

URS

EfW CHP Facility, Devonport

Non-Destructive Testing
Noise Report

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On Tuesday 18th February 2014 noise monitoring was undertaken for MVV Environment Devonport Ltd (MVV) at two sensitive residential receptors close to the site boundary, to determine the noise levels during Non-Destructive Testing (NDT).

The following noise levels were recorded:

- At R3 (Savage Road): 50 dB $L_{Aeq,35min}$ (façade): 1 dB below the baseline;
- At R15 (Talbot Gardens): 44 dB $L_{Aeq,50min}$ (façade): 1 dB above the baseline; and

Noise levels recorded were within the Plymouth City Council's Code of Construction Practice noise limits for weekday evening work and within 1dB of the baseline noise level.

Noise was dominated by road traffic. Only minor site noise was recorded at Savage Road and Talbot Gardens – this was noted as not being louder than other background noises, and potentially unnoticeable to those unaware that NDT was occurring.

1. INTRODUCTION

MVV Environment Devonport Ltd (MVV) undertook Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) outside usual working hours on Tuesday 18th February 2014, between 18:00 and 21:00. MVV commissioned URS to undertake noise monitoring at two sensitive residential receptors close to the site boundary.

This report describes the methodology and findings of the noise survey undertaken on this day.

1.1 Baseline Noise Limits

Baseline noise levels were monitored prior to NDT works commencing; with noise limits set based on Plymouth City Council's Code of Construction Practice. Table 1 shows baseline noise levels and the noise limits.

TABLE 1: BASELINE NOISE LEVELS AND NOISE LIMITS FOR NDT					
Location	Time	Ambient L _{Aeq,4hr} (dB)		Noise Limits (based on façade measurement)	
		Free Field	Façade	L _{Aeq,4hr} ^{*1} dB	L _{Aeq,1hr} dB
R3 (Savage Road)	Weekend	-	54	64	67
	Weekday	-	51	61	64
R15 (Talbot Gardens)	Weekend	-	45	60	63
	Weekday	-	43	58	61

*1 The L_{Aeq,4hr} noise limit shall be applied to all noise measurements of NDT

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The EfW CHP facility is currently being constructed in the North Yard of Her Majesty's Naval Base (HMNB), beside Camels Head junction (the junction between the A3064 and Wolseley Road). The development is located close to a number of residential properties, most noticeably those in Barne Barton to the north of the site.

3. METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The monitoring procedure conformed to BS 7445: 2003 'Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise', with measurements at Savage Road and Talbot Gardens taken 1 metre from the façade of residential receptors at a height of 1.5 metres. Average wind speeds were below 5 ms⁻¹.

4. NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING NOISE SURVEY

4.1 Protocol

Due to the lack of secure monitoring locations, it was not possible to leave equipment unattended. Consequently, manned noise monitoring has been undertaken.

Monitoring was undertaken for a 60 minute period at each of the two locations representative of the closest receptors to the site. The measurements at the two locations were carried out consecutively; logging L_{Aeq} and L_{AFmax} levels in contiguous 5-minute periods.

Table 1 lists the noise monitoring locations as well as the time monitoring was undertaken.

TABLE 2: NOISE MONITORING LOCATION AND TIMINGS				
Location*	Road	Details	Date	Time
R3	Savage Road	Representative of the closest noise sensitive properties to the north west (approx. 100 metres from the Site).	Tuesday 18 th February 2014 (weekday)	18:00 – 19:00
R15	Talbot Gardens	Representative of the closest noise sensitive properties to the north (approx. 60 metres from the Site).	Tuesday 18 th February 2014 (weekday)	19:06 – 20:06

* Correlates with residential receptors for the Environmental Statement for the EFW CHP facility (11/00750/FUL)

4.2 Instrumentation

The sound level meter utilised for the monitoring:

- A B&K 2238 sound level meter, serial number 2562627 was used

Full calibration details are available upon request.

The calibration levels were checked prior to and following the measurements with a:

- B&K 4231 field calibrator, serial number 2217876 and no significant drift was noted (+/- 0.1 dB).

4.3 Meteorological Conditions

Weather conditions during the measurements were as shown below in Table 3.

TABLE 3: WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING NOISE MONITORING					
Location	Date/Time	Max Wind Speed (m/s)	Wind Direction	Temperature	Precipitation
R3	18/02/2014 18:00 – 19:00	0.3	SW	9°C	None
R15	18/02/2014 19:06 – 20:06	0.3	SW	10°C	None

4.4 Commentary

The following observations of local noise sources were made whilst at the site during monitoring:

- At R3 (Savage Road) the noise climate was dominated by local road traffic noise on Savage Road (vehicles and motorbikes) and other surrounding roads (particularly Wolseley Road). There was also noise from the sports pitch in HMNB; and passing trains. In addition, there was also noise from residents and pedestrians parking up and/or walking past. A number of light clangs were noted by the surveyor, which were presumed to originate from site, as well as other quiet unidentified noises, presumed to be noise from NDT operatives moving around within the building. It was noted that this site noise was not louder than other background noise, and potentially unnoticeable to those unaware that NDT was occurring.
- At R15 (Talbot Gardens) the noise climate was dominated by a range of noise from HMNB. Noises from HMNB were varied and included: loudspeaker announcements, noise from the sports pitch (18:45-19:00), and an unidentified hum. In addition, there was also noise from road traffic from surrounding roads (particularly Savage Road and Wolseley Road); passing trains; and occasional noise from vehicles and pedestrians passing on Talbot Gardens; as well as a barking/whining dog on Talbot Gardens throughout the recording. A number of light clangs were noted by the surveyor, which were presumed to originate from site. It was noted that this site noise was not louder than other background noise, and potentially unnoticeable to those unaware that NDT was occurring. Part of the recording was removed from the result, due to noise from residents talking on the balcony close to the SLM.

4.5 Results

The results of noise monitoring undertaken on 18th February 2014 are given below in Table 4.

The full noise survey data for all two sites are provided in Appendix A, Tables A1 and A2.

TABLE 4: BASELINE NOISE LEVELS AND NOISE LIMITS FOR NDT

Location	Date & Time	NDT Noise Level L _{Aeq,50min} (dB)		NDT Noise Level L _{AFmax} (dB)	Baseline Noise Level L _{Aeq,4hr} (dB)		Noise Limits (based on façade measurement)	Difference between NDT Noise Level (L _{Aeq,50min}) and Baseline (L _{Aeq,4hr}) (dB)
		Free Field	Façade	Façade	Free Field	Façade	L _{Aeq,4hr} dB	
R3	18/02/2014 18:00 – 19:00	-	50	70	-	51	61	-1
R15	18/02/2014 19:06 – 20:06	-	44	67	-	43	58	1

The recorded noise levels at both receptors were below the adopted noise limits and within 1dB of the baseline level. The L_{AFmax} events included in Table 4 were not a result of NDT testing, but instead due to off-site noises; excluding the L_{AFmax} at 18:00 on Talbot Gardens, which was due to construction workers leaving the site.

It was noted by the surveyor that NDT works were not the dominant noise source at any location. All site noise from Savage Road and Talbot Gardens was recorded by the surveyor and included in Appendix A, Table A1 and A2. The noise was not intrusive and unlikely to be heard by residents.

It was noted by surveyors that if residents were unaware of NDT occurring, they would unlikely have noticed these minor site noises.

APPENDIX A: FULL NOISE MONITORING RESULTS

Tables A1 and A2 list the full suite of measured noise data.

TABLE A1: SAVAGE ROAD MEASURED NOISE LEVELS					
Date & Start time	Duration	L _{Aeq} (dB)	L _{AFmax} (dB)	L _{AF90} (dB)	Notes
18/02/2014 19:06	05:00.0	49.5	61.1	41	Cats in Blackie Woods; Residents getting out of car further down Savage Road and talking loudly.
18/02/2014 19:11	05:00.0	49.6	62.5	40	Clang on site.
18/02/2014 19:16	05:00.0	52.7	68.9	39.5	Clang on site; Dog barking in flat besides SLM; Pedestrian walking past; Train.
18/02/2014 19:21	05:00.0	50.3	65.7	38.5	
18/02/2014 19:26	05:00.0	51.5	65.5	40.5	Clang on site; Train
18/02/2014 19:31	05:00.0	52.7	69.5	42.5	Car with loud exhaust passes
18/02/2014 19:36	05:00.0	48.3	63.9	41	
18/02/2014 19:41	05:00.0	49.9	67.3	41	Pedestrian walking past with crying toddler; Clang on site.
18/02/2014 19:46	05:00.0	50.9	64.8	41.5	
18/02/2014 19:51	05:00.0	50	64.6	38.5	Train; Clang on site.
18/02/2014 19:56	05:00.0	48	62.1	37.5	Loud 4x4 passing.;
18/02/2014 20:01	05:00.0	46.2	63	37.5	Noise on site, workers moving around.

TABLE A2: TALBOT GARDENS MEASURED NOISE LEVELS

Date & Start time	Duration	L _{Aeq} (dB)	L _{AFmax} (dB)	L _{AF90} (dB)	Notes
18/02/2014 18:00	05:00.0	49.3	61.8	38.5	Noise from site – worker leaving after the day, including vehicles and talking.
18/02/2014 18:05	05:00.0	39.4	52.3	37.5	Loud bird song.
18/02/2014 18:10	05:00.0	41.8	51.7	38	
18/02/2014 18:15	05:00.0				Residents talking loudly on balcony besides SLM.
18/02/2014 18:20	05:00.0	40.1	53.6	36.5	Shouting in distance; Train; Clang on site.
18/02/2014 18:25	05:00.0	39.4	47.2	37	Banging in HMNB, including vehicle engine noise; Distant siren.
18/02/2014 18:30	05:00.0	47.4	66.7	37.5	HMNB tannoy announcements; Train x2; Residents talking loudly on balcony besides SLM.
18/02/2014 18:35	05:00.0				Residents talking loudly on balcony besides SLM; Residents talking loudly on balcony besides SLM.
18/02/2014 18:40	05:00.0				Residents talking loudly on balcony besides SLM.
18/02/2014 18:45	05:00.0	39.6	56.9	37.5	Sports pitch noise
18/02/2014 18:50	05:00.0	39.8	54.9	36.5	Sports pitch noise
18/02/2014 18:55	05:00.0	39.6	52.1	36	Sports pitch noise