

21 February, 2008

TO:  
Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust (CPMPT)

Our Reference: 0079840L1.DOC

RE: **GOOD VIBRATIONS MUSIC FESTIVAL 2008 - PRELIMINARY  
NOISE COMPLIANCE REPORT**



## 1. PREAMBLE

The following is provided in accordance with the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) Environment Protection Licence (EPL) Prevention Notice 1002139 - Section 96 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997. The specific condition this information relates is (17) (c) and (d) of the Notice.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

ERM conducted both on site and off site compliance noise monitoring for Good Vibrations Music Festival on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

Rehearsals and sound tests were conducted on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> between 4pm and 7pm, whilst the main festival was held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February from 12pm to 10pm. Compliance monitoring was undertaken throughout the entire duration of both days. These times are in accord with the aforementioned Notice.

This report provides an overview of the noise monitoring procedure and results.

## 3. CONDITIONS

The following extract is as per the aforementioned EPA Notice:

***“(17) Reports to be provided to the EPA***

*On the next working day following the completion of the concert the Trust must report to the EPA's Manager, Sydney Local Government by facsimile or phone:*

- c) *compliance or non-compliance with condition **Error! Reference source not found.** , including the reasons for any breaches of the specified hours; and*
- d) *times and details of any occasions where exceedances of the noise level limits in condition **Error! Reference source not found.** occurred which were not exempted by condition **Error! Reference source not found.** and why the exceedance(s) occurred and what action was taken; “*

#### **4. 15 FEBRUARY REHEARSALS AND SOUND TESTS - 4PM TO 7PM**

Three(3) ERM staff (Acoustic Monitors) were measuring noise levels outside the venue at residential areas surrounding the venue.

A fourth ERM engineer was positioned inside the venue and used to assist in identifying activities between all stages. This role was also used to obtain an appropriate reference noise level at each of the stages that would be used to ensure external (residential) noise levels were within limits. This was used to provide guidelines for the following event day.

The results can be summarised as follows (over the 3 hour period):

- Eight(8) exceedances of the 85dB(C) limit were identified at residences; and
- Zero (0) exceedances of the 65dB(A) limit were recorded.

Upon identification of each exceedance, a message from external Acoustic Monitors was relayed back to the internal Acoustic Monitor. The internal Acoustic Monitor would then identify the stage causing the exceedance and advise sound engineers. A noise level reduction would be request as appropriate. A second reading would confirm the noise level reduction at residences.

## 5. 16 FEBRUARY MAIN EVENT - 12PM TO 10PM

One staff member of Centennial Park was positioned at each of the five(5) stage venues (Sound Monitors). A record was kept by Trust staff of the actual start and finish times of each act (attached as Annex B).

Trust staff were equipped with laptop computers all linked to a central Sound Control centre, all using instant messaging for communications.

Real-time noise level monitoring was installed at each of the five(5) stage venues, with Trust staff having direct access to noise levels via their PCs. This is an element of monitoring NOT previously used and proved valuable to the management of off-site noise.

Three(3) ERM staff (Acoustic Monitors) were measuring noise levels outside the venue at residential areas surrounding the venue.

A fourth ERM engineer was positioned inside the venue and used to assist in identifying activities between all stages. This role was also used to refine the previous days internal reference noise level at each of the stages that would be used to ensure external (residential) noise levels were within limits. This provide valuable information to Trust Sound Monitors at hand.

The noise measurement data recorded at residences was correlated with New Act start times. The number of noise limit exceedances (over the ten hour period) can be summarised as follows:

- A total of twenty-two(22) exceedances of the 85dB(C) limit were identified at residences. Of these, approximately nine(9) were exempt according to the Notice provision for the start of new acts; and
- A total of thirteen(13) exceedances of the 65dB(A) limit were recorded. Of these, approximately three(3) were exempt according to the Notice provision for the start of new acts.

Of the above data, three of the identified exceedances were not mutually exclusive of the dB(A) and dB(C) limits. That is, these were counted as both a dB(A) and dB(C) exceedance, although were due to a single occurrence.

External Acoustic Monitors were proactive in providing alerts to stages when they approached limits before exceedances took place. Upon identification of each exceedance, a message from Acoustic Monitors was relayed back to central Sound Control, which relayed this to Sound Monitors at each stage. The internal

Acoustic Monitor would then identify the stage causing the exceedance and advise Trust Sound Monitors. The Sound Monitors would then request a noise level reduction as appropriate. Requests for noise reduction were acted on promptly. A second reading would confirm the noise level reduction at residences.

We trust the above information is satisfactory and if you have any further questions please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,  
For Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd

Najah Ishac  
Manager, Acoustics NSW