

In the matter of

an application for approvals under the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 for the Barrytown Minerals Project – Southern Block [FTAA-2605-1238]

By

Tāiko Critical Minerals Limited

Applicant

Statement of evidence in reply of Jon Farren in relation to Noise

5 October 2026

Applicant's solicitors:

Alex Booker

Anderson Lloyd

Floor 2, The Regent Building, 33 Cathedral Square, Christchurch 8011

PO Box 13831, Christchurch 8141

DX Box WX10009 Christchurch

p [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**anderson
lloyd.**

Introduction

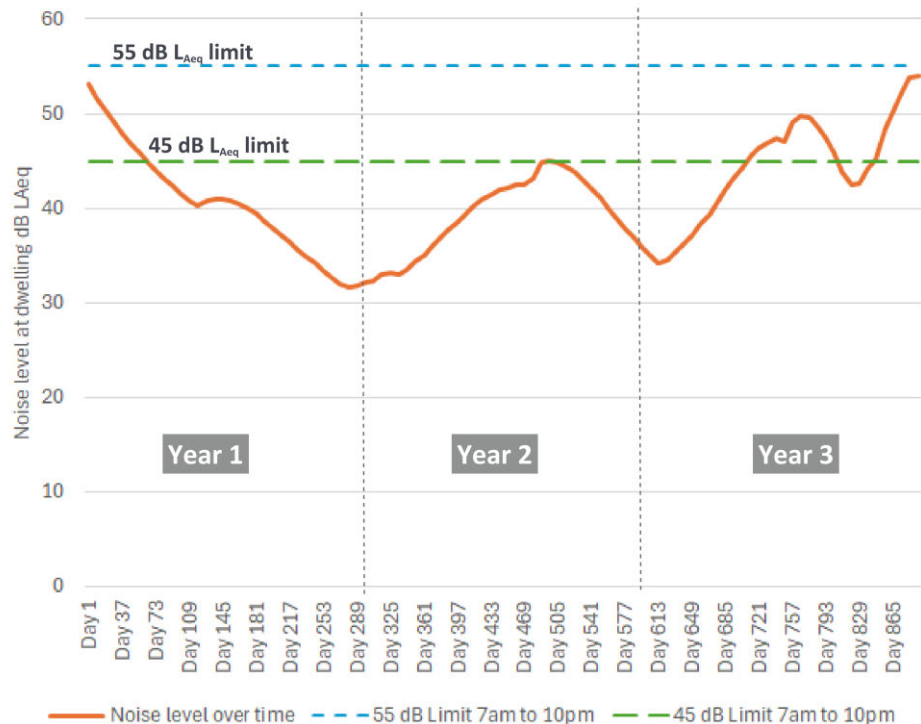
- 1 My name is Jon Farren.
- 2 I provided a statement of evidence dated 26 March 2026, which outlines my experience at Paragraphs 5 to 10.
- 3 I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing this reply to comments.
- 4 This statement is given as part of Tāiko Critical Minerals Limited's (**TCM**) response to comments on the Barrytown Minerals Project made under section 53 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (**FTAA**).
- 5 This statement responds to specific comments from adjacent owners and occupiers, and from other parties.
- 6 My original findings are provided in full in Technical Report L.7 Assessment of Noise Effects (**Noise Report**).

ADJACENT OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

██████████

- 7 ██████████ cites several concerns regarding noise from the proposal at his property.
- 8 ██████████ property (described as 37 Warren Road in the Noise Report) is the closest affected dwelling, and I have assessed it in detail.
- 9 I expect the highest noise levels to be 54 dB L_{Aeq} at this property, which complies with the applicable noise limits. However, as the dredge moves around the Applicant site, noise levels will be lower for most of the time. To show how noise levels vary during Stage 2 extraction (south of Granite Creek), I have reproduced Figure 5 from the Noise Report below. The highest predicted noise level of 54 dB L_{Aeq} will only occur at the beginning and end of the extraction period, for approximately 30 days. For the majority of the time, daytime noise levels are expected to remain below the night-time limit of 45 dB L_{Aeq} .

Figure 5 Indicative variation in noise level over time at 37 Warren Road during Stage 2 extraction



- 10 In my opinion, noise from the proposal will not interfere with day-to-day activities at the commenter's property and, for much of the time, will be so low it is unlikely to be particularly noticeable above the surf noise at this property. For context, we measured average ambient noise levels of 50 dB L_{Aeq} during the day and 45 dB L_{Aeq} during the night at this location.
- 11 [REDACTED] also mentions potential vibration as being an issue. In my experience, the proposed extraction process generates very little vibration, and I expect vibration levels will be negligible outside the boundary of the Proposal.
- [REDACTED]
- 12 [REDACTED] is concerned that the Noise Report does not include noise from pumps, site vehicle movements and the access road. He is also concerned that cumulative noise from the Proposal and the WCP has not been assessed.
- 13 I confirm that the Noise Report's assessment of [REDACTED] property (described as Lot 2 DP 2178) accounts for all of the noise sources that contribute to overall noise emissions from the site, including pumps, on-site heavy vehicle movements and trucks using the site access road.

- 14 I have considered whether the noise generated by the Proposal contains any Special Audible Character (SAC). Based on my experience, I do not consider that noise from the Proposal will be received as “mechanical droning”, as suggested by the commenter, or that it will attract any SAC penalty.
- 15 However, in order to safeguard residents against any noise with SAC, proposed consent condition 12.1 requires noise from the site to be assessed in accordance with New Zealand Standard NZS 6802:2008 *Acoustics – Environmental Noise*. This Standard provides a method for assessing and penalising noise with a strong tonal character, such as a drone or whine.
- 16 The cumulative noise of both the WCP and extraction occurring at the same time is described in Scenario 6 in the Noise Report. This scenario represents the operational configuration where cumulative noise has its greatest effect. In all other scenarios assessed, the WCP does not contribute significantly at [REDACTED] property; mining noise will dominate and will comfortably comply with the applicable noise limits.
- 17 As noted in Paragraph 9 for [REDACTED] property, the highest noise levels of 52 dB L_{Aeq} at [REDACTED] property will only be experienced for relatively short periods of time. Noise levels will be lower for most of the time as the dredge moves around the site and will comply with the applicable noise limits.

Other commenters

- 18 The comments received from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] make general observations about the potential change in noise environment.
- 19 I have addressed these matters above or in the Noise Report. I note that the Noise Report considers likely noise emissions at all of these properties for a range of scenarios. Noise levels will comfortably comply with the applicable limits in all scenarios.

AUTHORITIES AND OTHER PARTIES CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE BY THE EXPERT PANEL

[REDACTED]

- 20 [REDACTED] is concerned that he will be able to hear noise from the Proposal.

- 21 I understand that [REDACTED] property is located over 400 metres from the Proposal's southern boundary. While the Noise Report does not specifically identify his property, his dwelling is included in the noise contour plots in Appendix D¹. I estimate that worst-case noise levels during extraction will be approximately 47 dB L_{Aeq} at the dwelling, which comfortably complies with the applicable noise limits and, as noted above for other properties, will be much lower for most of the time as the dredge moves around the site.
- 22 As [REDACTED] notes, surf noise is a notable feature of the environment at his property, and I expect this to be in the range of 45 to 55 dB L_{Aeq}. In my opinion, noise from the proposal will, for much of the time, be so low that it is unlikely to be noticeable above the surf noise at this property.

- [REDACTED]
- 23 [REDACTED] has requested that TCML pay for double glazing at his property.
- 24 This is not appropriate in my opinion as noise from proposed mining activities is estimated to be less than 45 dB L_{Aeq} at all times at his property, which is substantially below the applicable noise limits. Noise levels inside the dwelling and will be substantially below published guidance to permits residential amenity.

Barrytown School Board of Trustees

- 25 Barrytown School has commented that noise and vibration should be monitored.
- 26 I confirm that noise monitoring is proposed as a condition of consent. Noise levels will be measured at compliance locations that are close to where mining activity is taking place. Noise levels at the school are predicted to be very low at all times (less than 45 dB L_{Aeq}) and will not interfere with indoor or outdoor learning environments.
- 27 As I note above, vibration levels will be imperceptible outside the Proposal boundary and, in my opinion, vibration monitoring is therefore neither required nor appropriate.

¹ Appendix D of Technical Report L.7 Assessment of Noise Effects.

Other commenters

- 28 I have reviewed the comments², which make general observations about noise. I have addressed these matters above or in the Noise Report.
- 29 I remain of the opinion that noise from the proposal will result in acceptable noise effects and there will be no adverse noise impacts in relation to the Application.

Jon Farren
5 October 2026

² Coast Road Resilience Group, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].