



# Noise & Vibration Management Plan

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# **DOCUMENT CONTROL**

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

This Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) outlines the strategies and procedures to effectively manage and mitigate noise and vibration impacts from the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project. The primary objective is to ensure compliance with all relevant noise and vibration criteria, and to minimise disturbance to surrounding residential and commercial properties. This plan identifies key noise sources from mining and processing activities, sets clear management objectives and targets, and details a robust approach to risk mitigation, including equipment selection, maintenance protocols, blasting procedures, and staff training. Through continuous monitoring, proactive complaint management, and a commitment to best practicable options, we aim to foster positive relationships with our neighbours and ensure environmentally responsible operations.

## 1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) is to detail the procedures we will adopt to ensure that disturbance to neighbours bordering our site is avoided or minimised. Our aim is to adopt the best practicable options available to meet this objective while managing activities on site.

#### 2.0 KEY ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

The Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project operates a range of stationary and mobile mechanical plant which have the potential to generate noise. There are several residential dwellings and commercial properties, including vineyards located to the north and west, as identified in Figure 1. The closest residential receiver to site infrastructure and mining operations is located at 218 Thomson Gorge Road. Both the site and surrounding properties are zoned Rural Resource Area in the Central Otago District Plan.

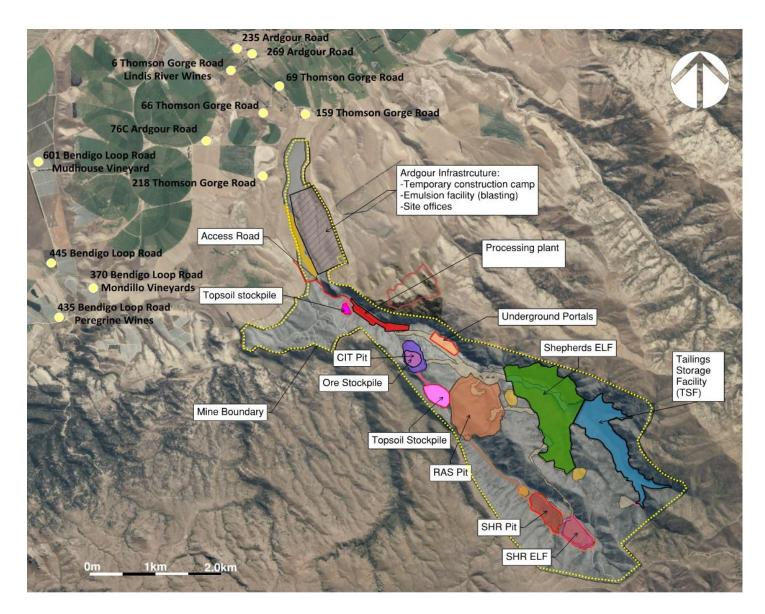


Figure 1: Proposed mine layout and nearest receivers

#### 2.1. Potential noise emissions

The sound power of the on-site noise sources has been assessed in Marshall Day Acoustics Assessment of Noise Effects (December 2024) and are reproduced in Table 1 below. That assessment considers that with appropriate noise mitigation and control measures the noise emissions generated by the mining and processing activities will have acceptable effects. The following sections of the NMP detail the noise management risks and requirements, to manage site noise.

Table 1:: Sound power levels of processing plant equipment used in the noise model

Quantity	Plant and equipment	Source noise data L <sub>A10</sub> Basis	Source height (m)
Processing	g plant		
1	Primary crusher	119 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	16
1	Secondary crusher	120 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	5
1	SAG Mill	118 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	5
1	Ball Mill	115 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	5
1	Tracked conveyor	88 dB L <sub>Aw</sub> /metre	25*
4	Pumps	110 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	8
3	Screw Compressors	105 dB Law	1.8
2	Front End Loader	111 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	3
1	Miscellaneous allowance	124 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	25
Mining equ	ipment		
2	200-250 tonne excavators	118 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	4
3	CAT D10 Bulldozers	108 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	4
3	Rotary drill	112 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	4
1	40 tonne Excavator mounted 160 Drills	102 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	4
2	100 tonne water trucks	103 dB L <sub>AW</sub>	2



 10
 165 tonne Haul truck CAT 777D
 89
 4

 Auxiliary fleet

 1
 15 tonne loader CAT 930k
 110 dB Law
 2

 1
 32 tonne grader CAT 16G
 73 dB Lwa/metre
 2

#### 3. NOISE CRITERIA

# 3.1. Operational Noise

During the operation phase of the project, MGL are required to comply with the following noise limits at the notional boundary of any residential dwelling. The notional boundary is a point 20 metres from the dwelling, or the site boundary, whichever is closer: Site activities shall not exceed the following noise limits:

- 0700 - 2200 hours: 55 dB L<sub>Aeq (15 min)</sub>

- 2200 – 0700 hours: 40 dB  $L_{Aeq (15 min)}$  and 75 dB  $L_{AFmax}$ 

#### 3.2. Construction Noise

Noise during the construction of the site buildings and plant, access roads and bunds is controlled using the following recommended noise limits from New Zealand Standard NZS 6803: 1999 "Acoustics - Construction Noise" sets out the following noise limits:

Residential zones and dwellings in rural areas:

Table 2 – Recommended upper limits for construction noise received in residential zones and dwellings in rural areas

Time of week	Time period	'Long-term duration' noise limits (dBA)	
		Leq	L <sub>max</sub>
Weekdays	0630-0730	55	75
	0730-1800	70	85
	1800-2000	65	80
	2000-0630	45	75
Saturdays	0630-0730	45	75
	0730-1800	70	85
	1800-2000	45	75
	2000-0630	45	75

<sup>\*</sup> Highest point



Sundays and	0630-0730	45	75
public holidays	0730-1800	55	85
	1800-2000	45	75
	2000-0630	45	75

In table 2: "Long-term" means construction work at any one location with a duration exceeding 20 weeks.

# 3.3. Blasting Noise and Vibration

Blasting activities must be measured and assessed in accordance with Appendix J of Australian Standard AS 2187-2:2006 *Explosives – Storage and use Part 2: Use of explosives*.

Blasting must be managed to ensure that in any calendar year, 95% of airblast levels do not exceed 115 dBL, with a maximum of 120 dBL, when applied at any point within the notional boundary of any rural dwelling.

Blasting vibration shall not exceed a peak component particle velocity of 5mm/s for 95% in any calendar year, with a maximum of 10 mm/s **3.4.** 

## 3.4 Responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities
Site Manager	The Site Manager is responsible for implementing this     Noise Management Plan
Acoustics Specialist	<ul> <li>Provide expert guidance and develop noise mitigation strategies to minimise potential noise and vibration impacts at nearby receivers.</li> <li>Conduct noise and vibration assessments and compliance monitoring.</li> <li>Advise on appropriate noise control technologies and best practices.</li> <li>Review and update the NVMP as required.</li> </ul>
All Site Personnel	<ul> <li>Participate in noise induction training.         Adhere to all procedures and guidelines outlined in this NVMP.</li> <li>Minimise noise generation through good work practices (e.g., avoiding unnecessary revving, dropping materials, shouting).</li> <li>Report any excessive noise or vibration issues to their supervisor or the Site Manager.</li> </ul>



Maintenance	<ul> <li>Ensure all plant and equipment are regularly maintained</li> </ul>
Manager	to prevent unnecessary noise and vibration.
	<ul> <li>Oversee the fitting and maintenance of exhaust</li> </ul>
	silencers and other noise reduction components.
	<ul> <li>Coordinate repairs for equipment identified as a source</li> </ul>
	of excessive noise.
	<ul> <li>Ensure access roads and working surfaces are</li> </ul>
	maintained to minimise vehicle rattling and associated
	noise.

## 3.5. Key assumptions and uncertainties

Key assumptions and uncertainties that underpin this NVMP include:

#### Assumptions:

- The sound power levels of plant and equipment listed in Table 1 are representative of typical operational conditions.
- Noise mitigation measures, such as acoustic barriers and enclosures where specified in the noise assessment (Marshall Day Acoustics Assessment of Noise Effects, December 2024), will be implemented effectively.
- Operational activities will generally adhere to the planned schedules and methodologies.
- Meteorological conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, temperature inversions) will be considered during sensitive periods and adjusted for in operations where practicable.

#### **Uncertainties:**

- Variability in actual operating procedures and equipment usage on site may lead to deviations from modelled noise levels.
- The long-term performance and effectiveness of noise control measures may degrade over time without proper maintenance.
- Unforeseen operational requirements or changes in mining methods could introduce new noise sources or alter existing noise profiles.



 Public perception of noise may vary, and individual sensitivities could lead to complaints even when compliance with limits is achieved

#### 4. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

## 4.1. Objective 1/Condition 1: Compliance with Operational Noise Limits

**Objective:** To ensure that operational noise emissions from the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project comply with the specified noise limits at the notional boundary of any residential dwelling as per consent conditions.

**Condition Reference:** Section 2.1 - Operational Noise.

## 4.1.1. Key Risks

We will aim to minimise disruption to neighbours by assessing and managing the following noise issues. Risk levels are categorised as High, Medium, or Low based on the potential impact on neighbouring properties and frequency of occurrence:

Possible Risk	Level of risk	Actions which will be taken to mitigate the risk (in and when applicable)
Equipment and plant selection	High	Plant and equipment procurement contracts will include maximum noise limits that will ensure that we will operate within our noise limits. Maximum noise limits are provided in Table 1.
		Where possible, low noise equipment/models will be selected in favour of noisy equipment
		Exhaust silencers must be fitted to all mobile plant
		Power from the grid will be used in preference to diesel generators where practicable
Maintenance	High	Vehicles and equipment shall be maintained to avoid unnecessary noise and vibration. This includes replacement of worn parts, maintenance of mufflers, lubrication of moving machinery to avoid squeaks and squeals, and appropriate operation of all equipment



Possible Risk	Level of risk	Actions which will be taken to mitigate the risk (if and when applicable)
Blasting	High	A regular blasting schedule and time of day will be established and notified to residents to avoid potential startle effects.
Trucks	High	Staff and contractor trucks visiting the site will be informed of their expected behaviour on site to minimise noise including:
		following speed limit restrictions no
		unnecessary sounding of horns no
		unnecessary revving of engines
		engine braking should be avoided
		vehicles should be appropriately maintained
Material Handling	Medium	Staff must exercise extreme care loading trucks.  Metal-to-metal impacts should be avoided.
Site vehicle behaviour	Medium	
		Site vehicles shall follow speed limits and drive in a consistent steady manner.
		No amplified music is permitted inside vehicle cabs.
		Vehicle horns shall only be used in emergencies.
Access Roads	Low	The access road and working surfaces in the loading areas shall be maintained free from potholes and corrugations to avoid unnecessary vehicle rattling and truck body slam.
Possible Risk	Level of risk	Actions which will be taken to mitigate the risk (if and when applicable)



Staff behaviour	Low	Staff shall minimise noise generation at all times as far as practical. For example, shouting, door slamming, and mishandling of equipment should be avoided.
Staff and visitor vehicles	Low	Signage shall be provided to advise staff and visitors of maximum speed limits on site.
Recreational users of CIT Battery Walking Track	Low	Part of CIT Battery walking track will be temporarily closed in public DOC land during blasting if within 500m radius.



#### 5. INDUCTION

All employees and contractors will participate in noise induction training. More frequent training will be implemented if deemed necessary from repetitive noise complaints. A written record will be kept of everyone who has received the induction. Contractors' standard induction may be altered to reflect contractors' specific roles.

There are several residential neighbours where noise criteria apply. To ensure criteria are achieved, all staff are responsible for good noise and vibration management. The following will be included in the induction.

- 1. When arriving at work, please drive slowly on site and keep revs to a minimum. Keep stereos off and do not slam doors.
- 2. No shouting or swearing on site. Either walk over and talk to somebody or use a radio/phone.
- 3. Be careful with tools and equipment. Place them down and do not drop them
- 4. Do not drag materials on the ground. Place them down when you arrive at the work area.
- 5. Equipment and vehicles should not be left running when not in use.
- 6. When loading trucks try not to drop material from a height.
- 7. Noise enclosures should always have all doors/hatches closed when the equipment is in use.
- 8. All equipment is to be well maintained.
- 9. Work conducted between 2200 and 0700 must comply with the night-time noise limit of 40 dB  $L_{Aeq~(15~min)}$  and 75 dB  $L_{AFmax}$
- 10. If you see anything/anyone making unnecessary noise then stop it/them. If the source cannot be stopped then report it to Site Manager.
- 11. It is essential that good relationships are maintained with the local community. Any queries from members of the public should be responded to politely and referred to Site Manager. Staff shall assist the public to make contact with this person. Staff shall not enter into debate or argue with members of the public.



#### 6. MAINTENANCE

All staff must actively monitor for any features on site that may increase noise and vibration and bring these to the attention of management. Our scheduled maintenance program is set out below.

## **Working Surfaces**

Site roads and working areas must be kept free of potholes and undulations to avoid vehicle noise and vibration. A yearly inspection of surfaces shall be conducted and shall record:

- Any damage and what action has been taken.
- o If no damage is found, this shall also be recorded.

#### Equipment

Equipment must be maintained to good working order as part of regular maintenance activities. This will include identifying and mitigating any atypical noises such as the rattling of a loose component, damaged mufflers or squeaking tracks.

# 6.1. Objective 4/Condition 47. NOISE AND VIBRATION MONITORING

Recommended noise monitoring requirements:

- Initial monitoring during blasting trials
- Regular compliance monitoring on yearly basis or other appropriate timeframe
- Monitoring to verify noise levels from a particular piece of plant
- A regime for reporting measurements to Central Otago District Council as required
- As required by the consent conditions, noise monitoring shall be conducted by the following staff in accordance with:
- New Zealand Standard NZS 6801:2008 Acoustics Measurement of environmental sound
- New Zealand Standard NZS 6802:2008 Acoustics Environmental Noise
- New Zealand Standard NZS 6803: 1999 Acoustics Construction Noise



Noise and vibration monitoring will be conducted using the dedicated instrumentation detailed below which will be stored in site administration office. The calibrator will be verified by an accredited laboratory annually and the sound level meter and microphone biannually.

Equipment	Make	Model	Serial	Last verification
Sound level meter				
Software				
Microphone				
Calibrator				
Equipment	Make	Model	Serial	Last verification
Wind shield				
Tripod				
Other				

Monitoring may be conducted as follows,

- o During initial blasting trials
- When the works start to verify the sound levels assumed for each of the major items of equipment, and to assess the effectiveness of noise control measures and implementation of this plan.
- If required, in response to construction noise related complaints.

Following each noise survey, the results will be reported on the survey report template and any issues discovered will be investigated.

If noise monitoring indicates that project noise criteria are being exceeded then the cause for the exceedance shall be investigated and mitigated as quickly as possible.

#### 8. COMPLAINTS

Noise complaints:

- All noise and vibration complaints should be immediately directed to Site Manager.
- 2. As soon as the complaint is received it will be recorded on the complaints register.



- 3. An initial response will be made and recorded. Depending on the nature of the complaint the initial response could be to immediately cease the activity pending investigation, or to replace an item of equipment. However, in some cases it might not be practicable to provide immediate relief. The complainant and council will be informed of actions taken.
- 4. Where the initial response does not address the complaint, further investigation, corrective action and follow-up monitoring shall be undertaken as appropriate. The complainant [and council] will be informed of actions taken.
- 5. All actions will be recorded on the complaints register and the complaint will then be closed

#### 9. CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Item	Section	Summary of	Reason for change	Complexity	Date
		change		of change	
1.				☐ Minor	
				□ Moderate	
				□ Major	
2.				☐ Minor	
				□ Moderate	
				□ Major	
3.				☐ Minor	
				□ Moderate	
				□ Major	
4.				☐ Minor	
				□ Moderate	
				□ Major	