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# **QUARTERLY NOISE MONITORING ASSESSMENT – QUARTER 3 2023 LYNWOOD QUARRY, MARULAN, NSW**

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QUARTER 3 2023  
LYNWOOD QUARRY, MARULAN, NSW**

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September 2023 at Marulan, NSW, as part of the noise monitoring program**

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

<b>Ambient Noise</b>	The all-encompassing noise within a given environment. It is the composite of sounds from many sources, both near and far.
<b>Background noise</b>	The underlying level of noise present in the ambient noise, excluding the noise source under investigation, when extraneous noise is removed. This is described using the LA90 descriptor (see below).
<b>dB</b>	Abbreviation for decibel, a measure of sound equivalent to 20 times the logarithm (to base 10) of the ratio of a given sound pressure to a reference pressure, and 10 times the logarithm of a given sound power to a reference power.
<b>dB(A)</b>	A measure of A-weighted sound levels. A Weighting is an adjustment made to the sound level measurement to approximate the response of the human ear.
<b>Extraneous noise</b>	Noise resulting from activities that are not typical of the area. Atypical activities may include construction, and traffic generated by holiday periods. Normal daily traffic is not extraneous noise.
<b>LA1</b>	The noise level, measured in dB(A), which is exceeded for 1 per cent of the measurement period.
<b>LA1(1min)</b>	The noise level, measured in dB(A), which is exceeded for 1 per cent of the time over a 1-minute measurement period, i.e., is exceeded for 0.6 seconds. This measure can approximate to the maximum noise level but may be less if there is more than 1 noise event during this 0.6 second period.
<b>LA10</b>	The noise level, measured in dB(A), which is exceeded for 10 per cent of the time.
<b>LA90</b>	The noise level, measured in dB(A), which is exceeded for 90 per cent of the time, referred to as the background noise level. This is considered to represent the background noise (see above).
<b>LAeq</b>	The level of noise equivalent to the energy average of noise levels occurring over a defined measurement period.
<b>LAeq (period)</b>	The average equivalent noise level, measured in dB(A), during a measurement period (e.g., 15-minute, day, evening, or night).
<b>LAm<sub>ax</sub></b>	The A-weighted sound pressure level that represents the maximum noise level measured over the time that a given sound is measured.
<b>NMA</b>	Noise Monitoring Assessment
<b>NMP</b>	Noise Management Plan
<b>SPL</b>	The Sound Pressure Level. Sound pressure is the fluctuation in air pressure, from the steady atmospheric pressure, created by sound. The sound pressure level is the sound pressure expressed on a decibel scale.

Source: Noise Guide for Local Government (NSW EPA, 2023)

# 1. OVERVIEW

## 1.1 Project Driver

Ramboll Australia Pty Ltd (Ramboll) has been commissioned by Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd (Holcim) to complete a Noise Monitoring Assessment (NMA) for Lynwood Quarry (“the quarry”) at Marulan, NSW.

This NMA was done in accordance with the following documents:

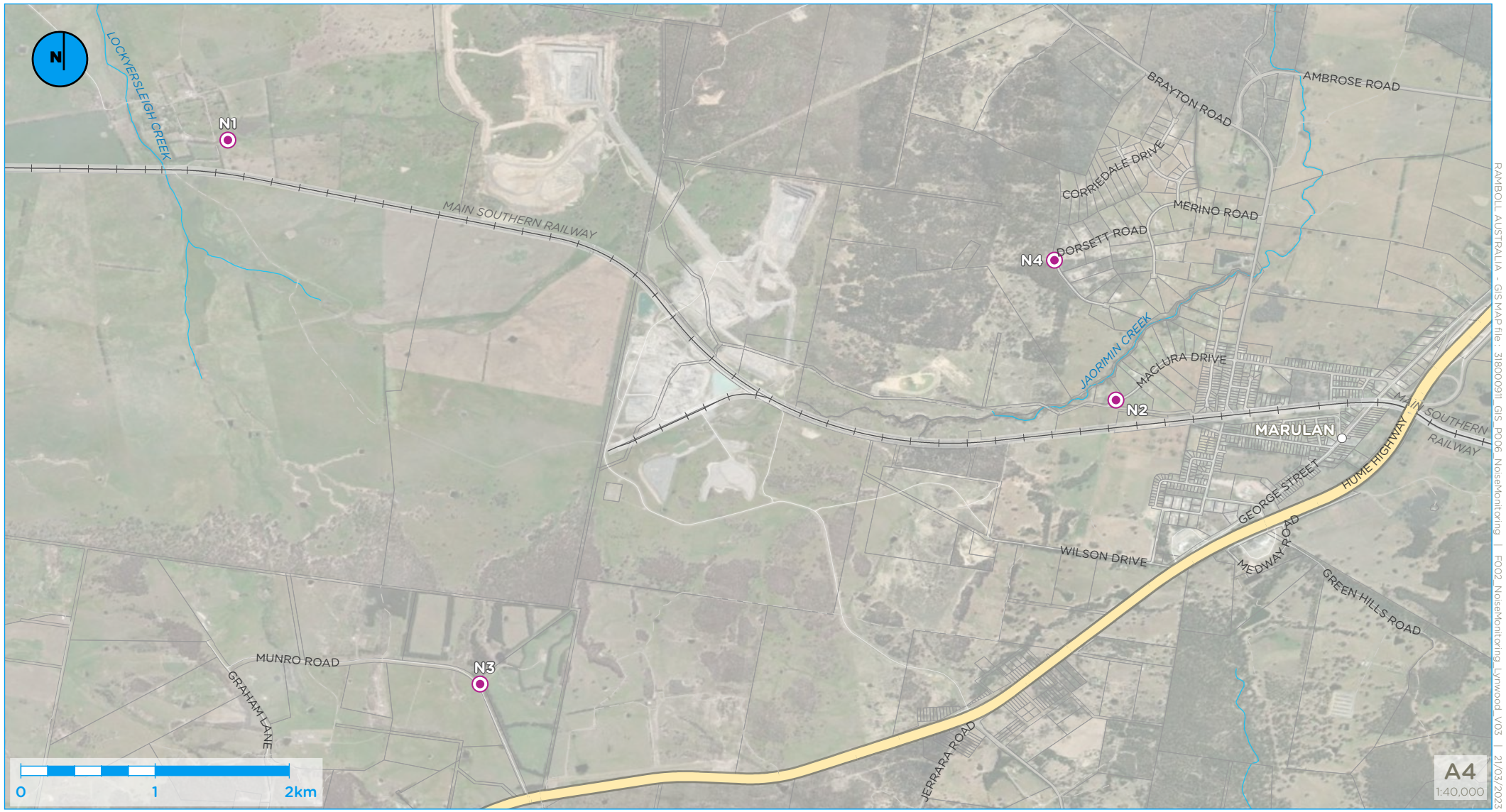
- Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI) (NSW EPA, 2017).
- Lynwood Quarry Noise Management Plan (NMP) (Holcim Australia, 2019).
- Environment Protection Licence (EPL) number 12939 (NSW EPA, 2021).
- Development Consent DA 128-5-2005 (Minister for Planning, 2017).
- Australian Standard AS 1055:2018 Acoustics — Description and measurement of environmental noise (Standards Australia, 2018).
- IEC 60942 Ed. 3.0 b:2003 Electroacoustics - Sound calibrators (Standards Australia, 2003).

This NMA has been undertaken for the quarterly period July to September 2023, and forms part of the monitoring program to determine compliance with conditions of the Development Consent.

## 1.2 Site Location and Sensitive Receptors

The quarry is located at 278 Stoney Creek Road, approximately 4 km to the west of the Marulan railway station and town centre. Sensitive receptors surrounding the quarry are primarily rural and residential (to the west of the site). The Hume Highway is located to the east and south of the quarry. Highway traffic (Hume Highway) is a dominant noise source.

The monitoring locations with respect to the quarry and assessed receivers are presented in the locality plan in **Figure 1**.



**Legend**  
 ● Noise monitoring location



Figure 1: Noise monitoring locations at Lynwood Quarry



## 2. NOISE CRITERIA

**Table 2-1** includes the applicable noise criteria outlined in the Development Consent and the EPL for the 16 residential receivers surrounding the quarry (L1–L16), and the four monitoring locations adopted from the NMP that are deemed representative and applicable for this NMA (N1–N4). It should be noted that the original location of N3 (on the northern boundary of 16038 Hume Highway, Marulan) continues to be inaccessible and as such N3 has been relocated to a nearby residential receiver approximately 900 m to the west on Munro Road, Marulan (**Figure 1**) where all future monitoring will take place. This revised location is deemed representative and applicable for this NMA.

**Table 2-1: Monitoring locations and noise criteria**

EPL ID	Receiver Description	Monitoring Locations		Day <sup>1</sup>	Evening <sup>2</sup>	Night <sup>3</sup>	Night <sup>3</sup>
		NMP ID	Address	LAeq (15min)	LAeq (15min)	LAeq (15min)	LA1 (1min)
				dBA			
L1	West of the Granite Pit.	N1	1114 Carrick Road, Marulan	35	35	35	45
L2	Northeast of the site	-	-	35	35	35	45
L3	Northeast of the site	-	-	35	35	35	45
L4	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	35	37	35	46
L5	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	35	35	35	46
L6	East of the site in Marulan	N2	End of Maclura Drive, Marulan	35	37	36	46
L7	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	38	38	35	55
L8	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	39	38	36	55
L9	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	39	39	37	56
L10	Southeast of the site in Old Marulan	-	-	42	42	40	53
L11	South of the site	N3	127 Munro Rd, Carrick	35	35	36	47
L12	East of the site in Marulan	N4	Corner of Dorsett and Suffolk Road, Marulan	37	37	36	47
L13	East of the site in Marulan	-	-	40	38	37	47
L14	South of the site	-	-	35	35	35	47
L15	South of the site	-	-	35	35	35	47
L16	Northeast of the site	-	-	35	35	35	45

<sup>1</sup> 7 am–6 pm Monday to Saturday and 8 am–6 pm Sunday and public holidays  
<sup>2</sup> 6 pm–10 pm Monday to Sunday  
<sup>3</sup> 10 pm–7 am Monday to Saturday and 10 pm–8 am Sunday and public holidays

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The monitoring program was designed in accordance with the procedures described in Australian Standard AS 1055:2018 and the Approval Documents referenced in Section 1. The measurements were carried out using a RION Sound Level Meter NL-52 on Monday 4 September, Tuesday 5 September and Thursday 7 September 2023. The acoustic instrumentation used carries current NATA calibration and complies with AS/NZS IEC 61672-1:2013/2002 class 1. Calibration of all instrumentation was checked prior to and following measurements using a Pulsar Acoustic Calibrator 105 which carried a current NATA calibration and complies with IEC 60942:2003. Drift in calibration did not exceed  $\pm 0.3$  dBA.

Attended noise monitoring was conducted for 15-minutes in duration during the day, evening, and night periods over three days. Where possible, throughout each measurement the operator quantified the contribution of each significant noise source.

Where the quarry was not distinctly audible during the attended monitoring, the quarry contribution is estimated to be at least 10 dBA below the ambient noise level, as determined by the LA90.



## 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Location N1

Noise monitoring at location N1 was conducted on Monday 4 September 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023 and Thursday 7 September 2023. Noise from the quarry was inaudible during the day, evening, and night monitoring periods, with the ambient noise environment dominated by wind, birds, insects, barking dogs and a passing train. The results meet the established noise criteria and indicate that noise emissions from Lynwood Quarry did not contribute to noise nuisance at the time of the monitoring. The results and observations taken during the monitoring events at Location N1 are presented in **Table 4-1**.

**Table 4-1: Noise survey results and observations for Location N1**

Date	Time	Descriptor (dBA)			Meteorology	Apparent Noise Source, Description and SPL (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LAeq(15min) Contribution (dBA)	LAeq(15min) Criteria (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LA1(1min) Contribution (dBA)	LA1(1min) Criteria (dBA)
		LA1	LAeq	LA90						
04-09-23	12:58pm to 1:13pm (Day)	48.1	41.3	35.6	WD: - WS: - Rain: -	Wind/trees 39-46 Birds 35-50 Dog barking 34-45 Quarry inaudible	<26	35	n/a	n/a
05-09-23	6:07pm to 6:22pm (Evening)	59.2	51.5	46.1	WD: 57° WS: 3.2 m/s Rain: Nil	Wind/dog barking continuously 44-46 Quarry inaudible	<36 <sup>1</sup>	35	n/a	n/a
07-09-23	5:27am to 5:42am (Night)	48.3	39.8	30.3	WD: n/a WS: 0 m/s Rain: Nil	Birds 59 Train 41-47 Insects 30-35 Quarry inaudible	<20	35	<48 <sup>2</sup>	45

<sup>1</sup> Exceedance 1dB is considered negligible.

<sup>2</sup> Measured LA1 was dominated by birds and a passing train.

## 4.2 Location N2

Noise monitoring at location N2 was conducted on Monday 4 September 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023 and Thursday 7 September 2023. Noise from the quarry was inaudible during the day, evening, and night monitoring periods, with the ambient noise environment dominated by birds, insects, wind, aircraft, a passing train, and motorway traffic. The results meet the established noise criteria and indicate that noise emissions from Lynwood Quarry did not contribute to noise nuisance at the time of the monitoring. The results and observations taken during the monitoring events at Location N2 are presented in **Table 4-12**.

**Table 4-2 Noise survey results and observations for Location N2**

Date	Time	Descriptor (dBA)				Meteorology	Apparent Noise Source, Description and SPL (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LAeq(15min) Contribution (dBA)	LAeq(15min) Criteria (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LA1(1min) Contribution (dBA)	LA1(1min) Criteria (dBA)
		LA1	LAmax	LAeq	LA90						
04-09-23	2:11pm to 2:26pm (Day)	42.9	50.4	34.6	32	WD: 215° WS: 1.5 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic 29-34 Birds/insects 30-34 Passing train 34-50 Quarry inaudible	<22	35	n/a	n/a
05-09-23	7:10pm to 7:25pm (Evening)	54.2	58.7	45.6	42.4	WD: 271° WS: 1.2 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic/wind/frogs 44-56 Aircraft 52-56 Quarry inaudible	<32	37	n/a	n/a
07-09-23	6:21am to 6:36am (Night)	53.5	59.5	50.3	48.6	WD: n/a WS: 0 m/s Rain: Nil	Background motorway traffic/birds 46-59 Quarry inaudible	<36 <sup>1</sup>	36	<54 <sup>2</sup>	46

<sup>1</sup> Contribution of quarry operation was estimated to be below 46 dBA based on the observed SPL.

<sup>2</sup> Measured LA1 was dominated by birds and motorway traffic.

### 4.3 Location N3

Noise monitoring at location N3 was conducted on Monday 4 September 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023 and Thursday 7 September 2023. Noise from the quarry was inaudible during the day, evening, and night monitoring periods, with the ambient noise environment dominated by wind, birds, frogs and background motorway traffic. The results meet the established noise criteria and indicate that noise emissions from Lynwood Quarry did not contribute to noise nuisance at the time of the monitoring. The results and observations taken during the monitoring events at Location N3 are presented in **Table 4-13**.

**Table 4-3: Noise survey results and observations for Location N3**

Date	Time	Descriptor (dBA)				Meteorology	Apparent Noise Source, Description and SPL (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LAeq(15min) Contribution (dBA)	LAeq(15min) Criteria (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LA1(1min) Contribution (dBA)	LA1(1min) Criteria (dBA)
		LA1	LAmax	LAeq	LA90						
04-09-23	2:49pm to 3:04pm (Day)	47.8	58.2	39.1	34.7	WD: n/a WS: 0 m/s Rain: Nil	Birds (continuous squawking) 31-58 Quarry inaudible	<25	35	n/a	n/a
05-09-23	7:35pm to 7:50pm (Evening)	54.2	57.6	47.9	44.2	WD: 271° WS: 2.4 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic/wind/frogs 40-57 Quarry inaudible	<34	35	n/a	n/a
07-09-23	6:45am to 7:00am (Night)	50.9	62.9	46.3	43.6	WD: n/a WS: 0 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic 44-45 Birds 42-62 Quarry inaudible	<34	<36	<51 <sup>1</sup>	47

<sup>1</sup> Measured LA1 was dominated by birds and road traffic.

#### 4.4 Location N4

Noise monitoring at location N4 was conducted on Monday 4 September 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023 and Thursday 7 September 2023. Noise from the quarry was inaudible during the day, evening, and night monitoring periods, with the ambient noise environment dominated by birds, wind, and road traffic. The results meet the established noise criteria and indicate that noise emissions from Lynwood Quarry did not contribute to noise nuisance at the time of the monitoring. The results and observations taken during the monitoring events at location N4 are presented in **Table 4-1**.

**Table 4-4: Noise survey results and observations for Location N4**

Date	Time	Descriptor (dBA)			Meteorology	Apparent Noise Source, Description and SPL (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LAeq(15min) Contribution (dBA)	LAeq(15min) Criteria (dBA)	Lynwood Quarry LA1(1min) Contribution (dBA)	LA1(1min) Criteria (dBA)
		LA1	LAeq	LA90						
04-09-23	1:43pm to 1:58pm (Day)	44.1	36	31.7	WD: 211° WS: 1.4 m/s Rain: Nil	Birds 32-37 Quarry inaudible	<22	37	n/a	n/a
05-09-23	6:46pm to 7:01pm (Evening)	48.6	40.7	35.7	WD: 283° WS: 2.4 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic/wind 37-39 Train 40-47 Quarry inaudible	<26	37	n/a	n/a
07-09-23	6:00am to 6:15am (Night)	51.1	45.6	42.9	WD: n/a WS: 0 m/s Rain: Nil	Background road traffic/birds 40-58 Quarry inaudible	<33	36	<51 <sup>1</sup>	47

<sup>1</sup> Measured LA1 was dominated by birds and road traffic.

## 5. CONCLUSION

This NMA was completed by Ramboll at the Holcim Lynwood Quarry, Marulan, NSW as a quarterly requirement of the NMP. Monitoring was carried out on Monday 4 September 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023 and Thursday 7 September 2023 at four locations selected as representative to the sensitive receptors at the surroundings to Lynwood Quarry. No audible noise from quarry operations was recorded at any of the four locations during the day, evening, and night periods. A negligible exceedance was observed at N1 during the evening monitored period with an estimated quarry contribution of 36 LAeq (15min) dBA against a criteria of 35 LAeq (15min) dBA. The LA1 quarry contribution also exceeded the LA1(1min) (dBA) criteria for all locations but it was noted that LA1 was dominated by birds, road traffic and/or a passing train at each location.

The results presented in this NMA show compliance with the relevant noise criteria at the Holcim Lynwood Quarry, Marulan, NSW, except for the evening monitored period at N1 and the night LA1 contributions at all locations.

## 6. REFERENCES

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