


MONTHLY REPORT CITY & SOUTHWEST ACOUSTIC ADVISOR

For period:	April 2020	Authorisation:	
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Ongoing Issue – Covid-19 pandemic

During April 2020 the NSW government continued to implement restrictions in response to the Covid-19 pandemic situation. This presents challenges for site inspections; it also affects noise and vibration impacts and changes the availability or suitability of options for mitigation. For example:

- Large numbers of people are working from home, restricted from leaving their homes for most of the day and many are home schooling. It is therefore likely that residential receivers are more sensitive to daytime construction noise.
- Respite offers such as movie or dinner vouchers are not suitable at this time. People may also be more reluctant to take up Alternate Accommodation.
- Orders were made allowing construction to be extended into Saturday afternoons, Sundays and Public Holidays, in certain circumstances. The orders apply to Part 4 projects, and Part 5 projects such as Sydney Metro.

The AA is working with Sydney Metro, DPIE, contractors and the ER to implement appropriate responses to manage these impacts and fulfil the requirements of the Conditions of Approval. In addition to the risks, the Covid-19 situation has also presented some opportunities that are being explored. For example, it has been possible to expand the workplaces and modify the hours available for noisier works at Central Station, while patron numbers have been low.

Acoustic Advisor Activity

- Review and endorsement of
 - LW CNVIS Portion 3 – Northern Connection
 - SSJ CNVMP Revision 7
 - C&SW OOH Work Strategy / Protocol
 - LW CNVIS BPS Artarmon Substation
 - LW CNVIS BPS Surry Hills
- Review and endorsement of out of hours work (OOHW) applications and extensions for
 - LW WE44 Possession Northern Connection
 - NCW MW Inspections
 - TSE sewer inspection works at Pitt Street and Martin Place sites
 - MP-ISD Hoarding and associated works, Monitoring Prisms installation
- Attendance at Sydney Metro meetings with DPIE, and meetings with TSE and CSM contractors.

Inspections, audits and site visits

- TSE Marrickville (virtual)
- CSM Central Station works
- TSE Chatswood Piling (auger shaking)

Monitoring status

- Real-time noise and vibration monitoring (with real-time access) ongoing at TSE, CSM, SSJ, NCW and Martin Place USP sites.

Noise and vibration complaints

- Ongoing complaints about ground borne noise and vibration impacts from piling pad compaction at Chatswood Dive site, cross passage excavation and rock bolt drilling; airborne noise from piling auger shaking at Chatswood Dive site. Dealt with appropriately by TSE.
- Noise and vibration complaints from TSE, CSM, SMU – dealt with appropriately by contractors.

Initiatives

- None.

Non-compliances, incidents and events

- Vibration at 50 Martin Place exceeded the 7.5mm/s threshold on 18 April (up to 10mm/s) and on 21 April (up to 8.9mm/s). LendLease stopped work and modified the work methods.

Ongoing and upcoming environmental risks

- Ongoing ground borne noise and vibration impacts from cross-passage excavation.
- Excavation at Pitt Street North, Martin Place (USP and TSE works) and Victoria Cross south.
- Progressive removal of acoustic sheds from station sites.

Recommendations (incl auditing):

- AA recommendation to Sydney Metro to investigate ways to reduce impulsive noise from bored piling operations, such as during the shaking of augers to remove spoil.