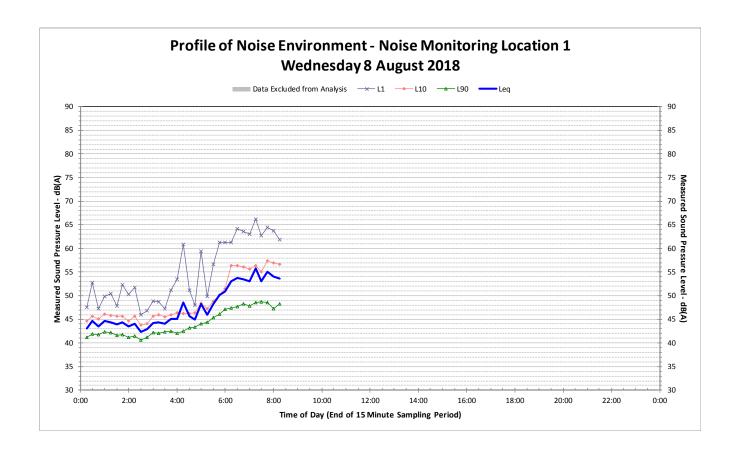


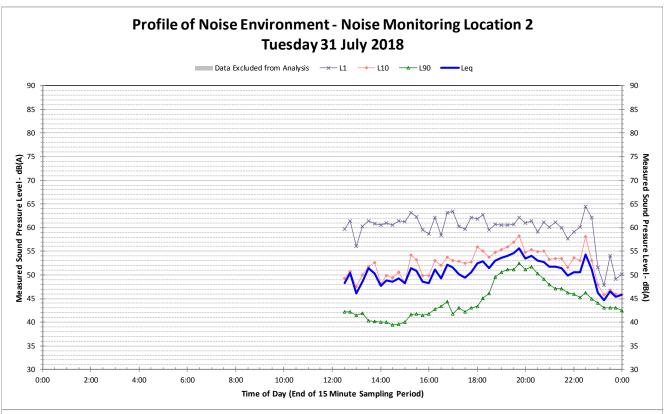


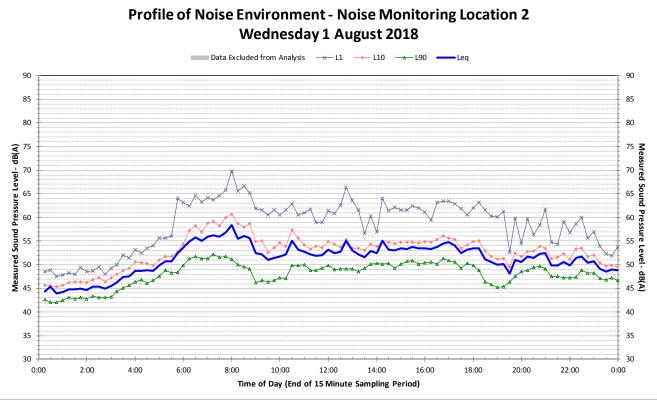


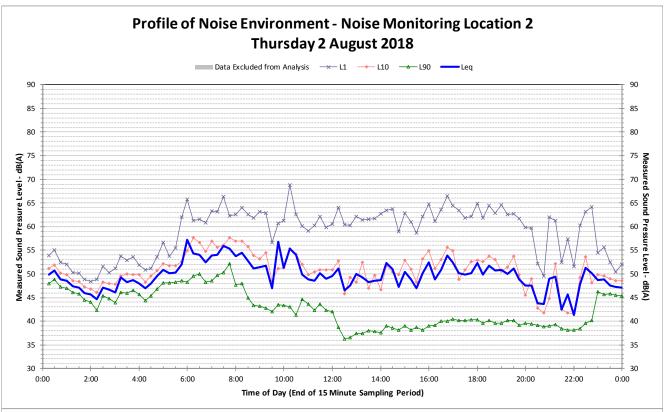


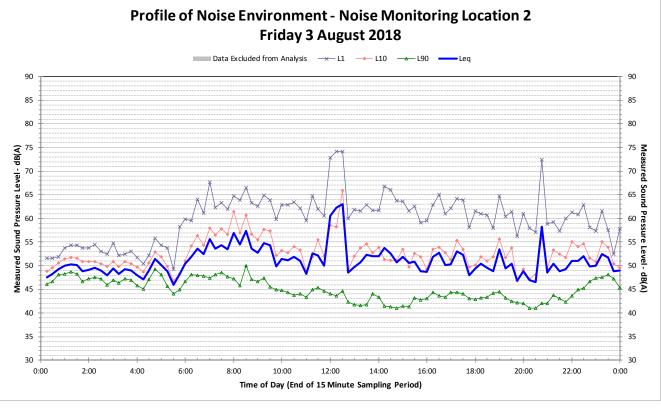


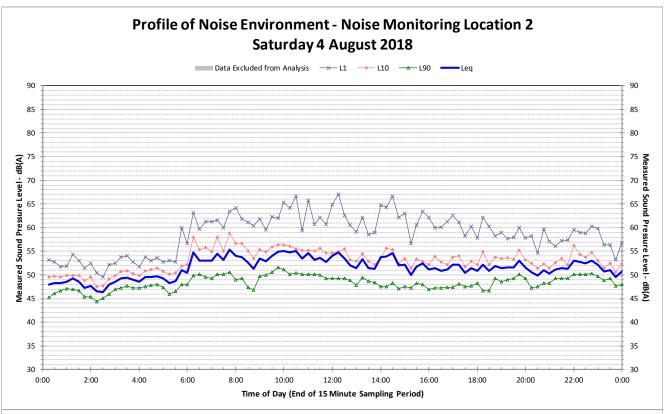


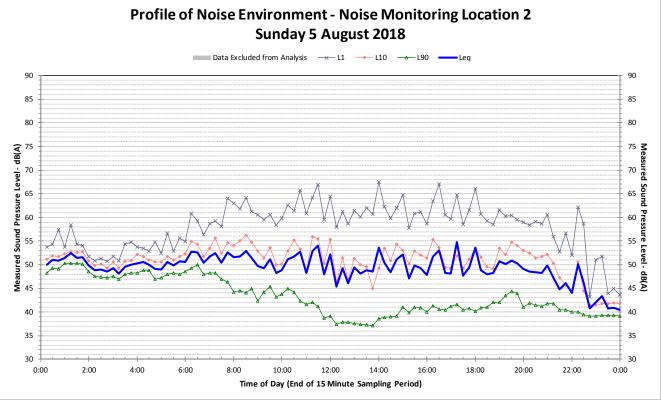


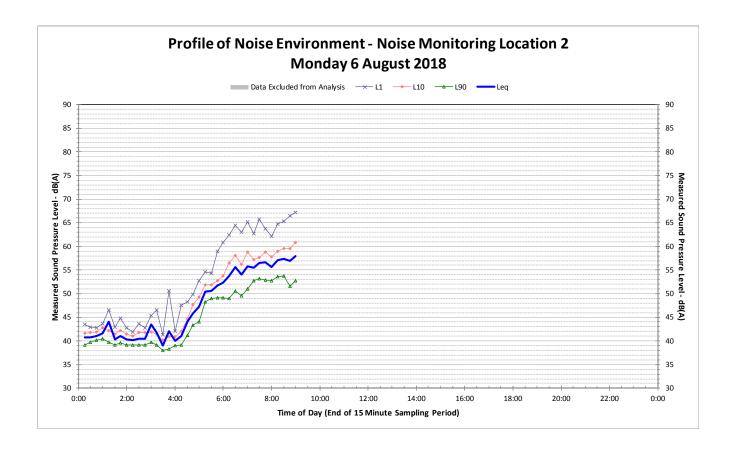


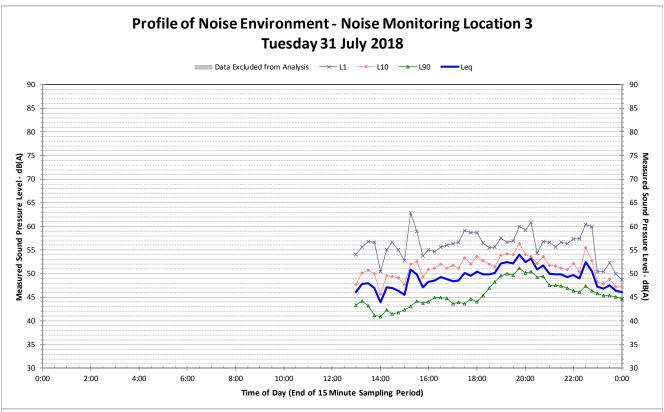


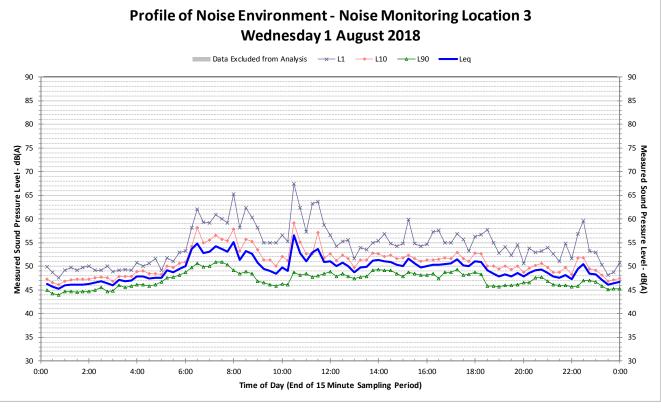


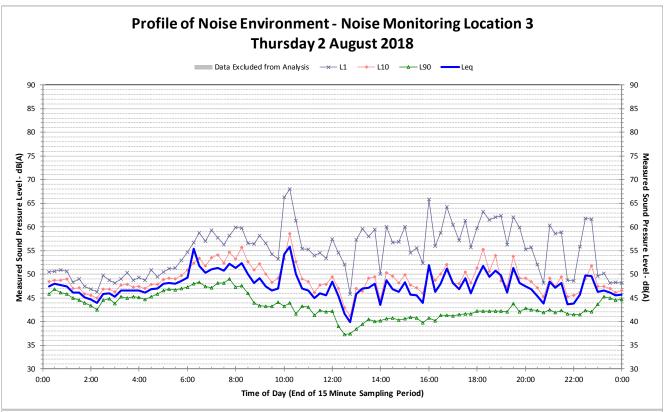


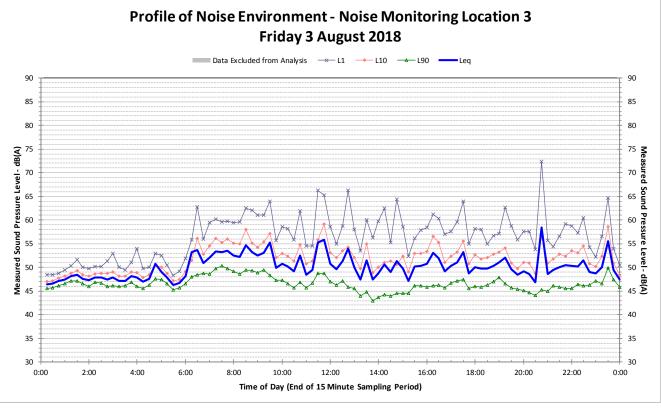


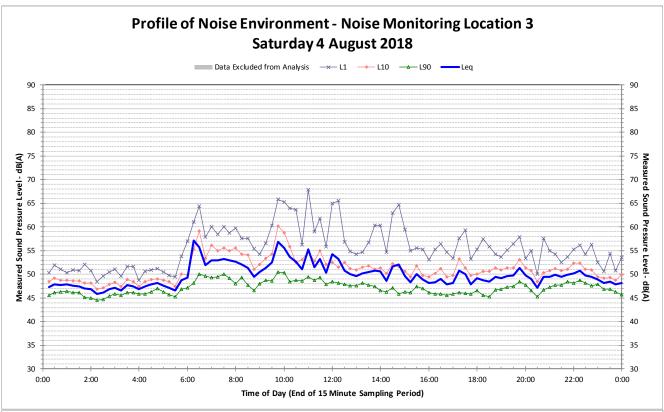


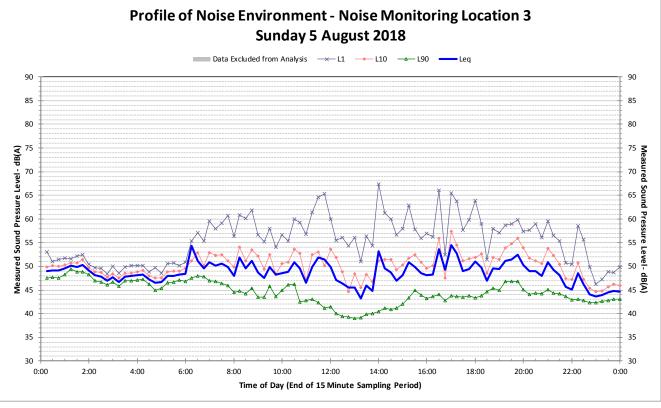


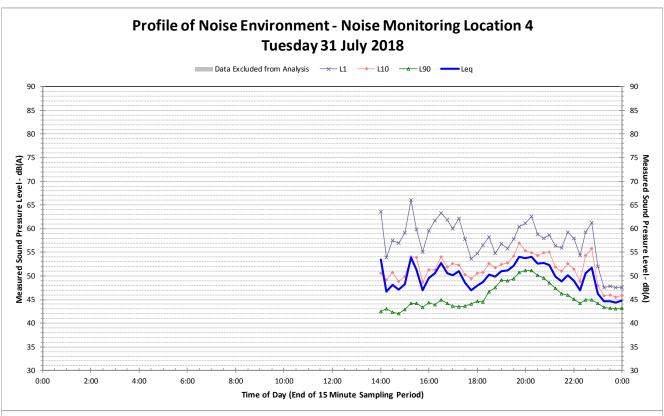


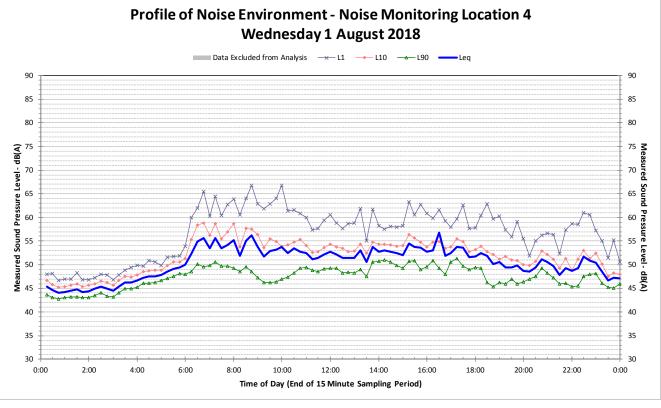


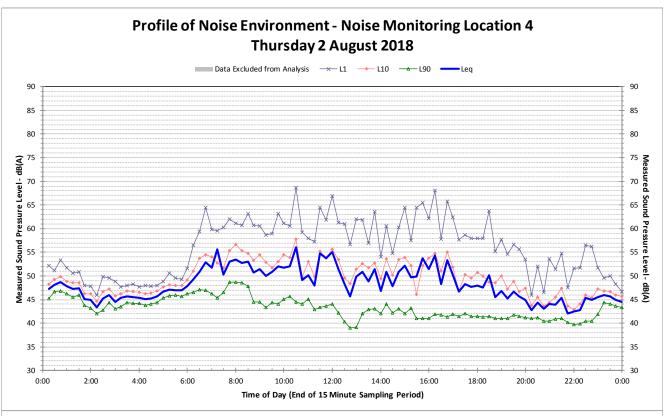


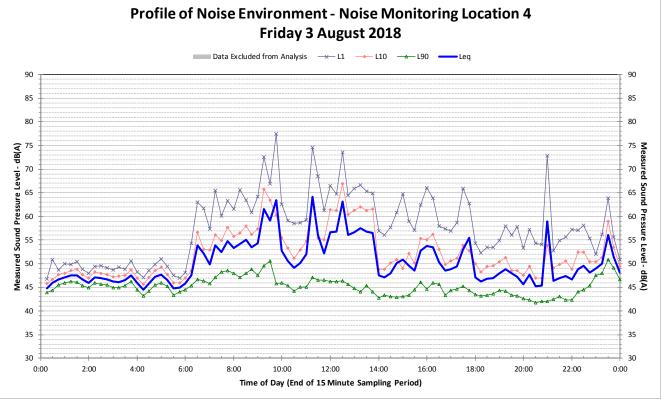


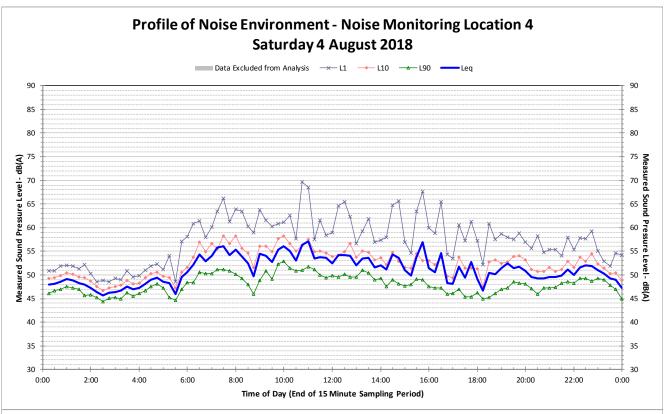


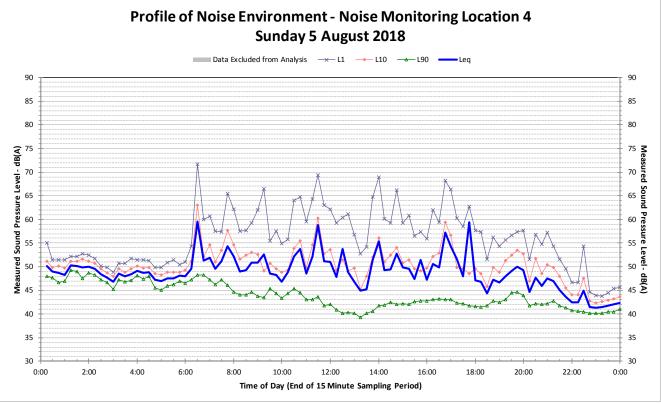


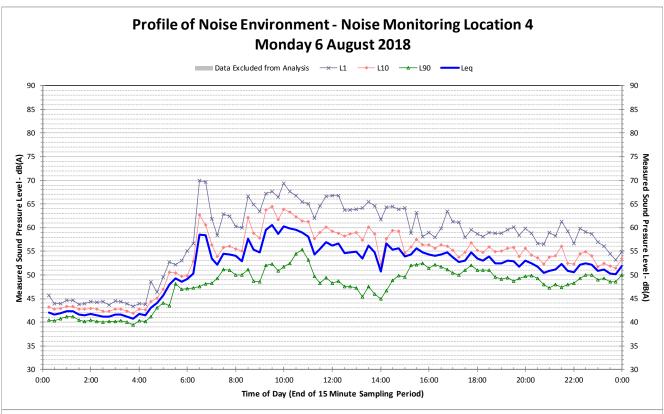


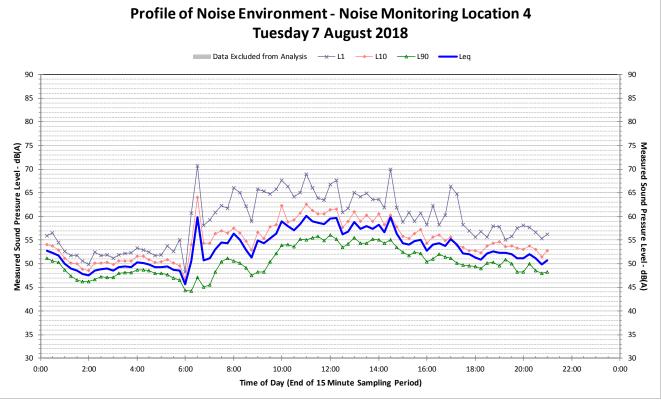


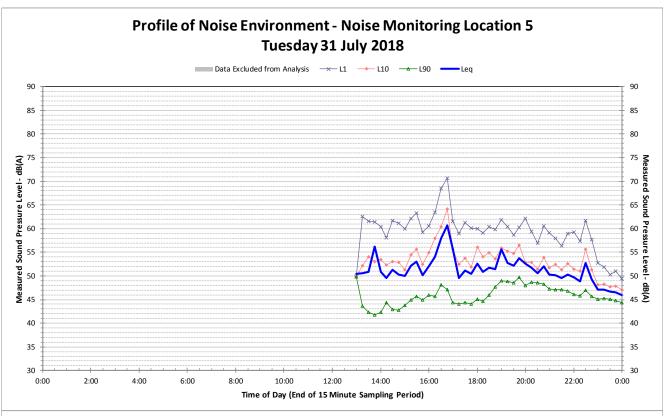


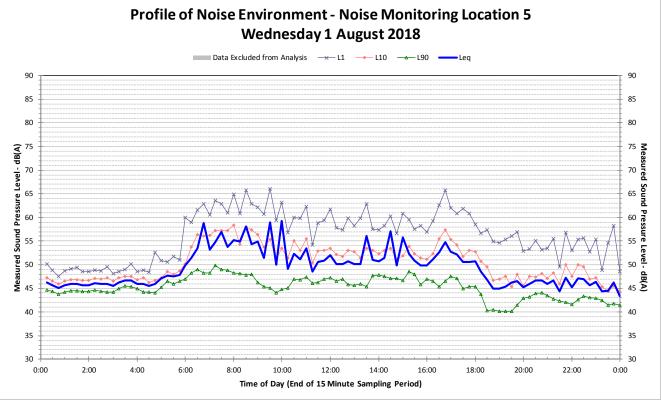


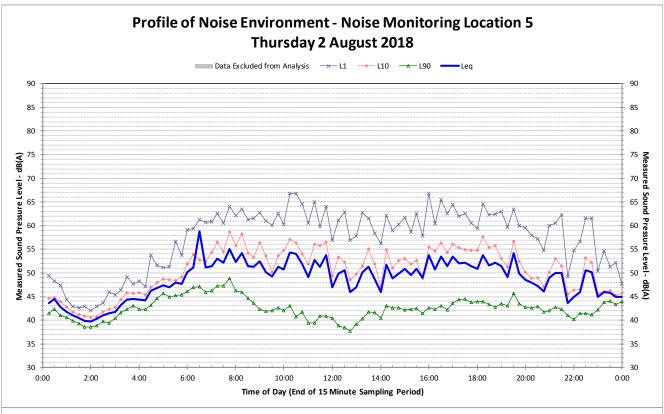


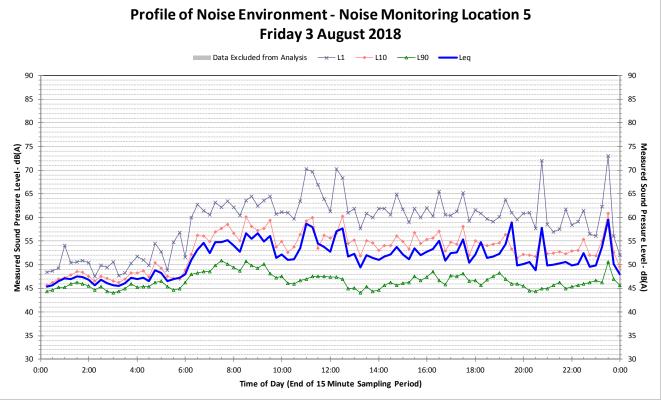


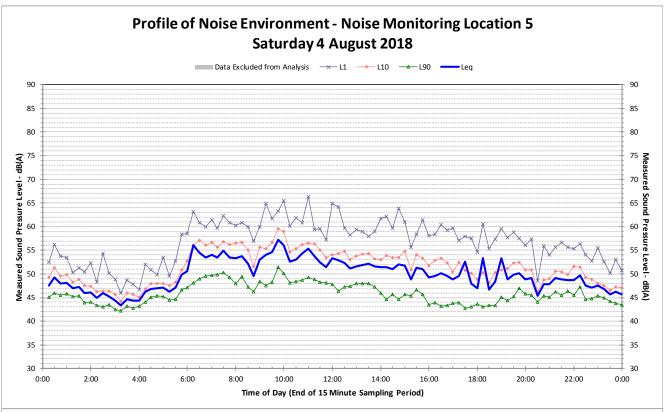


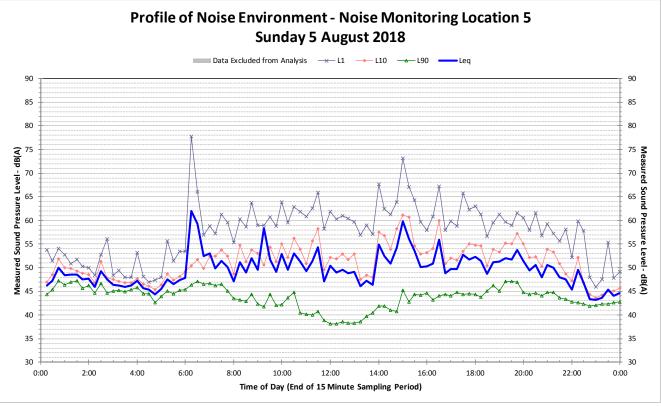


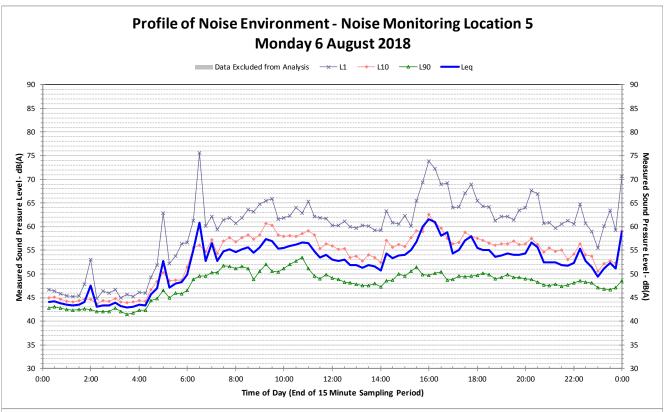


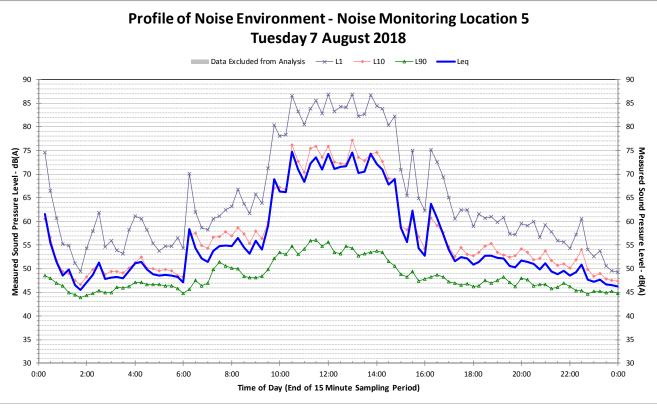


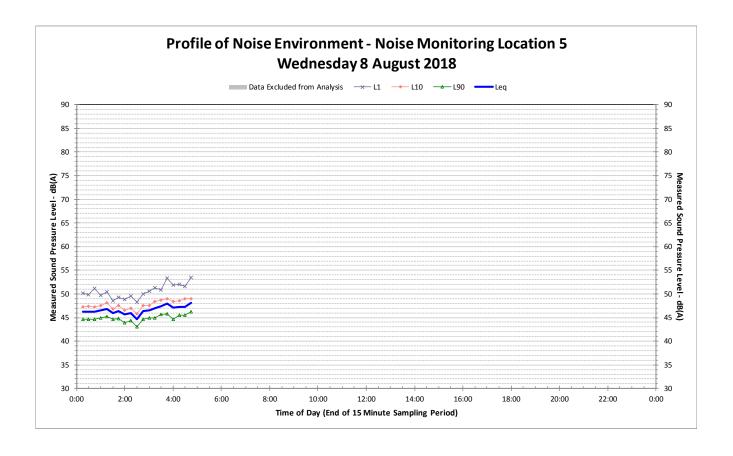


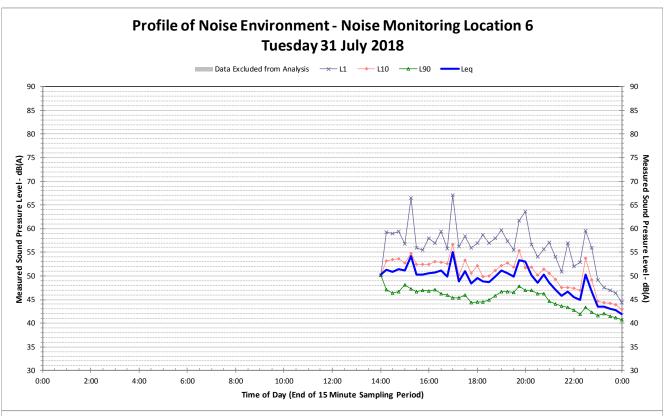


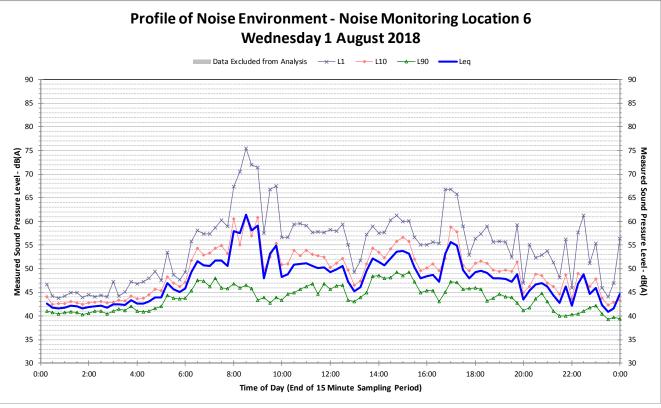


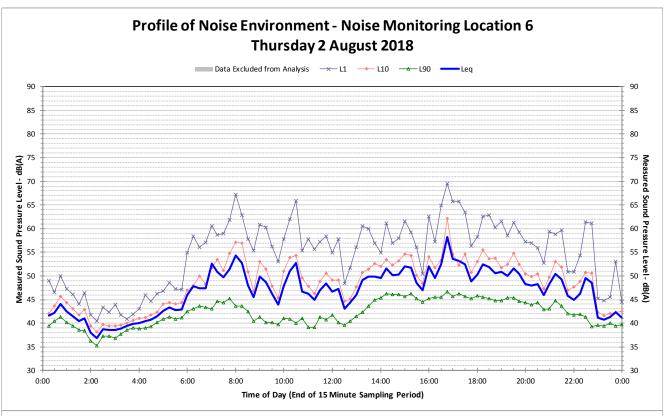


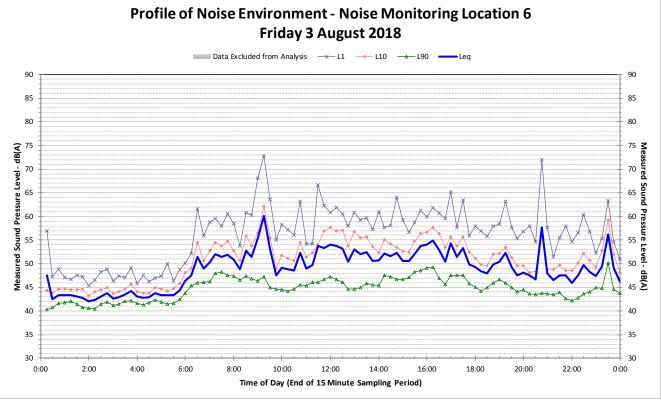


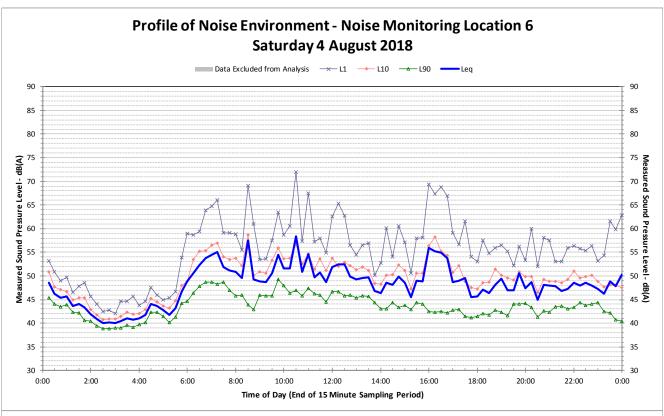


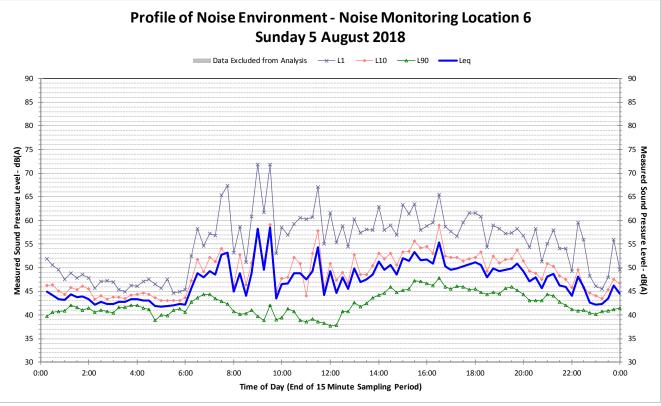


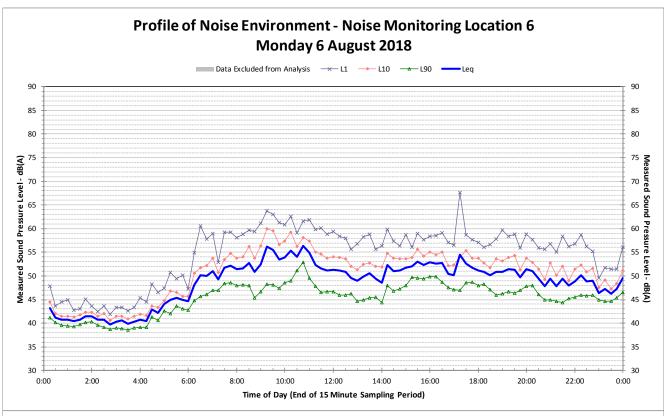


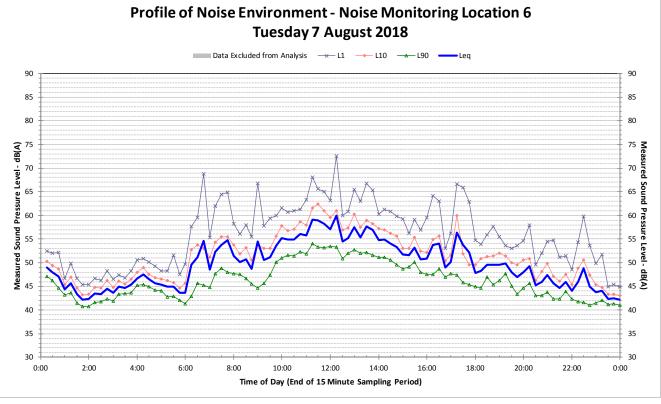


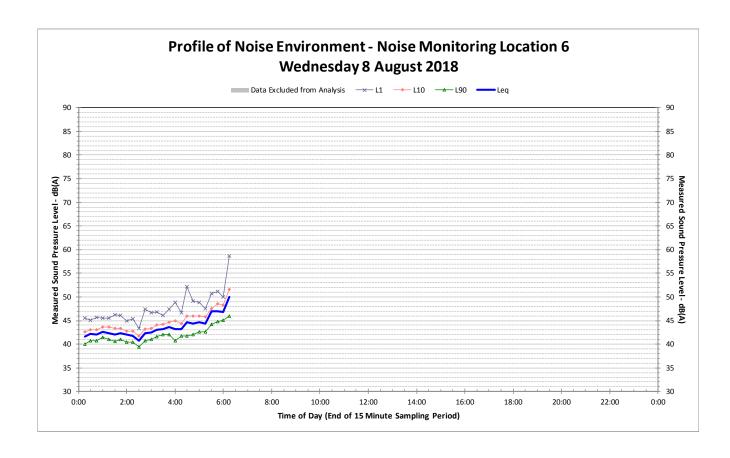












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