

30 May 2005

**Boral
Quarries**



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To Whom It May Concern,

DUNMORE QUARRY – BARNOWL DIRECTIONAL NOISE MONITORING

As part of environment protection licence and development consent conditions for the operation of our Dunmore Quarry, we are required to meet noise limits at a residence some 400m from the quarry boundary. This residence is also affected by noise from a nearby highway and other industrial sources.

There has been ongoing collection of data by a noise consultant on behalf of the quarry, and between this data and the data collected by the regulatory authority, there have been small discrepancies. These discrepancies relate to noise levels emanating solely from the quarry, which is hard to objectively measure in the presence of other noise (such as traffic noise), and cannot be readily resolved. Although the differences are relatively small, they are critical with respect to compliance / non-compliance.

Noise from the quarry will always be affected by changes due to different operations and activities. However these noise levels can be exacerbated by downwind weather conditions which only occur some of the time. This makes reliance on attended noise monitoring limited. In addition, it is not possible to use conventional automatic long term monitoring systems, since traffic noise from the nearby highway and other extraneous noise from this rural environment would mask the quarry noise. These factors make it impossible to precisely determine the noise contribution from the quarry by conventional techniques.

Boral were made aware of the BarnOwl Directional Noise Monitoring System some time ago and have been reviewing its potential to resolve the ongoing issue. The provision of the system was discussed with the regulatory authority who agreed it would be beneficial in helping to resolve the disagreement.

We have recently purchased and installed the BarnOwl system. We believe it is the only available technology that adequately separates the components of noise where multiple sources have been identified. We are confident this system will provide an accurate assessment of quarry noise with respect to Regulatory Authority requirements in order to determine compliance or non-compliance.

We trust this information is sufficient for your needs, however if further clarification is required, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9033 5307 or 0401 895 872.

Yours truly,

Brett McLennan
Environment and Community Relations Manager
Metro Quarries