

31 May 2013

Dear Owner/Resident

PORT NELSON NOISE LIAISON COMMITTEE SUMMARY

The Port Noise Liaison Committee meets at least four times a year to consider noise issues arising from port operations and to oversee the implementation of the Port Noise Variation by Port Nelson Limited (PNL).

The committee is made up of three members appointed by PNL, three members appointed by residents living in the Port Hills, and an independent Chairperson.

The role of the Committee is to consider all noise issues arising from the Port operation and to carry out various functions which are listed in the Port Noise Management Plan. Please refer to the Port Nelson website (www.portnelson.co.nz/environment), or contact either the Nelson City Council, or Port Nelson directly ph (03) 548 2099 to view this plan.

Please find enclosed a summary of the meetings of the port Nelson Noise Liaison committee over the last 2 years.

If wish to discuss the information in this letter further, or to discuss any other port related noise issues, please contact Thomas Marchant by phoning 539 3861, or emailing at thomas.marchant@portnelson.co.nz. Alternatively you can contact one of the residents' representatives on the Port Noise Liaison Committee:

Bruce Robertson ph 539 1116
Chris Keegan ph 548 8083
Raewyn Newnham ph 546 6699

Yours faithfully



Bob Dickinson
Chairman
Nelson Port Noise Liaison Committee

2011 & 2012 Summary Port Nelson Noise Liaison Committee

The following is a summary of the activities of the Port Noise Liaison Committee taken from minutes of the meetings during the last two years. A full copy of all Port Noise Liaison Committee meeting minutes are available on the Port Nelson website (www.portnelson.co.nz/environment), and to the public on request from either NCC or Port Nelson Ltd.

2 March 2011 Summary of Discussion Points

- Thomas read out the requirement from the Variation regarding a report to be made monthly to committee members. He showed the summary sheet that will be sent electronically to the committee. It shows Leq, Ldn, Lmax and significant events.
- The Port Nelson Noise Mitigation Plan was accepted and will be lodged with the NCC.
- Thomas to advise NCC their website needs updating re Noise Variation.
- The Port Noise Variation requires at least four meetings per year, any others as required. Proposed dates had been circulated and members agreed they would do their best to keep to them.
- The 2009 and 2010 highlights had been extracted from the minutes. To meet the requirements of the Variation they will be circulated to noise affected properties with a covering letter
- **Noise Complaints** - One noise complaint were received since last meeting.

1 June 2011 Summary of Discussion Points

- Thomas reported the election process was followed, as set out in the Noise Management Plan. A letter calling for nominations went out to all residents and owners of properties on the Noise Contour Map. Four nominations were received: Sue Thomas (declined), existing members Bruce Robertson and Albert Hutterd (accepted), and Raewyn Newnham. No election was needed.
- Letters to Stage 3 residents & property owners has gone out, notifying that they may be eligible for advice and financial assistance with noise mitigation.
- Annual summary of highlights from the minutes, as required by the Plan, had also gone out, with the nomination form.
- Thomas outlined the Noise Reporting Requirements under the Noise Variation.
- Matt explained the appeals to the Variation and current mediation process.
- Monitors show overall PNL is making less noise and there are fewer complaints than there were 12 months ago.
- **Noise Complaints** - There were four new noise complaints on the register since the last meeting.

31 August 2011 Summary of Discussion Points

- Letter has not yet gone to residents advising them of new representatives on the committee. Will now be combined with advice regarding the approval of The Variation from Environment Court when that is finalised, and changes have gone through council.
- Thomas advised information on the website had been updated.
- Discussion of noise mitigation work that PNL has undertaken. Bob asked for updated report on the measures that PNL have put in place.
- Bruce asked how noise of operation is built into buying policy, he has noticed the new Hysters are very quiet.
- **Noise Complaints** - Three complaints lodged since last meeting.

15 December 2011 Summary of Discussion Points

- Thomas explained the Variation has not yet gone to council, (though it may have done so that day). Letter to residents is awaiting sign off, and then they will be advised that the Variation is operative. The hold up was because the Judge at Environment Court said he couldn't comment on the Noise Management Plan as it is outside his jurisdiction.
- Thomas reported on progress. Matt outlined the 'Lean Thinking' (Toyota Way) process PNL is going through. As part of this TBS has an innovation committee that has some ideas on deadening the impact of hatch covers.
- Plan had been circulated to members. Matt explained that the latest round of amendments were the result of the mediation process. The amendments put more controls and restraints on PNL, make the mitigation process more robust and will make the Variation more effective.

- Stage one (11 properties).
- Three property owners elected to sell to PNL. Six owners have now elected to proceed with acoustic treatment paid for by PNL. Two properties yet to confirm approach. A total of eight Acoustic Certificates have been obtained.
- Stage two (110 properties).
- 45 replies received, 37 properties have had acoustic reports prepared; 3 now have acoustic certificates. Ten of these properties have had some acoustic treatment with PNL paying 50%.
- Stage three (145 properties).
- Letter sent to Stage 3 properties earlier this year: 35 replies, 28 have had acoustic reports prepared – 16 of these since last meeting.
- **Noise Complaints** - Three complaints since the last meeting

4 April 2012 Summary of Discussion Points

- Variation has been signed off by council. Thomas tabled the letter to all 400+ affected hillside residents advising them the Variation is operative.
- Visual Management: graphs showing average monthly Ldn, noise complaints & significant noise events have gone up in amenities room where stevedores meet.
- Thomas tabled the noise monitoring reports for the last three months, showing the Leq (24h), Ldn and Lmax. Objective is to get continual improvement. Significant noise is above 89dBA at night; top three are investigated (even if not over 89dBA). There had been some problems with the noise monitor from Feb onwards.
- Acoustic treatment is very quiet, apart from a small group that are part way between getting treatment done on houses and having Acoustic Certificates issued.
- **Noise Complaints** - Two complaints since the last meeting.

15 August 2012 Summary of Discussion Points

- Albert Hutterd's resignation had been notified and was accepted with regret. A postal ballot for the resident representative was undertaken (as per the Noise Management Plan). No election was required as one nomination was received, and Chris Keegan was welcomed to the committee.
- The monitor has been offshore under repair. The only recorded period was part of July. There is now a loan monitor in place.
- Acoustic treatment very quiet, two houses had work completed. The noise consultant will be down at the end of August to carry out more assessments, at residents' requests.
- Bob quoted the Mitigation Plan which states PNL contribution is limited to half of the "lowest cost" solution. Bruce said PNL had already been generous in the costs they'd agreed to meet re glass & insulation above specs.
- Proposed amendment to Noise Mitigation Plan The proposed change will allow air-con at 5 changes per hour, down from 15. This means more Acoustic Certificates for Stage 2 can be achieved; previously a ducted heat pump had been required in each room, which proved to be too costly for residents. Proposed amendment has been accepted by the NCC after consultation with Acoustic Engineer.
- **Noise Complaints** - Three complaints since last meeting.

11 October Summary of Discussion Points

- Noise Mitigation Report. Thomas tabled an updated report for comment. Discussion re mapping houses that have had mitigation work done.
- Bruce to be invited to observe trial of matting use on wharf - matting still to arrive from Lyttelton.
- Use of staff to guide the spreader onto the hatch lid. Matt said there are H&S issues. Instead has been a trail of using rubber inserts where hatch lands. More robust material being sought.
- Noise monitor – replacement monitor has been installed.
- Thomas gave his analysis of the top three noise events for August and the significant event (above 89dBA during night hours). This occurred during loading of Maersk Jokobstad, and sounded like an empty container landing on wharf.
- Two more acoustic reports have been done on Stage 2 properties.
- No further mitigation work during this period.
- PNL staff showed two groups through cranes working on the Maersk Jens at MWS. Agreed the crane drivers' skill was exceptional, and noted that it was a major awareness raising exercise to see the challenges they face in guiding containers and hatchcovers with only mms to spare.

- **Noise Complaints** - Two complaints lodged since last meeting.

19 December 2012 Summary of Discussion Points

- Bruce observing trial of matting being used on wharf - matting still to arrive from Lyttelton. It is from coal conveyor belt and is only available when due for replacement.
- Thomas suggested there should be a push on this next year for Stage 2 properties, with 'door-knocking' on 64 dBA contour line to raise awareness of people's entitlements. There is no time limit on getting mitigation work done, people tend to defer work until they are having alterations made to their houses. PNL would like to keep the process moving. There is no cost to residents in getting a noise assessment done for mitigation work.
- Port Noise Variation was made operative on Nov 19, noted an annual review of the contour map would be undertaken next year.
- Best practice award for NCC and Gary Rae for the Port Noise Variation.
- Digby said working quietly had become the norm on the wharves – a change in culture. Referred to the environment and community being two of the six pillars of the PNL vision.
- Bruce noted the drop in the level of operational noise, paid tribute to Matt & Thomas for the change in attitude from the Port.
- **Noise Complaints** - Six complaints since last meeting.

13 March 2013 Summary of Discussion Points

- Port Nelson Chief Executive Officer Martin Byrne in attendance.
- Analysis of the last three months noise reports and top three noise events.
- Acoustic assessments of three properties was undertaken since last meeting.
- Conveyor belting discussed for noise mitigation for container impacts, waiting on belting to be available from Lyttelton.
- Report from a similar trial in 2003 was tabled, with no significant effect on noise concluded.
- Noise Complaints – Two complaints since last meeting.