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465-467 FINCHLEY ROAD, LONDON

PRELIMINARY PLANT NOISE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Report 9812.PPNIA.01

Prepared on 7 March 2013

For:

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Site Address	Report Date	Revision History
465-467 Finchley Road London	7/03/2013	

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KP Acoustics is the Trading Name of KP Acoustics Limited

CONTENTS

List of Attachments

1.0 INTRODUCTION

KP Acoustics Ltd, Britannia House, 11 Glenthorne Road, London, W6 0LH, has been commissioned by Mr Amyn Govani, Suite 152, Rye House, 113 High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 8JN, to undertake an environmental noise survey at 465-467 Finchley Road, London. The background noise levels measured will be used to determine daytime and night-time noise emission criteria for the proposed rooftop plant unit installation in agreement with the planning requirements of London Borough of Camden.

This report presents the overall methodology and results from the environmental survey followed by calculations to demonstrate the feasibility of the unit installation to satisfy the emissions criterion at the closest noise-sensitive receiver.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE SURVEY AND EQUIPMENT

2.1 Procedure

Automated noise monitoring was undertaken at the position shown in Site Plan 9812.SP1. The choice of this position was based both on accessibility and on collecting representative noise data in relation to the nearest noise sensitive receiver relative to the proposed development. The duration of the survey was between 11:45 on 26th February and 11:35 on 27th February 2013.

Initial inspection of the site revealed that the background noise profile at the monitoring location was wholly dominated by road traffic noise Finchley Road and West Hampstead Lane.

The weather during the course of the survey was generally dry with wind speeds within acceptable tolerances and therefore suitable for the measurement of environmental noise. The measurement procedure generally complied with BS7445:1991 "*Description and measurement of environmental noise, Part 2- Acquisition of data pertinent to land use*".

2.2 Equipment

The equipment calibration was verified before and after the survey and no calibration irregularities were observed.

The equipment used was as follows.

- Svantek Type 957 Class 1 Sound Level Meter
- B&K Type 4231 Class 1 Calibrator

3.0 RESULTS

The results from the continuous noise monitoring are shown as a time history of L_{Aeq}, L_{Amax}, L_{A10} and L_{A90} averaged over 5 minute sample periods in Figure 9812.TH1.

Minimum background noise levels are shown in Table 3.1.

	Minimum background noise level $L_{A90: 5min}$ dB(A)
Daytime (07:00-23:00)	66
Night-time (23:00-07:00)	61

Table 3.1: Minimum measured background noise levels

4.0 NOISE CRITERIA

The criterion of London Borough of Camden for noise emissions of new plant in this instance is as follows:

"Noise emitted by all plant [...] shall not increase the lowest existing L_{A90} (10mins) level measured or predicted at 1.0m from the nearest residential window or at a height of 1.2m above any adjacent residential garden [...] at any time when the plant is operating."

We therefore propose to set the noise criteria as shown in Table 4.1 in order to comply with the above requirement.

	Daytime (07:00 to 23:00)	Night-time (07:00 to 23:00)
Noise criterion at nearest residential receiver (10dB below minimum L_{A90})	56 dB(A)	51 dB(A)

Table 4.1: Proposed Noise Emissions Criteria

5.0 DISCUSSION

The proposals regarding the make/model and location of any plant units are currently unknown. Once the M&E specifications are finalised, a set of calculations will be provided in order to demonstrate compliance to the noise emissions criterion of London Borough of Camden, as shown in Table 4.1.

6.0 CONCLUSION

An environmental noise impact survey has been undertaken at 465-467 Finchley Road, London by KP Acoustics Ltd between 26/02/2013 and 27/02/2013. The results of the survey have enabled criteria to be set for noise emissions.

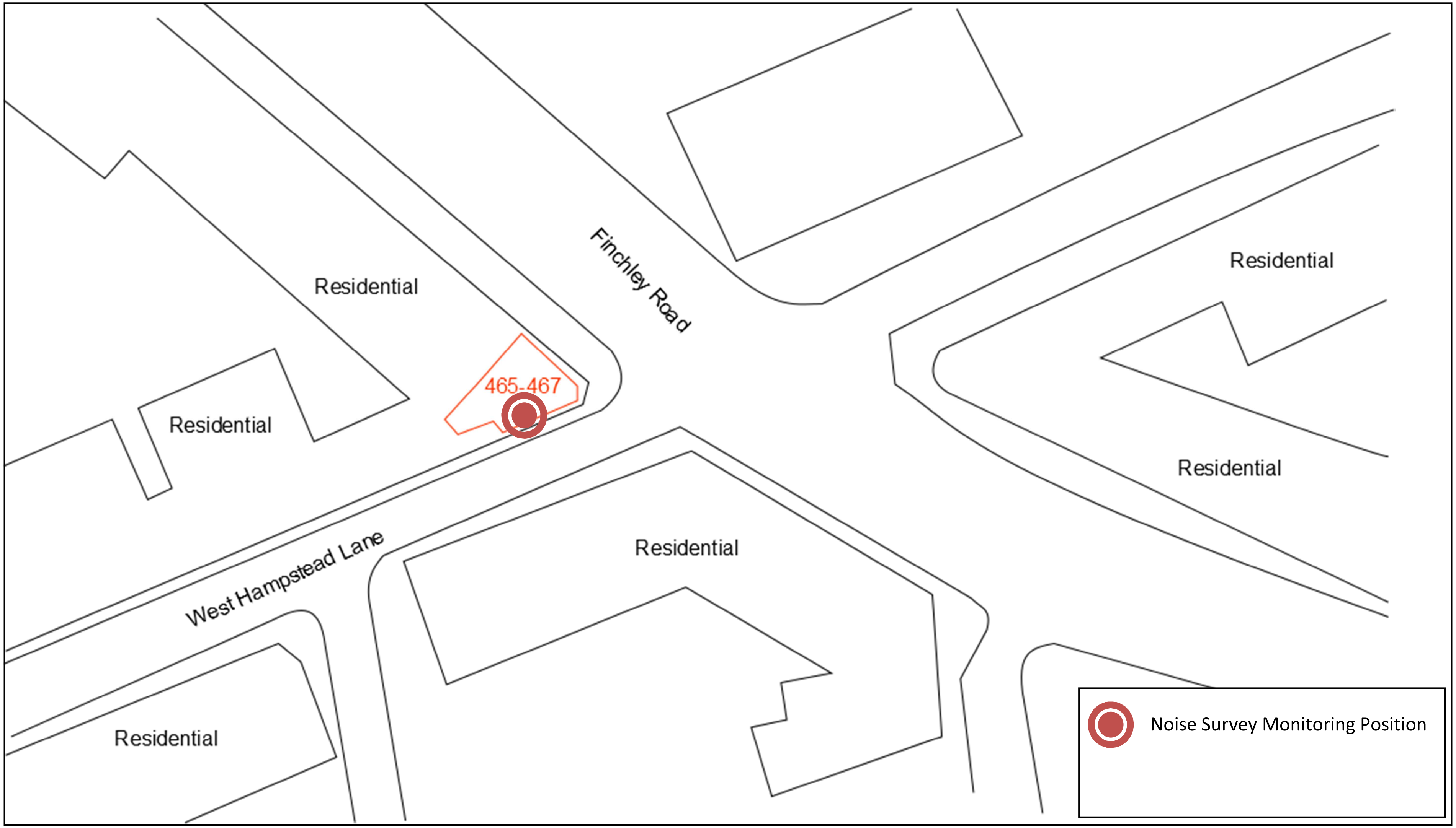
Calculations including a noise control strategy will be provided once all M&E proposals are finalised, in order to demonstrate full compliance to the noise emissions criterion of London Borough of Camden.

Report by

Kyriakos Papanagiotou

Director

KP Acoustics Ltd.



Title:

Indicative site plan showing noise monitoring position

Date: 28 February 2013

FIGURE 9812.SP1

KP acoustics

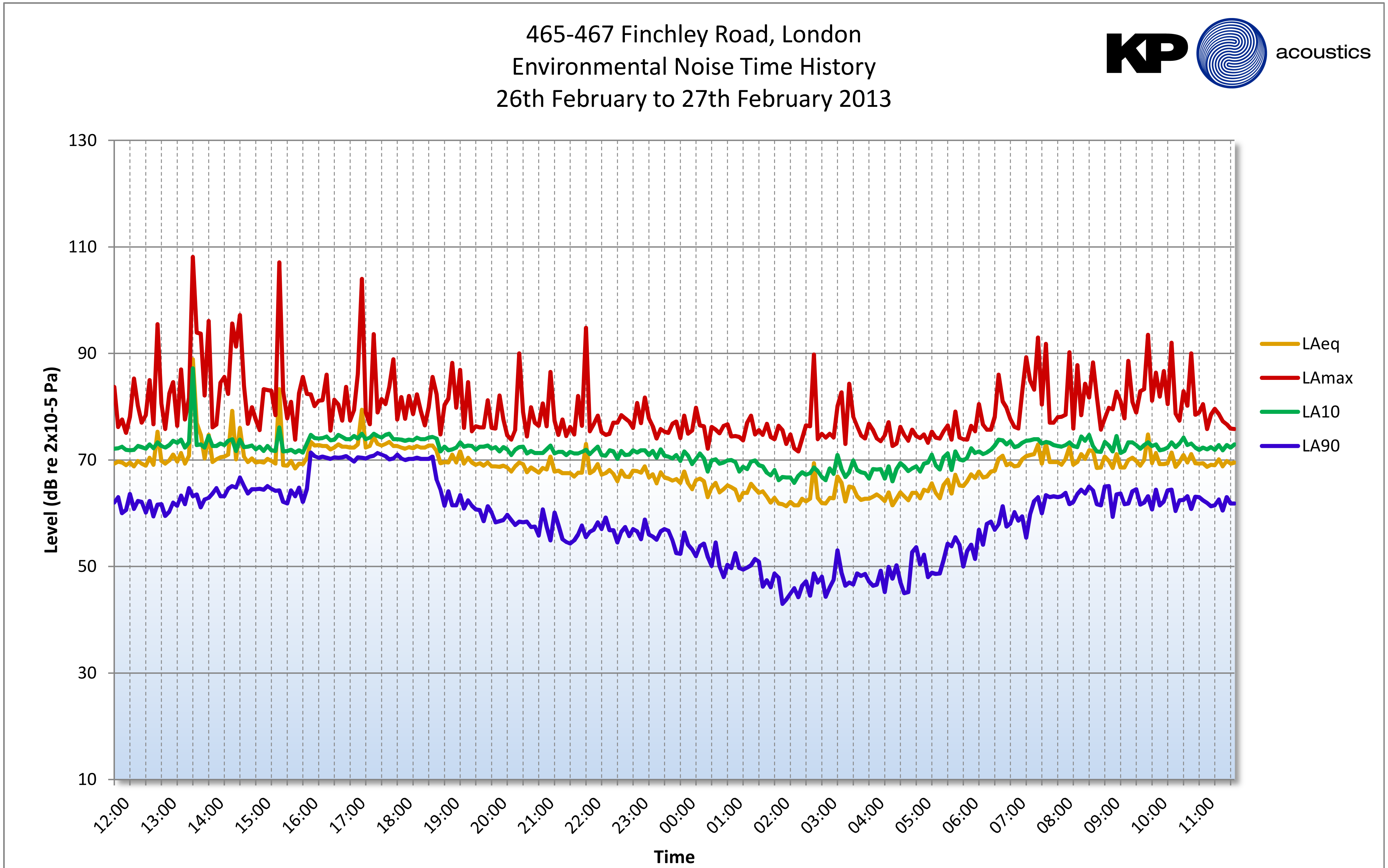


Figure 9812.TH1

APPENDIX A

GENERAL ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY

Decibel scale - dB

In practice, when sound intensity or sound pressure is measured, a logarithmic scale is used in which the unit is the 'decibel', dB. This is derived from the human auditory system, where the dynamic range of human hearing is so large, in the order of 10^{13} units, that only a logarithmic scale is the sensible solution for displaying such a range.

Decibel scale, 'A' weighted - dB(A)

The human ear is less sensitive at frequency extremes, below 125Hz and above 16Khz. A sound level meter models the ears variable sensitivity to sound at different frequencies. This is achieved by building a filter into the Sound Level Meter with a similar frequency response to that of the ear, an A-weighted filter where the unit is dB(A).

L_{eq}

The sound from noise sources often fluctuates widely during a given period of time. An average value can be measured, the equivalent sound pressure level L_{eq}. The L_{eq} is the equivalent sound level which would deliver the same sound energy as the actual fluctuating sound measured in the same time period.

L_{10}

This is the level exceeded for no more than 10% of the time. This parameter is often used as a "not to exceed" criterion for noise.

L_{90}

This is the level exceeded for no more than 90% of the time. This parameter is often used as a descriptor of "background noise" for environmental impact studies.

L_{max}

This is the maximum sound pressure level that has been measured over a period.

Octave Bands

In order to completely determine the composition of a sound it is necessary to determine the sound level at each frequency individually. Usually, values are stated in octave bands. The audible frequency region is divided into 11 such octave bands whose centre frequencies are defined in accordance with international standards. These centre frequencies are: 16, 31.5, 63, 125, 250, 500, 1000, 2000, 4000, 8000 and 16000 Hertz.

Environmental noise terms are defined in BS7445, *Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise*.

APPENDIX A

APPLIED ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY

Addition of noise from several sources

Noise from different sound sources combines to produce a sound level higher than that from any individual source. Two equally intense sound sources operating together produce a sound level which is 3dB higher than a single source and 4 sources produce a 6dB higher sound level.

Attenuation by distance

Sound which propagates from a point source in free air attenuates by 6dB for each doubling of distance from the noise source. Sound energy from line sources (e.g. stream of cars) drops off by 3dB for each doubling of distance.

Subjective impression of noise

Hearing perception is highly individualised. Sensitivity to noise also depends on frequency content, time of occurrence, duration of sound and psychological factors such as emotion and expectations. The following table is a guide to explain increases or decreases in sound levels for many scenarios.

Change in sound level (dB)	Change in perceived loudness
1	Imperceptible
3	Just barely perceptible
6	Clearly noticeable
10	About twice as loud

Transmission path(s)

The transmission path is the path the sound takes from the source to the receiver. Where multiple paths exist in parallel, the reduction in each path should be calculated and summed at the receiving point. Outdoor barriers can block transmission paths, for example traffic noise. The effectiveness of barriers is dependent on factors such as its distance from the noise source and the receiver, its height and construction.

Ground-borne vibration

In addition to airborne noise levels caused by transportation, construction, and industrial sources there is also the generation of ground-borne vibration to consider. This can lead to structure-borne noise, perceptible vibration, or in rare cases, building damage.

Sound insulation - Absorption within porous materials

Upon encountering a porous material, sound energy is absorbed. Porous materials which are intended to absorb sound are known as absorbents, and usually absorb 50 to 90% of the energy and are frequency dependent. Some are designed to absorb low frequencies, some for high frequencies and more exotic designs being able to absorb very wide ranges of frequencies. The energy is converted into both mechanical movement and heat within the material; both the stiffness and mass of panels affect the sound insulation performance.