

White Bay Berth 4 Bulk Liquids Handling
Stolt Momiji
Ship Noise Monitoring Report

Report Number 10-4309-R39

4 March 2011

Sydney Ports Corporation 207 Kent Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

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# White Bay Berth 4 Bulk Liquids Handling Stolt Momiji Ship Noise Monitoring Report

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## **DOCUMENT CONTROL**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

SLR Consulting Pty Ltd (formerly Heggies Pty Ltd) has been commissioned by Sydney Ports Corporation (SPC) to conduct monitoring of noise emissions during the loading of the Stolt Momiji (a bulk liquids vessel) at White Bay Berth 4 (WB-4), as required under Clause M7.1(1a) of the EPA's Environment Protection Licence (Licence No 12095).

The Stolt Momiji vessel berthed at approximately 9.15 am on 11 February 2011 and departed at 3.03 am on the 12 February 2011. Noise measurements were carried out at nearby residential receivers during Stolt Momiji vessel cargo handling operations during the evening and night of 11 February 2011.

The measured noise levels were found to be potentially influenced by local traffic, Anzac Bridge traffic, aircraft and the general urban hum. A reference noise measurement was therefore carried out in close proximity to the Stolt Momiji vessel, where the noise environment was dominated by the WB-4 based bulk liquids cargo handling noise sources. The reference noise level was then used to predict noise levels at the representative receivers, for comparison with the attended measurements and Licence goals.

Predicted ship based LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goals at the representative location in Pyrmont. At Balmain, the measured and predicted LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goals. At Balmain, the predicted LAeq(night) noise level exceeds the noise goal by 2 dBA.

At Balmain bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels met the Licence imposed noise goals. At Pyrmont bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels could not be measured above the ambient noise.

Subject to feasibility, practicality and reasonability, the potential noise control measures that may be considered in order to meet the Licence imposed noise goals (as required by Condition R4.1) and ensure noise amenity remains unchanged in the area would be the implementation of an On-site Noise Management Strategy. Noise impact mitigation measures have been evaluated in the Revised Noise Impact Mitigation and Management Strategy (Report 10-4309-R10 Revision 1), with a list of mitigation measures considered feasible and reasonable identified in the Noise Impact Mitigation Action Plan.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

SLR Consulting has been commissioned by Sydney Ports Corporation (SPC) to conduct monitoring of noise emissions during the loading of the "Stolt Momiji" (a bulk liquids vessel) at White Bay Berth 4 (WB-4), as required under Clause M7.1(1a) of the EPA's Environment Protection Licence (Licence No 12095).

Noise measurements were conducted when the ship was berthed at the completion of cargo handling operations (ship auxiliary power unit (APU), ventilation fans, pumps and truck activity on the wharf) at two locations considered representative of the potentially most exposed residential receivers. The locations are at Balmain to the west and at Pyrmont to the east of WB-4. Measurements at both representative locations were conducted during the loading of bulk liquids from road tanker trucks to the ship via pumps on the wharf. The measurements were conducted after the ship arrived between 8.53 pm and 10.42 pm on 11 February 2011, with the weather consisting of a clear sky and a slight wind.

An additional "reference" noise measurement was carried out in close proximity to the Stolt Momiji vessel, where the noise environment was dominated by the WB-4 based bulk liquids cargo handling noise sources. The reference noise level was then used to predict noise levels at the representative receivers for comparison with the attended measurements.

The predicted noise levels correlated well with the measured levels and were assessed against the noise goals set out in Table U1 of the Environment Protection Licence. Feasible and reasonable noise mitigation measures are discussed in broad terms, with the aim of minimising the noise impacts from the operations, where the noise goals are exceeded.

## 2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The White Bay Port facility is located at the southern end of the Balmain peninsula. The facility occupies approximately 40 hectares of waterfront land and forms a crescent around White Bay, with a water frontage of about 2,100 m in length.

The facility layout comprises the following main elements:

- Five multiple-use berths spread along the northern side of White Bay;
- Storage warehouse situated to the northeast of White Bay, Berth 4 (WB-4); and
- Internal road continuing from Robert Street providing truck access to storage areas of Docks 1 to 6.

The Glebe Island facility which includes four multiple-use berths is located adjacent to the White Bay Port on a neighbouring peninsula south of White Bay.

Berth 4 is located approximately in the middle of the northern side of White Bay, as shown in **Figure 1**. To the north and northwest of the site is a mixture of reside7ntial dwellings consisting of 1 and 2 storey detached houses and terraces. A number of recently constructed 4 and 5 storey residential developments are situated directly west of Berth 4 and incorporate acoustic façade treatments to achieve satisfactory internal noise levels. In addition, buildings in direct view were designed to provide significant acoustical shielding to the rest of the development. The storage warehouse (on port land) to the northeast of WB-4 is about 20 m at the highest point and provides significant acoustic shielding to the residential properties directly behind. To the southeast of the site is Glebe Island, another working port area with four multiple-use berths. To the southeast of WB-4, about 550 m across the water, is the Pyrmont Peninsula, with a number of high-rise residential apartments near the waterfront.

## 2.1 Measurement Locations

The Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) Study (Report Number 10-4309-R1 prepared by Heggies) for the proposed bulk liquid terminal operation has previously identified 5 Waite Street and 36 Refinery Drive as the most affected receiver locations within the Balmain / Rozelle and Pyrmont / Glebe areas respectively.

For the current study, in the Balmain / Rozelle area, monitoring was carried out only at 13 Donnelly Street (also assessed in the noise impact assessment) due to the availability of day/night access to the property boundary. Note that noise measurements at 13 Donnelly Street can be carried out offstreet, whereas at 5 Waite Street noise measurements require backyard access. Furthermore, the location at 13 Donnelly Street is in close proximity of 5 Waite Street. It is approximately the same distance away and is also directly exposed to loading operations at WB-4. It is therefore considered to be of a similar acoustical environment to that of 5 Waite Street, Balmain.

The monitoring location at 36 Refinery Drive, identified by the NIA as the most affected receiver in the Pyrmont / Glebe area, was found to be exposed to high levels of traffic related noise from the Anzac Bridge. Giba Park (a publicly accessible park situated at the front of the 4 level apartment complex at 2 Point Street) was therefore selected as the representative measurement location for the Pyrmont / Glebe area, as it allowed ship noise measurements to be taken in the relative absence of traffic noise. Giba Park is considered to be equivalent to 2 Point Street, Pyrmont

**Table 1** summarises the receiver locations where measurements were conducted in each area and gives a brief description of each location. A more detailed description and photos of the selected monitoring locations are presented in **Appendix B** and **Appendix C**.

Table 1 Representative Receiver Locations

Location	Representative Receiver Location	Description
		Ground level at the front of residence, about 7 m away from the facade
Pyrmont and Glebe 2 Point Street, Pyrmont At Giba Park, in 2 Point Street		At Giba Park, in front of 4 storey building at 2 Point Street
Reference Measurement	White Bay Berth 4 Deck	On deck of White Bay Berth 4, and approximately 60 m from the ship rear engine room/exhaust stack area, the main source of noise from the Stolt Momiji vessel

BALMAIN

13 Donnelly Street
Measurement Location

White Bay
Berth 4

Glebe Island

Giba Park (2 Point St)
Measurement Location

White Bay
Browness

Rocelle

Rocelle

Glebe
Print

Bay

Rocelle

Bay

Rocelle

Bay

Rocelle

Bay

Rocelle

Bay

Rocelle

Bay

Rocelle

B

Figure 1 White Bay / Glebe Island Layout with Attended Noise Monitoring Locations

# 3 EPA LICENCE NOISE GOALS

For the purpose of the bulk liquid cargo handling operations at White Bay Berth 4 (WB-4), the Environment Protection Licence granted by the EPA sets out the project noise goals at the neighbouring residential communities. The noise goals are set out in Table U1 of the Licence conditions and reproduced in **Table 2**.

Table 2 EPA License Noise Goals (Reproduced from Table U1)

Location	Night				
	LAeq(15minute)	LAeq(Night))	LAmax		
Balmain and Rozelle	49 dBA	41 dBA	59 dBA		
Pyrmont and Glebe	41 dBA	Not Applicable	51 dBA		

## Explanatory notes:

- 1. LAmax means maximum A-weighted sound pressure level measured on fast time weighting during the time over which sound is measured.
- 2. All other acoustic terms including "night" have the same meaning as in the INP.
- 3. Not Applicable: In instances where the amenity criteria LAeq(Night) has been determined to be a higher number than the intrusive criteria LAeq(15minute) that the amenity criteria is less stringent than the intrusive criteria, then the amenity criteria becomes 'not applicable'. This is because compliance with the criteria will ensure compliance with the intrusive criteria will ensure compliance with the amenity criteria.

## 4 MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY AND INSTRUMENTATION

The licence calls for LAeq (A-weighted equivalent continuous) sound pressure level measurements to be carried out at locations representative of those potentially most affected (ie waterfront) locations during periods of inactivity (eg, ship Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) operating) and during loading operations (eg, wharf pumps and truck activity on the wharf in addition to APUs), in accordance with Clause M7.1 (2).

Ship noise levels during periods of loading inactivity exist immediately after the ship berths, while the loading equipment is being set up (hoses unrolled and connected to the ship's manifold etc). The equipment setup phase usually lasts less than 2 hours, after which the loading is continuous, with up to two road tankers filling the ship at any one time. Ship noise measurements during periods of activity can be measured at any time after loading commences.

The previous ship noise monitoring report prepared by Heggies (Report Number 10-4309-R2 Revision 1) concluded that measurements are best carried out at night (preferably after 1.00 am). Extraneous noise (not related to the subject activity) is generally at a minimum at this time and measurement results are consequently likely to be much more meaningful.

The bulk liquids ship Stolt Momiji berthed at approximately 9:15 am on 11 February 2011 and departed at 3:03 am on the following day. Pumping commenced shortly after the vessel berthed and was completed by 11 pm on 11 February 2011. Measurements were conducted between 8.51 pm and 10.42 pm on 11 February 2011, following the arrival of the vessel.

Attended noise level measurements were carried out at 1.5 m above ground level at 13 Donnelly Street and 1.5 m above ground level at Giba Park, located adjacent to the residential apartment complex at 2 Point Street, Pyrmont.

A "reference" measurement was conducted in close proximity to the Stolt Momiji, where the noise environment was dominated by bulk liquids loading related noise. The "reference" measurement was then used as a basis for the estimation of WB-4 activity related noise at the receivers of interest.

An equivalent ship sound power level was therefore calculated based on the "reference" measurement and noise contributions related to the bulk liquids cargo handling were estimated at each noise sensitive location.

All items of acoustic instrumentation employed during the noise monitoring surveys were designed to comply with the requirements of AS IEC 61672.1 2004: "Electroacoustics-Sound level meters-Specifications" and carried appropriate and current NATA (or manufacturer) calibration certificates. Calibration was checked prior to and subsequent to the survey. Any drift in calibration was within 0.5 dBA and considered acceptable.

The survey instrumentation used during the studies is set out in **Table 3**.

**Table 3** Noise Survey Instrumentation

Туре	Serial Number	Instrument Description
2260	2334503	Brüel & Kjær Modular Precision Sound Level Meter
4189	2330802	Brüel & Kjær 12.5 mm Prepolarised Condenser Microphone
4231	2022772	Brüel & Kjær Calibrator

Environmental noise measurements were carried out with reference to the guidelines contained within the NSW Industrial Noise Policy, 2000 (INP). In circumstances where it was not practical to carry out measurements at the potentially most affected receiver locations as predicted by the Noise Impact Assessment, locations of similar noise characteristics were chosen, as described in **Section 2.1**.

Given the relatively constant nature of noise related to the bulk liquids cargo handling operations, short-term measurements (of 15 minute duration) are usually considered to be sufficient to provide sufficient information to enable an estimate of the LAeq(night) noise levels at the selected residential receivers. A brief description of acoustic terminology used in this report is presented in **Appendix A**.

Attended measurements during periods of unloading activities were carried out during the evening and night 11 of February 2011, commencing at approximately 8.53 am.

Two separate 15 minute measurements were carried out at the representative Balmain location during cargo handling operations at WB-4, at 8.53 pm and 9.51 pm. At this location the noise from bulk handling at WB4 was clearly audible and considered the main contributor to the measurement, with the measurements also potentially influenced by traffic on Anzac Bridge and general urban noise.

One 15 minute noise measurement was also carried out at the representative receiver at the Pyrmont site, commencing at 10.27 pm. At this location, the vessel was not audible with the measurement generally influenced by people noise and harbour cruise ship music as well as the general urban hum.

#### 5 RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The results of the 15 minute duration attended noise measurements are summarised in **Table 4**. Discussion of the results is presented in **Section 6** of this report. It should be noted that the measured noise levels presented below include noise from the bulk liquids cargo handling facility at WB-4 as well as ambient noise unrelated to the facility.

Table 4 Measured Noise Levels - Loading Activity

Address	Start Time	LAeq (15min)	LA90 (15min)	WB-4 Relate	d Comments
13 Donnelly St (Balmain / Rozelle)	reet 8.53 pm 9.51 pm	48 dBA 46 dBA	46 dBA 44 dBA	47 dBA to 53 dBA 48 dBA to 50 dBA	LAeq influenced by WB-4 noise
Level 5, 2 Point St (Pyrmont/Glebe)	reet 10.27 pm	51 dBA	48 dBA	non observed	Stolt Momiji not audible"

Note 1: During the measurements at Donnelly Street the sound level meter was paused during local vehicle passbys.

During the measurements at 13 Donnelly Street (at approximately 8.53 pm and 9.51 pm) noise from WB-4 operations such as the ship APU were clearly audible. Noise from the ship APU was the dominant source influencing the  $L_{Aeq}$  noise level and was found to be constant in nature. Noise from pumps was just audible on occasion. The  $L_{Aeq}$  was also potentially influenced by Anzac Bridge traffic and aircraft.

During the measurement at Point Street, the ambient noise resulted from people noise and harbour cruise ship music as well as the general urban hum or city noise. An LAeq noise level of 51 dBA was recorded for the 10.27 pm survey.

Noise from trucks and truck unloading was audible at Balmain, with a summary of the LAmax truck noise events at the site presented in **Table 5**. WB 4 related LAmax noise events were not observed at the Pyrmont monitoring location.

Table 5 Summary of Attended Lamax Noise Levels at 13 Donnelly Street, Balmain

LAmax Source	LAmax Range	Notes
Truck unloading	48 dBA to 53 dBA	'Clunks' of a short duration were audible from the trucks unloading. The events last for approximately 1 second.
Trucks arriving and leaving the site	50 dBA to 53 dBA	Truck engine noise.

In order to confirm the contribution to the ambient noise by bulk liquids related noise, noise levels were predicted based on the reference measurements taken in close proximity of the Stolt Momiji, where the noise environment was dominated by bulk liquids loading related noise.

**Table 6** presents the "reference" noise measurements carried out 68 m away from the bulk liquids vessel Stolt Momiji , and 7 m from the silenced pumping units located on the wharf, where the noise environment was dominated by bulk liquids cargo handling related noise. The measurement was taken 68 m from the rear of the ship in the direction towards 13 Donnelly Street, Balmain, where ship noise dominated the ambient.

Table 6 Stolt Momiji "Reference" Noise Level

Reference	Location	Distance from Source	Height of Source	LAeq
1	WB-4	68 m	15 m	59 dBA
2	WB-4	7 m	1 m	65 dBA
3	WB-4	7 m	1 m	66 dBA

Note 1: Safety constraints limited the minimum distance to the vessel, and hence the pumps to 40 m

Calculations were performed with the reference measurements taken in close proximity of the Stolt Momiji vessel. Up to two silenced pumps have been assumed to be operational in any 15 minute period and pumping would occur for typically 30 percent of the night-time period. Therefore for comparison with the licence conditions, which are applicable during the night-time period only, calculations were in order performed to determine the LAeq(15minute), and the LAeq(9hour) noise levels.

Predictions that indicate bulk liquids loading related LAeq(15minute) noise levels at the representative receivers at 13 Donnelly Street and 2 Point Street were 45 dBA and 34 dBA respectively.

The calculated LAeq(15minute) noise level of 45 dBA is marginally lower than the 46 dBA same as the noise level measured at 13 Donnelly Street, and consistent with minimal influence from local traffic, and other localised noise sources. The calculated LAeq(15minute) noise level at 2 Point Street is significantly below the ambient noise level at this location and is consistent with WB-4 related noise being not audible.

A comparison of the measured and predicted noise levels with the noise goals listed in the Licence Conditions is presented in **Table 7**, **Table 8** and **Table 9**.

Table 7 Comparison of Measured/Predicted Noise Levels against LAeq(15minute) Noise Goals

Prediction Location	Measured/Predicted LAeq Noise Levels <sup>1</sup>	LAeq(15 minute) Noise Goals	LAeq(15 minute) Exceedance of Licence Goals <sup>2</sup>
13 Donnelly Street (Balmain/Rozelle)	46/45 dBA	49 dBA	No exceedance
Level 5, 2 Point Street (Pyrmont/Glebe)	51/34 dBA	41 dBA	No exceedance

Note 1: At 2 Point Street, the predicted level is considered more representative of WB-4 noise, given the significant contribution to the ambient by other sources at this location, and that WB-4 noise was not audible. This level meets the 41 dBA licence condition.

Table 8 Comparison of Predicted Noise Levels against LAeq(night) Noise Goals

Prediction Location	Predicted LAeq Noise Levels <sup>1</sup>	LAeq(night) Noise Goals	LA <sub>eq</sub> Exceedance of Licence Goals <sup>2</sup>
13 Donnelly Street Balmain/Rozelle)	43 dBA	41 dBA	2 dBA exceedance
Level 5, 2 Point Street (Pyrmont/Glebe)	32 dBA	N/A	N/A

Notes: 1. The predicted noise level presented corresponds to the ship docking period.

Table 9 Assessment of (WB-4 Related) Measured Noise Levels against LAmax Noise Goals

Measurement Location	Range of Maximum Measured Levels (LAmax Range)	LAmax Noise Goals	Range of Recorded LAmax Exceedances of the Licence Noise Goals <sup>1</sup>
13 Donnelly Street (Balmain/Rozelle)	48 dBA to 53 dBA	59 dBA	No exceedance
Level 5, 2 Point Street (Pyrmont/Glebe)	N/A	51 dBA	No exceedance

Note 1: No LAmax events associated with the bulk liquids unloading activity at WB-4 were recorded during the monitoring periods at 2 Point Street, Pyrmont.

# 6 DISCUSSION

Predicted ship based LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goals at the representative location in Pyrmont. At Balmain, the measured and predicted LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goal, and the predicted LAeq(night) noise level exceeds the noise goal by 2 dBA.

Bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels were not measured above the ambient noise at the representative monitoring location in Pyrmont. At Balmain bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels met the Licence goals.

In order to fulfil the requirement of Licence Condition R4.1, and in relation to compliance with Licence Conditions O4.1 and O4.2, the potential in-concept noise control measures are discussed below for the sources identified.

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A Revised Noise Impact Mitigation and Management Strategy (Report No 10-4309-R10 Revision 1) has been prepared for the operation. Taking into consideration the infrequency and limited duration of the operation, expected costs, development times, uncertainty of effective outcome, and the impact on flexibility in relation to ships that may be used in the operation, the implementation of ship specific engineering noise control measures is not considered practical nor reasonable within the Revised Noise Impact Mitigation and Management Strategy. Instead, the document recommends an on-site mitigation management strategy be implemented based on operator awareness and procedures to identify and repair abnormally noisy equipment, as outlined within the Noise Impact Mitigation Action Plan.

## 7 CONCLUSION

Noise measurements were carried out during the Stolt Momiji bulk liquids cargo handling operations during the evening and night of 11 February 2011. The measured noise levels were found to be potentially influenced on occasion by local traffic and domestic activity. A reference noise measurement was carried out of in close proximity of the Stolt Momiji vessel, where the noise environment was dominated by the WB-4 based bulk liquids cargo handling noise sources. The reference noise level was then used to predict noise levels at the representative receivers, for comparison with the attended measurements.

Predicted ship based LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goals at the representative location in Pyrmont. At Balmain, the measured and predicted LAeq(15minute) noise levels meet the Licence imposed noise goals. At Balmain, the predicted LAeq(night) noise level exceeds the noise goal by 2 dBA.

At Balmain bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels met the Licence imposed noise goals. At Pyrmont bulk liquids terminal related maximum (LAmax) noise levels could not be measured above the ambient noise.

Potential noise control measures that may be considered to meet the Licence imposed noise goals (as required by Condition R4.1) subject to feasibility, practicality and reasonability, include a combination of applying engineering noise control measures to trucks and an on-site noise management strategy. Noise impact mitigation measures have been evaluated in the Revised Noise Impact Mitigation and Management Strategy (Report 10-4309-R10 Revision 1), with a list of mitigation measures considered feasible and reasonable identified in the Noise Impact Mitigation Action Plan.

## 8 CLOSURE

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the manpower and resources devoted to it by agreement with the client. Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected and has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of Sydney Ports Corporation. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR Consulting.

SLR Consulting disclaims any responsibility to the client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work

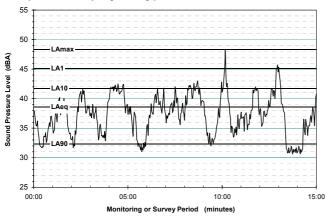
## ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE REPORT

## **Typical Noise Indices**

This Report makes repeated reference to certain noise level descriptors, in particular the LA10, LA90 and LAeq and LAmax noise levels.

- The LA10 is the A-weighted sound pressure level exceeded 10% of a given measurement period and is utilised normally to characterise typical maximum noise levels.
- The LAeg is essentially the average sound level. It is defined as the steady sound level that contains the same amount of acoustical energy as a given time-varying sound over the same measurement period. LAeq(15hour) is the measurement parameter used to describe the road traffic noise level over the entire daytime (7.00 am to 10.00 pm) period. The LAeq(9hour) is the measurement parameter used to describe the road traffic noise level over the entire night-time (10.00 pm to 7.00 am) period. Similarly, the LAeq(1hour) is the measurement parameter used to describe the road traffic noise level during the loudest 1-hour period during the daytime or night-time periods.
- The LA90 noise level is the A-weighted sound pressure level exceeded 90% of a given measurement period and is representative of the <u>average minimum background</u> sound level (in the absence of the source under consideration), or simply the "background" level.

# **Graphical Display of Typical Noise Indices**



The LAmax noise level is the maximum A-weighted noise level associated with road traffic movements.

## **Typical Noise Levels**

The following table presents examples of typical noise levels.

## **Typical Noise Levels**

Sound Pressure Level (dBA)Typical SourceSubjective Evaluation130Threshold of pain Heavy rock concert Grinding on steelIntolerable Extremely noisy100Loud car horn at 3 m Construction site with pneumatic hammeringVery noisy80Kerb side of busy street Loud radio or televisionLoud60Department store General OfficeModerate to Quiet40Inside private office 30Quiet to Very quiet20Unoccupied recording studioAlmost silent			
120 Heavy rock concert 110 Grinding on steel noisy  100 Loud car horn at 3 m 90 Construction site with pneumatic hammering  80 Kerb side of busy street Loud radio or television  60 Department store General Office Quiet 40 Inside private office Inside bedroom Very quiet 20 Unoccupied Almost silent		Typical Source	
90 Construction site with pneumatic hammering  80 Kerb side of busy street Loud radio or television  60 Department store General Office Quiet  40 Inside private office Quiet to 30 Inside bedroom Very quiet  20 Unoccupied Almost silent	120	Heavy rock concert	Extremely
70 street Loud radio or television  60 Department store 50 General Office Quiet  40 Inside private office 30 Inside bedroom Very quiet  20 Unoccupied Almost silent		Construction site with pneumatic	Very noisy
50 General Office Quiet  40 Inside private office Quiet to 30 Inside bedroom Very quiet  20 Unoccupied Almost silent		street Loud radio or	Loud
30 Inside bedroom Very quiet 20 Unoccupied Almost silent			
	. •	•	
	20	•	Almost silent

## A-Weighting or dBA Noise Levels

The overall level of a sound is usually expressed in terms of dBA, which is measured using the "Aweighting" filter incorporated in sound level meters. These filters have a frequency response corresponding approximately to that of human hearing. People's hearing is most sensitive to sounds at mid frequencies (500 Hz to 4000 Hz), and less sensitive at lower and higher frequencies. Thus, the level of a sound in dBA is a good measure of the "loudness" of that sound. Different sources having the same dBA level generally sound about equally as loud, although the perceived loudness can also be affected by the character of the sound (eg the loudness of human speech and a distant motorbike may be perceived differently, although they are of the same dBA level).

## Sensitivity of People to Noise Level Changes

A change of up to 3 dBA in the level of a sound is difficult for most people to detect, whilst a 3 dBA to 5 dBA change corresponds to a small but noticeable change in loudness. A 10 dBA change corresponds to an approximate doubling or halving in loudness

## 13 DONNELLY STREET, BALMAIN

The location is situated approximately 170 m away from and directly overlooking White Bay Berth 4 (across the park). It is elevated some 15 m above dock level. The measurement was conducted from street level (from a footpath) with Donnelly Street traffic less than 2 m away.



Aerial Photo showing the monitoring location at 13 Donnelly Street, relative to White Bay Berth 4 (WB-4)



View from WB-4 deck towards 13 Donnelly Street



View from 13 Donnelly St towards the bulk liquids ship, berthed at WB-4

2 POINT STREET, PYRMONT

This monitoring location is situated approximately 660 m away from White Bay Berth 4 (across the bay). Monitoring was conducted at a height equivalent of a 5 storey building, on the cliffs edge. Pirrama Road encircles the park on the western, northern and eastern sides, approximately 15 m below.



Aerial Photo showing the monitoring location at 2 Point Street, relative to White Bay Berth 4 (WB-4)



View from WB-4 deck towards 2 Point Street



View from 2 Point Street towards the bulk liquids ship berthed at WB-4