

Coopers Gap Community Consultative Committee (CGCCC)

Coopers Gap Wind Farm Project
CGCCC Meeting 12



AGL

Facilitator: Kath Elliott

18 September 2013

Meeting agenda

- > Welcome and introductions
- > Apologies
- > Confirm June 2013 meeting notes
- > Overview of Project Status
- > Community Fund Terms of Reference
- > Overview of recent Infrasound report
- > Any other business
- > Close

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Overview of project status

- > Updated Layouts
- > Status of Revised Environmental Assessment Report
- > Correspondence with Queensland Government

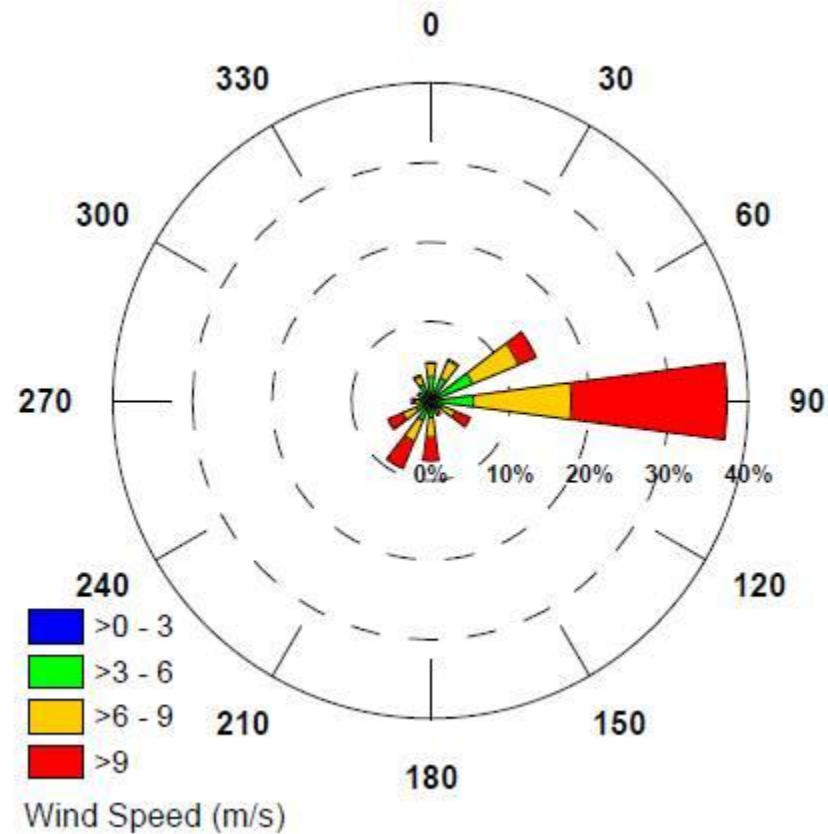
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LRET – update

- > LRET – legislated review 2014
- > Silvertown Wind Farm

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Wind direction information



Wind Rose – Coopers Gap Wind Farm. March 2006 – April 2012

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Community Fund Terms of Reference

- > Review draft Terms of Reference
- > Sign off from the CCC

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Overview of recent Infrasound report released by AGL

- > The 'Infrasound & Low Frequency Noise Operational Monitoring' report is an independent report conducted by Resonate Acoustics for the Macarthur Wind Farm
- > It has also been reviewed by internationally renowned low frequency acoustic expert, Dr Geoff Leventhall
- > The report can be viewed on: agl.com.au/macarthur
- > **Infrasound** is a very low frequency noise (less than 20 Hz) which is always present in the environment, arising from natural sources such as wind and waves, industry and typical household activities. We are all constantly exposed to infrasound through the functioning of the human body, such as breathing and our heart beat. Infrasound is neither audible or perceptible unless at very high levels.
- > **Low frequency noise** is defined as between 10-160 Hz and overlaps the infrasound range. People are often exposed to low frequency noise in the environment, as it is a characteristic of human life. In a rural environment, typical sources would be vehicles, agricultural machinery, water pumps, compressors and natural sources.

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Overview of recent Infrasound report released by AGL

- > Indoor measurements were conducted at residences located 2.7 and 1.8 km from the nearest turbine during the following stages:
 - » pre-operational: no turbines operating
 - » interim: approximately 105 out of 140 turbines operating
 - » operational: all 140 turbines operating



Figure A1 – Noise monitor installed in spare bedroom at O17A



Figure A2 – Noise monitor installed in bedroom at Y21A

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Overview of recent Infrasound report released by AGL

- > There was no change in infrasound levels between pre-operation, interim and operational monitoring stages.
- > The measured levels remained below the 85 dB(G) assessment criterion for both interim and operational measurements
 - » There are no widely accepted assessment criteria for infrasound
 - » Andersen and Moller (1984) suggest 95 dB(G)
 - » DERM, Qld draft guidelines recommend an internal noise limit of 85 dB(G)

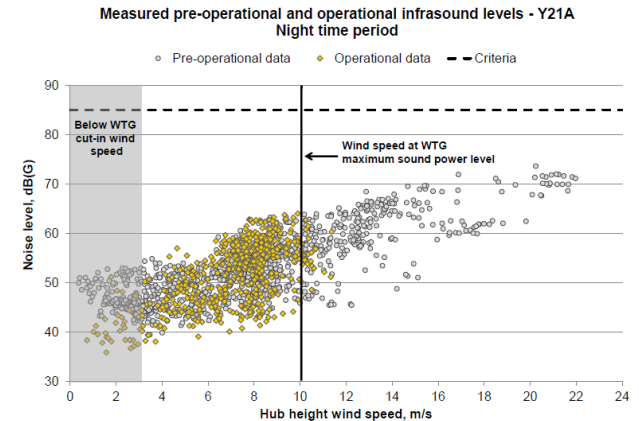


Figure 1 – Measured pre-operational and operational infrasound levels at Y21A, night time period

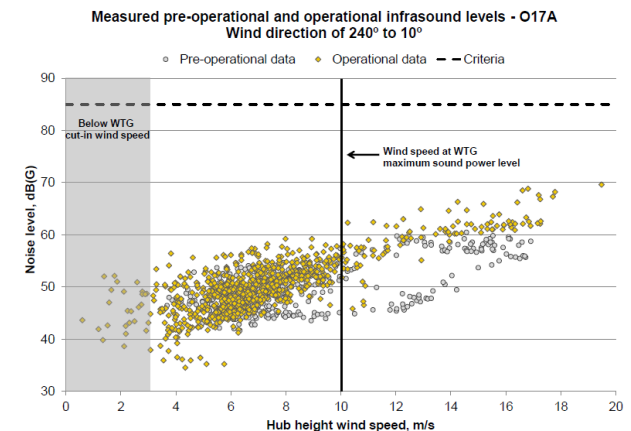


Figure 2 – Measured pre-operational and operational infrasound levels, wind direction of 240° – 10°

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Overview of recent Infrasound report released by AGL

- > Low frequency noise levels were typically consistent between the pre-operational monitoring and the operational monitoring.
- > There was a slight increase in frequencies of >63 Hz and this may be the result of noise from the Macarthur Wind Farm but is still within the applicable low frequency noise criteria
 - » DEFRA, UK (2005) proposed criteria for the assessment of low frequency noise → Vic EPA
 - » Limit is based on the freq band

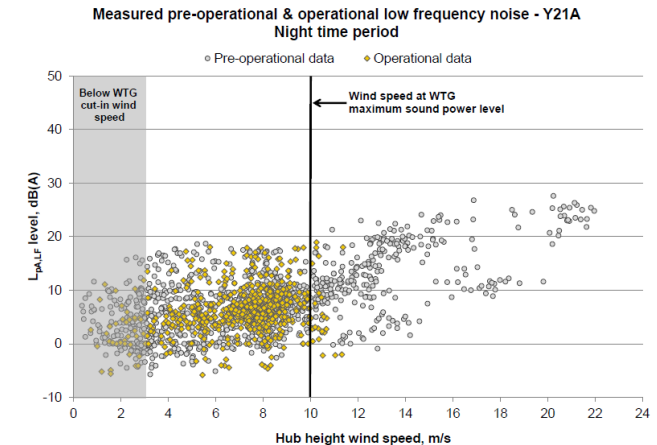


Figure 3 – Measured pre-operational and operational low frequency L_{pALF} noise levels at Y21A

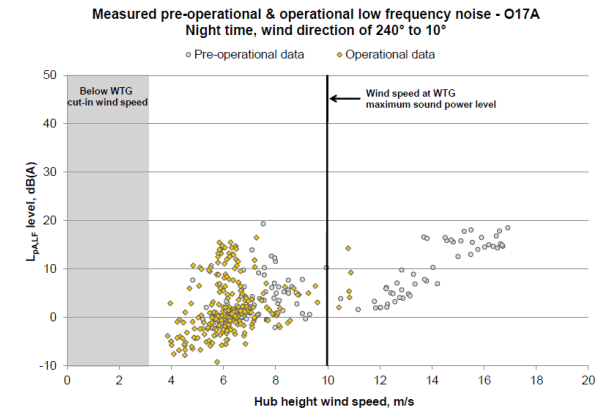


Figure 4 – Measured pre-operational and operational low frequency L_{pALF} noise levels at O17A

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Other business

Action items from previous CCC meetings	Status
January 2013 - discuss with media team on 1-2 page summary of meeting minutes to be circulated to media outlets	
March 2013 - Provide additional info re. maximum weight per axle	
November 2012 – Lisa Taylor to see if the CEC survey questions can be made available	

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Discussion on next meeting

- » Date:
- » Location:
- » Time:
- » Agenda:



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