# **Northparkes Operations**



# 1 January to 31 March 2024 Northparkes Operations

# **Environmental Monitoring Results Summary**

Name of Mine	Northparkes Mine
Name of Leaseholder and Mine Operator	Evolution Mining (Northparkes) Pty Limited
Mining Leases	ML1247, ML1367, ML1641 AND ML1743
Environment Protection Licence	EPL 4784
Development Consent	DC11_0060 (as modified)

Reviewed by	Chris Higgins
Title	Superintendent – Environment & Farms
Date	C Higgins
Signature	
Approved by	Rachael-Whiting Chris Higgins
Title	Sustainability Manager Acting
Date	CHiggins
Signature	00



# SCOPE OF REPORT

This report provides a summary of monitoring results for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2024. This monitoring is undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Monitoring Program (available at www.northparkes.com.au). Details of air quality, noise, water and vibration monitoring locations are available in the Environmental Monitoring Program. Refer to appendix A for all monitoring location maps.

# 2. AIR QUALITY

During the quarter, the air quality monitoring program utilised  $PM_{10}$  (beta attenuated monitors). Monitoring locations are strategically positioned around the mine lease and neighbouring properties.  $PM_{10}$  monitoring is undertaken at three nearby farm residences Hubberstone, Milpose and Hillview. A summary of the monitoring results are provided below.

#### 2.1 PM10

 $PM_{10}$  monitoring results for the Hubberstone, Milpose and Hillview monitoring locations, for the reporting period, are displayed in Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 respectively. The criteria for exceedances (as nominated in the Development Consent DC11\_0060, known as the Consent), are >25  $\mu$ g/m³ for the annual average and >50  $\mu$ g/m³ for a 24-hour monitoring period.

## 24 hour average:

During the reporting all three monitoring locations recorded elevated results on 23 February due to smoke in the district. Hillview recorded elevated results on 22 March due to agricultural practices occurring within close proximity to the monitoring station.

Missing data is the result of several instrumentation issues which have since been rectified.

# Annual Averages:

Annual averages, recorded year to date, at all monitoring locations are below the Consent criteria of 25  $\mu g/m^3$ :

- 13.2 μg/m³ at Hubberstone
- 12.3 μg/m³ at Milpose, and
- 15.7 μg/m³ at Hillview.



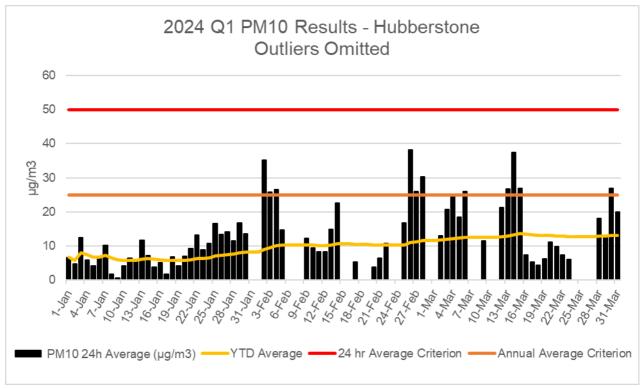


Figure 1: Hubberstone

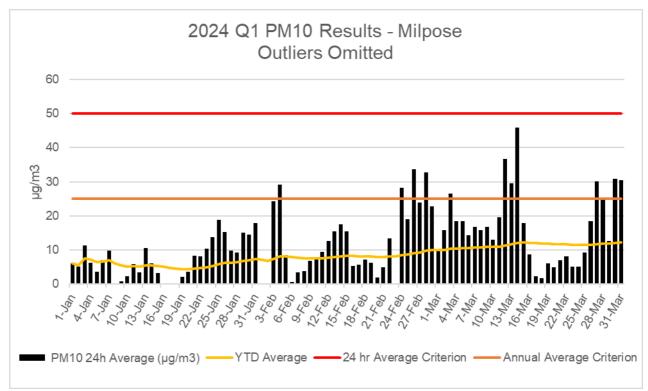


Figure 2: Milpose



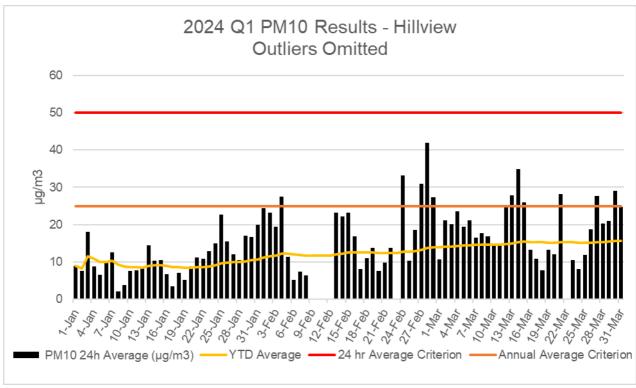


Figure 3: Hillview

# 2.2 PM2.5

 $PM_{2.5}$  monitoring results for the same three properties are displayed in Figures 4, 5 and 6 respectively. The development consent states that compliance with the assessment criteria for  $PM_{2.5}$  may be calculated as a ratio of  $PM_{10}$ . This ratio is calculated as 0.35.

The criteria for exceedances are >8  $\mu g/m^3$  for the annual average and >25  $\mu g/m^3$  for a 24-hour monitoring period.

### 24 hour average:

During the reporting period no elevated results were recorded. Missing data is the result of instrumentation issues which have since been rectified.

#### **Annual Averages:**

Annual averages recorded at all monitoring locations are below the Consent criteria of 8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>:

- 4.6 μg/m³ at Hubberstone
- 4.8 μg/m³ at Milpose, and
- 5.9 μg/m³ at Hillview.



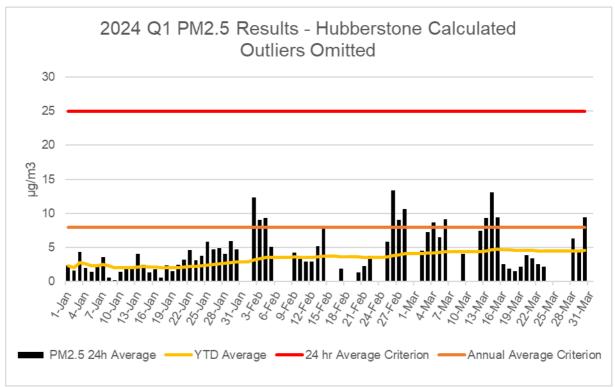


Figure 4: Hubberstone (Calculated)

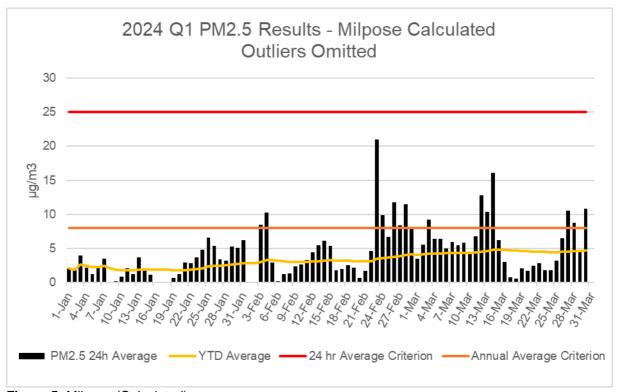


Figure 5: Milpose (Calculated)



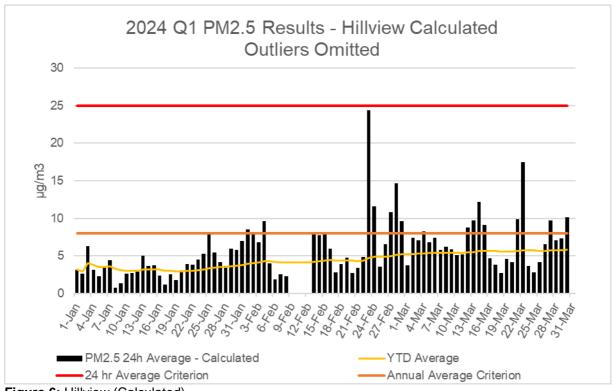


Figure 6: Hillview (Calculated)



# 3. WATER

## 3.1 Overview

Water management at Northparkes is undertaken in accordance with approved management plans, prepared in accordance with the Consent. All water samples are analysed at an independent National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory.

Surface water quality monitoring is undertaken at Northparkes specifically within the three defined water management systems of;

- Clean water management system, which includes farm dams and watercourses;
- Dirty water management system, which includes settlement ponds; and
- Contaminated water management system, which includes all aspects of ore processing, and retention ponds.

The groundwater monitoring program at Northparkes aims to identify any changes to the natural groundwater system as a result of mining operations and ensure compliance with the Consent. It focuses on potential impacts to environmental assets and groundwater users in the area surrounding Northparkes.

Monitoring results are assessed and interpreted utilising historical trend analysis and internal water quality criteria and trigger levels to identify potential changes.



# 3.2 Quarterly Monitoring Analysis

Water quality monitoring was carried out generally in accordance with the Consent, with no significant changes to the pH or EC for all locations. Copper concentrations increased at several locations, although results are still consistent with long term data. These locations will be closely monitored during the future reporting periods. A summary of the monitoring results at each location sampled are presented in Tables 1-8 below.

Sites W26, W27, MB16 and RP28 were removed from the monitoring program during the period as a result of operational changes.

Bores W14, W22 and W23 are planned to be impacted during future operations and have been replaced with W33 and W34. These changes were approved in consultation with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

Table 1: Process Water System

Location	RP01	RP02	RP03	RP04	RP05	RP06	RP07	RP08	RP09	RP12	RP13	RP15	RP16	RP19	RP20	RP21
EC (uS/cm)	372	1,071	1,794	1,353	494	1,691	2,232	1,826	5,110	393	1,053	5,481	No sample	3,975	3,712	2,082
Cu (mg/L)	0.28	0.053	0.078	2.27	0.056	0.016	0.043	0.08	0.014	0.025	0.146	0.043	No sample	0.01	0.017	0.007
pН	7.95	7.41	8.3	7.45	7.56	7.42	8.5	7.61	8.04	10.1	7.96	8.31	No sample	6.98	8.79	7.5

Table 1 continued: Process Water System

Location	RP22	RP23	RP24	RP25	RP26	RP27	RP28	RP32	PWD	Caloola North	Caloola South	GT02	SD1	SD2
EC (uS/cm)	623	1,480	Dry	655	551	3,887	No sample	743	5,182	3,115	4,174	2,154	8,065	10,849
Cu (mg/L)	0.035	0.081	Dry	0.049	0.026	0.015	No sample	0.081	0.043	0.007	0.011	0.069	0.154	0.116
pH	8.97	8.03	Dry	8.15	9.11	8.58	No sample	7.9	8.42	8.76	8.59	8.72	8.27	8.79

Table 2: Sediment Ponds

Location	SP03	SP10	SP15	SP33
EC (uS/cm)	2609	420	346	390
Cu (mg/L)	0.008	0.054	0.028	0.01
рH	9.24	8.77	8.6	8.89

Table 3: Farm Dams

Location	FD04	FD05	FD06	FD07	FD11	FD12	FD16	FD18	FD25	FD26	FD27
EC (uS/cm)	1,767	124	176	123	377	Dry	190	3,993	213	792	372
Cu (mg/L)	0.015	0.016	0.012	0.015	0.027	Dry	0.037	0.016	0.009	0.022	0.016
pH	7.18	8.04	7.99	7.12	8.71	Dry	8.06	8.44	9.4	9.2	8.93

<sup>\*</sup>No sample – insufficient water to collect sample or no access to obtain sample



#### Table 4: Water Courses

Location	WC01	WC02	WC03	WC04	WC05	WC06	WC07	WC11	WC12	WC13	WC14	WC15	WC16
EC (uS/cm)	186	306	Dry	184	265	141	194	74	123	Dry	Dry	161	178
Cu (mg/L)	0.018	0.096	Dry	0.032	0.08	0.022	0.037	0.019	0.017	Dry	Dry	0.02	0.021
pH	6.31	7.01	Dry	6.44	7.15	6.56	6.82	7.3	7.49	Dry	Dry	6.48	6.53

#### Table 5: TSF Bores

Location	MB01	MB02	MB03	MB05	MB06B	W28	W29	W30	W31	W32	W33	W34
EC (uS/cm)	5122	8543	21133	20134	19060	15333	20344	2587	737	2967	8682	14063
Cu (mg/L)	0.009	0.006	0.026	0.01	0.011	0.008	0.023	0.011	0.022	0.009	0.003	0.031
pН	6.91	7.14	5.32	6.79	7.01	10.21	12.92	7.36	7.38	11.83	7.99	7.1
SWL	248.5	239.5	245.3	246.9	250.6	261.2	257.7	246.5	266.7	262.5	259.8	259.4

# Table 6: Opencut Bores

Location	MB10	MB11 (dry)	MB12	MB13	MB14	W19	W20	W21	W24	W25
EC (uS/cm)	13465	Dry	No sample	24661	3495	13012	12006	26592	2844	2845
Cu (mg/L)	0.008	Dry	No sample	0.015	0.018	0.029	0.028	0.01	0.007	0.02
pН	6.96	Dry	No sample	6.58	7.01	7.26	7.47	7.44	7.31	7.57
SWL	252.8		236.9	247.4	262.5	255.9	269.3	271.1	284.4	284.3

#### Table 7: Underground Bores

Table 7: Office growing Bores											
Location	MB17	MB18	MB19	MB20	P101	P102	P103	P104	P139	P145	P149
EC (uS/cm)	853	13504	16212	12606	10381	29938	No Sample	No sample	29849	225	28135
Cu (mg/L)	0.005	0.022	0.011	0.047	0.005	0.004	No sample	No sample	0.015	0.014	0.011
pН	8.13	8.32	7.45	7.63	7.17	6.89	No sample	No sample	6.22	7.11	6.94
SWL	263.5	250.0	246.4	246.3	255.6	254.4	252.5	255.3	253.2	253.3	228.7

# Table 8: Regional Bores

Location	Far Hilliers	Long Paddock	Moss #1	South Hilliers	Wright
EC (uS/cm)	927	659	2277	No sample	677
Cu (mg/L)	0.003	0.011	0.004	No sample	0.005
pH	7.81	7.84	7.34	No sample	8.62
SWL	261.4	240.4	283.9	253.1	287.6



# 4. VIBRATION

# 4.1 Overview

The assessment criteria for blast impacts at Northparkes are based on the ANZECC Guideline, aimed to minimise annoyance to human comfort levels.

The blast monitoring program uses blast units which measure ground vibration and air overpressure at the residences of the four closest privately owned properties, Adavale, Hillview, Hubberstone and Milpose. The program is designed to measure the effectiveness of control measures and ensure compliance with consent and licence conditions, relevant standards and corporate requirements. A summary of the monitoring results are provided below.



# 4.2 Quarterly Monitoring Analysis

During the reporting period, 16 surface blasts were undertaken with no exceedances of vibration and overpressure recorded.

Table 9: Overpressure results at monitoring locations.

	Overpressure (dB) – 115 (dB)													
Monitor Location	5-Jan-24 #1	an-24 #1 5-Jan-24 #2 11-Jan-24 19-Jan-24 25-Jan-24 1-Feb-24 7-Feb-24 13-Feb-24 16-Feb-24 22-Feb-24 28-Feb-24 7-Mar-24												
	E31S	E31S	E31S	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31S	E31S	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31N		
Adavale	94.1	102.7	88.2	107.5	89.1	81.9	100.9	87.2	97.2	85.7	96.4	80.2		
Hillview	96.8	100.7	93.7	103.9	101.7	92.3	92.1	104.7	101.9	97.5	107.5	92.2		
Hubberstone	97.5	98.7	91.3	100.4	99.8	88.9	93.4	105.2	96.5	92.4	102	89.7		
Milpose	97.8	96.6	92.7	93.7	105.2	103.7	95.9	98.1	95.5	89.5	112.7	84.9		

	Overpressure (dB) – 115 (dB)						
<b>Monitor Location</b>	14-Mar-24	21-Mar-24	26-Mar-24	28-Mar-24			
	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31N			
Adavale	90.3	106.2	76.8	92.9			
Hillview	95	106.3	94.8	93.3			
Hubberstone	91.1	93.7	103.9	90.1			
Milpose	89.4	105.8	95.6	96.8			

**Table 10:** Vibration results at monitoring locations

		Vibration (mm/s) – 5 mm/s										
Monitor Location	5-Jan-24 #1	5-Jan-24 #2	11-Jan-24	19-Jan-24	25-Jan-24	1-Feb-24	7-Feb-24	13-Feb-24	16-Feb-24	22-Feb-24	28-Feb-24	7-Mar-24
	E31S	E31S	E31S	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31S	E31S	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31N
Adavale	0.08	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.09	0.1
Hillview	0.11	0.01	0.08	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.1	0.08	0.03	0.02	0.1	0.06
Hubberstone	0.09	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.13	0.09
Milpose	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.04

		Overpressure	(dB) – 115 (dB	
<b>Monitor Location</b>	14-Mar-24	21-Mar-24	26-Mar-24	28-Mar-24
	E31N	E31N	E31N	E31N
Adavale	0.1	0.04	0.01	0.03
Hillview	0.11	0.05	0.01	0.04
Hubberstone	0.08	0.05	0.01	0.05
Milpose	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.03



# 5. NOISE

Operational noise is managed in accordance with the approved Noise Management Plan (NMP). The NMP covers all operational activities with the potential to generate noise at Northparkes. It details specific noise management and mitigation measures, outlines monitoring and reporting requirements and provides clear definitions of the roles and responsibilities for noise management.

#### 5.1 Overview

Northparkes undertakes a noise monitoring program that consists of both operator-attended and unattended surveys. This program includes four real time monitors at the nearest occupied residences of Hubberstone, Milpose, Hillview and Adavale. Lone Pine is included in the attended monitoring program along with the four listed previously.

Operator-attended noise measurements and recordings are undertaken outside the mining leases in order to quantify the intrusive noise emissions from construction and of general mine activity as well as the overall level of ambient noise. This noise monitoring was undertaken by an independent and suitably qualified noise professional.

# 5.2 Quarterly Monitoring Analysis

Attended noise monitoring was undertaken between Tuesday 20 February to Friday 23 February 2024.

The assessment was completed to quantify site noise emissions against relevant noise criteria pertaining to Northparkes operations in accordance with Conditions 1 to 5 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Development Consent Conditions (DC11\_110060), Northparkes Noise Management Plan (NMP, 2019) and Traffic Management Plan (TMP, 2019).

Road noise monitoring identified that vehicle movements associated with shift change generated levels below the relevant road noise criteria specified in the TMP and NMP.

Attended monitoring has identified that operational emissions generated by Northparkes comply with relevant noise criteria at all monitoring locations for all assessment periods. Furthermore, project related noise emissions are generally barely audible at monitoring locations. Extraneous non-mining sources such as traffic, insects, wind in trees, birds, aircraft, residential and agricultural noise were audible during the monitoring period. A summary of the monitoring results at each monitoring location are presented in Tables 11-16 below.



Table 11: Attended noise monitoring results for Hubberstone

Time(hrs)/Date			A re 20 μPa)	- Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
Ouration 15min	LAmax	LAeq	LA90	Meteorology	Description and GFE, dBA
			Day		
07:18	69	46	27		Insects 24-27
22/02/2024				- WD: E	Livestock 25-44
07:33	57	39	27	WS: 0.1m/s	Birds 25-51
22/02/2024	0.	-		Stab Class: E	Traffic 25-69
07:48	co	40	28	Olab Olass. L	NPM Inaudible
22/02/2024	63	40	20		NEW INAUCIDIE
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Evenin	NG .	
20:04					Insects 29-38
20/02/2024	55	36	32		Livestock 25-55
20:19				WD: SE	Birds 25-41
20/02/2024	55	36	31	WS: 0.5m/s	Traffic 25-55
				Stab Class: E	Wind Gusts 30-42
20:34	60	36	33		MAC Operator 60
20/02/2024					NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	keq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Night	1 /	
22:00				\ <del>\</del>	Insects 33-38
20/02/2024	64	39	35		Aircraft 30-35
22:15				WD: SE	Wildlife 40-43
20/02/2024	41	36	35	WS: 1.0m/s	Birds 30-64
				Stab Class: E	Traffic 30-57
22:30	50	43	37		Wind Gusts 35-50
20/02/2024					NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
	Site L	A1(1min) Contri	bution		<45



Table 12: Attended noise monitoring results for Lone Pine

Time(hrs)/Date	Noise D	escriptor (dB/	A re 20 μPa)	- Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
uration 15min	LAmax	LAeq	LA90	- Meteorology	Description and SFL, dBA
			Day		
15:55 21/02/2024	79	51	23		Birds 20-48
16:10 21/02/2024	78	50	23	WD: E WS: 1.0m/s	Insects 21-25 Traffic 25-79
16:25 21/02/2024	48	30	25	Stab Class: B	Wind Gusts 25-42 NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Evenir	ng	
21:02 20/02/2024	48	45	44		
21:17 20/02/2024	49	45	43	WD: SE WS: 1.0m/s	Insects 40-50 Wind Gusts 40-48
21:32 20/02/2024	50	45	42	<ul> <li>Stab Class: E</li> </ul>	NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	tribution		<35
			Nigh	t	
01:50 21/02/2024	48	42	36	WD.F	Insects 33-55
02:05 21/02/2024	55	42	35	— WD: E  WS: <0.5m/s	Dogs Barking 30-37
02:20 21/02/2024	47	41	35	— Stab Class: E	NPM – Exhaust Fan <30' (barely audible throughout)
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
	Site L	A1(1min) Contri	bution		<45

Note 1: NPM Contribution derived from further analysis.



Table 13: Attended noise monitoring results for Milpose

Time(hrs)/Date	Noise D	escriptor (dBA	A re 20 μPa)	Matagralagi	December and CDL alDA
Duration 15min	LAmax	LAeq	LA90	<ul> <li>Meteorology</li> </ul>	Description and SPL, dBA
			Day		
13:59 21/02/2024	57	32	24		Di 4 00 57
14;14 21/02/2024	41	27	21	WD: N WS: 0.5m/s	Birds 20-57 Aircraft 20-51
14:29 21/02/2024	51	31	24	Stab Class: A	NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Evenin	g	
19:17 21/02/2024	57	35	32	WD. NE	Insects 30-37
19:32 21/02/2024	63	36	32	WD: NE WS: 0.5m/s	Birds 30-63 Aircraft 30-57
19:48 21/02/2024	58	37	33	- Stab Class: E	NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Night		
23:58 20/02/2024	53	42	39	WD. NE	lacests 07 50
00:13 21/02/2024	51	42	39	WD: NE WS: 1.0m/s Stab Class: E	Insects 37-53  NPM – Exhaust Fan/Site Hum <30
00:28 21/02/2024	52	45	39		(barely audible throughout)
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
	Site L	A1(1min) Contri	bution		<45

Note: Day - the period from 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday or 8am to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays; Evening - the period from 6pm to 10pm; Night - the remaining periods

Note 1: NPM Contribution derived from further analysis.



Table 14: Attended noise monitoring results for Hillview

Time(hrs)/Date	Noise Descriptor (dBA re 20 μPa)			Matarata	December and CDL atDA
Ouration 15min LAmax		LAeq	LA90	<ul> <li>Meteorology</li> </ul>	Description and SPL, dBA
			Day		
12:42 21/02/2024	54	34	27	WD. N	Birds 25-48
12:57 21/02/2024	56	39	26	WS: 0.5m/s	Traffic 25-56 Residential Noise 25-31
13:12 21/02/2024	53	36	27	<ul> <li>Stab Class: A</li> </ul>	NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	tribution		<35
			Evenir	ng .	
18:00 21/02/2024	50	39	32	MD. NE	Traffic 29-58
18:15 21/02/2024	73	46	32	WD: NE WS: 0.5m/s Stab Class: D	Birds 25-48 Residential Noise 30-73 NPM Inaudible
18:30 21/02/2024	56	38	30		
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	tribution		<35
			Nigh	t .	
22:56 20/02/2024	56	40	36	WD. F	Insects 30-35
23:11 20/02/2024	56	40	37	WD: E WS: 1.5m/s Stab Class: E	Wind Gusts 35-54  Dogs Barking 30-42  Traffic 32-56
23:26 20/02/2024	54	40	36		NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	tribution		<35
	Site I	A1(1min) Contri	ibution		<45

Note: Day - the period from 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday or 8am to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays; Evening - the period from 6pm to 10pm; Night - the remaining periods



Table 15: Attended noise monitoring results for Adavale

Time(hrs)/Date	Noise [	escriptor (dB/	A re 20 μPa)	- Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
Duration 15min	LAmax	LAeq	LA90	- Meteorology	Description and SPL, dBA
			Day	,	
15:01 21/02/2024	54	32	24	145.45	
15:16 21/02/2024	50	32	27	WS: 1.0m/s	Wind Gusts 23-43 Birds 20-55
15:31 21/02/2024	55	34	25	Stab Class: A	NPM Inaudible
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Evenir	ng	1
20:18 21/02/2024	51	38	34		Insects 31-57 Wind Gusts 35-41
20:33 21/02/2024	53	46	40	WD: E 	Aircraft 35-46  NPM – Exhaust Fan/Site Hum <30
20:48 21/02/2024	57	48	47	Stab Class: D	(barely to just audible throughout NPM – Vehicle Movements <30 <sup>1</sup> (barely to just audible <50% measurement)
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
			Nigh	t	
00:56 21/02/2024	53	42	38	— WD: NE	Insects 36-49
01:11 21/02/2024	49	42	37	WS: <0.5m/s  — Stab Class: E	MAC Operator 53 NPM – Exhaust Fan/Site Hum <30
01:26 21/02/2024	48	41	37	— SIAD CIASS. E	(barely audible throughout)
	Site LA	Aeq(15min) Cont	ribution		<35
	Site L	A1(1min) Contri	bution		<45



Table 16: Attended road noise survey results

Time(hrs)/Date	Measured Noise Level		Criteria	
Duration 1 hour	dB LAeq(1hr)	Meteorology	dB LAeq(1hr)	Description and SPL dBA
				Birds 25-48
12:42		WD: N		Traffic 25-56
21/02/2024	38	WS: 0.5m/s	55	Residential Noise 25-31
(Day)		Stab Class: A		(Approx. 16 vehicles Enter/Exit
				NPM Site)
				Traffic 29-58
18:00		WD: NE		Birds 25-48
21/02/2024	42	WS: 0.5m/s	55	Residential Noise 30-73
Evening		Stab Class: D		(Approx. 70 vehicles Enter/Exit
				NPM Site)

Note: NPM denotes Northparkes Mines.

Note: Day - the period from 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday or 8am to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays; Evening - the period from 6pm to 10pm; Night - the remaining periods.