

AGL UPSTREAM INVESTMENTS PTY LTD

Newcastle Gas Storage Facility

Annual Noise Monitoring Statement

Reporting Period: 2023

AGL Upstream Investments Pty Ltd

ABN 58 115 063 744

Locked Bag 3013, Australia Square, NSW 1215

200 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Telephone: 02 9921 2999 Facsimile: 02 9921 2474

Complaints Line (24 hours): 1800 039 600



Foreword

PREMISES

Newcastle Gas Storage Facility

5 Old Punt Road

TOMAGO NSW 2322

LICENCE DETAILS

[Environment Protection Licence 20130](#)

LICENCEE

AGL Upstream Investments Pty Limited (AGL)

LICENCEE'S ADDRESS

Locked Bag 3013, Australia Square, NSW 1215

REPORT DATE

11 August 2023

REPORT PREPARED BY

John Moraitis, Environment Manager

Summary

The Newcastle Gas Storage Facility (NGSF) is located at Tomago, New South Wales.

The NGSF includes:

- A processing plant that converts pipeline natural gas to liquefied natural gas (LNG) by cooling it to -162°C. It is capable of processing up to 66,500 tonnes of LNG per year.
- An insulated, non-pressurised LNG storage tank capable of containing 30,000 tonnes or 63,000 m³ of LNG, equivalent to 1.5 petajoules (PJ) of natural gas, and an associated containment area.
- A re-gasification unit to convert the LNG in the storage tank back into natural gas.
- A flare stack with a height of approximately 15m to combust hydrocarbons discharged from the process.
- A truck loading facility to allow the dispatch of up to 1,000 tankers of LNG per year.
- Infrastructure and utility connection and an emergency access road.

In June 2023, the EPA issued AGL with an amended Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) that removed the requirement for annual noise monitoring to be conducted. This was in response to AGL applying for a licence variation following consultation with the EPA, including a joint site visit. AGL notes that the licence specified that the EPA will upon request, after three monitoring events, assess the necessity to continue noise monitoring under the EPL". AGL carried out seven years of monitoring via independent third-party acoustical consultants commencing in mid-2016. A review of the historical noise monitoring report indicated that the noise limits were complied with at all locations (for all monitoring events) in the previous seven years.

As such, both AGL and the EPA considered that there were reasonable grounds for applying to vary the EPL, and the application was approved in June 2023.

Importantly, the new EPL still contains the same noise limits that apply at sensitive receiver locations, and in the event a valid complaint is received by the EPA, AGL will still need to carry out monitoring if requested by the EPA. This ensures that noise limits remain in place to provide an adequate level of protection to all stakeholders, and there is a process in place to manage complaints and appropriate noise amenity.

NOISE MONITORING LOCATIONS (IF MONITORING IS REQUESTED BY THE EPA)

EPA Monitoring Point	Location	Assessment Period	Minimum Duration	Minimum Frequency
2	Hunter Botanical Gardens	Day, Evening, Night	15 minutes	Yearly
3	5 Grahame Drive, Tomago	Day, Evening, Night	15 minutes	Yearly
5	45 School Drive, Tomago	Day, Evening, Night	15 minutes	Yearly
6	Tomago Village Van Park	Day, Evening, Night	15 minutes	Yearly
9	Tomago Aluminium Company Meteorological Station	N/A	N/A	N/A

NOISE MONITORING MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS

Point	Time Period	Measurement
2	Day	Day – LAeq (15 minutes)
	Evening	Evening – LAeq (15 minutes)
	Night	Night – LAeq (15 minutes)
3, 5, 6	Day	Day – LAeq (15 minutes)
	Evening	Evening – LAeq (15 minutes)
	Night	Night – LAeq (15 minutes)
	Night	Night – LAeq (15 minutes)

