NSW EPA

Our reference: EF13/8295 DOC14/261308
Contact: Peter Lynch 66402502

Lisa Kennedy
Kempsey Shire Council
PO Box 3078
West Kempsey NSW 2440

6 NOV 2014

Dear Ms Kennedy

Church Hill Quarry on Crescent Head Road the assessment of noise from construction activities.

I refer to your letter of 28 August 2014 and accompanying information concerning the development application for the quarry on Crescent Head Road and the EPA response to this letter.

The EPA understood that the proponent had sought a specific 'construction phase' in relation to noise management. However the EPA received correspondence from Mr Warren Wells of Balmain Lawyers on 13/10/2014 on behalf of the proponent advising that the proponent is not seeking a specific 'construction phase' and relation to noise management.

The *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, July 2009) specifies that the noise management level for works during the recommended standard hours is background + 10 dB(A).

The consultant for the project Mr Ben Luffman has provided the following advice:

"The construction phase only involves the excavation of the access road from the property boundary to the quarry pit to make it relatively level. This would reduce the noise from the trucks accessing the quarry by removing the hill that they would need to climb. The cut would also create a noise barrier to those residents to the east that is longer and higher than the noise wall recommended in the EIS, further reducing truck noise.

The construction technique would be identical to the operation of the quarry and essentially involve the extraction of material until the design level is reached. It is anticipated that the construction would be undertaken as a priority following approval and is likely to take a few weeks. The construction would be done during normal construction hours as per the EIS."

Based on this advice the EPA sees no need to amend the general terms of approval to add conditions pertaining to the construction phase. During the brief construction period the acceptable noise level based on the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* is:

L Aeq (15 minute) noise emission criterion of 49 dB(A) for receivers R1, R2, R3, R7, R8, R13, R14, R15, R16, R17, R18, R19, R20 and R21 and L Aeq (15 minute) of 43 dB(A) for Receivers R4, R5, R6, R9, R10, R11 and R12.

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Should you require further information, please contact Peter Lynch on 66402502.

Yours sincerely

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