

09 November 2012

Official Information Request No. 9000119570
 (Please quote this in any correspondence)

Ms Grace Haden

By email: fyi-request-621-a33a4c1c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Haden

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Drilling at St Cuthberts

I refer to your email, which we received on 23 October 2012, requesting information about drilling at St Cuthberts. In your email you asked six questions which we shall respond to in the same order.

1. Noise constraints they are subject to.

The recommended noise levels are the construction noise standard. The Auckland District Plan refers to the 1984 construction Standard. The recommended limit for construction noise during the day from 7.30am to 6.00 pm is 75 dBA L10.

2. What are the normal decibel limits for noise in this area?

The General Noise Rule for the immediate area around the school is: Rule 7.8.1.10 - Noise Control at the Residential Zone Interface. The table below shows the decibel levels. Please note these rules do not apply to construction noise.

Monday to Saturday	7.00am to 10.00pm	L ₁₀ 50 dBA
Sunday & Public Holidays	9.00am to 6.00pm	
At all other times	L ₁₀ 40 dBA L _{MAX} 75 dBA, or the background (L ₉₅) plus 30 dBA, whichever is the lower	

3. What exceptions they have to the provisions?

On 25 October 2012, Council received an application to vary the conditions of consent for R/LUC/2011/4074 and 39111. This variation is seeking to change the conditions of consent relating to the foundation construction of the Aquatic Centre (Centennial Centre) at St Cuthberts College. The applicant proposes to change the foundation construction methodology from flowable fill and reinforced concrete base slabs, to anchor piles (drilled into basalt rock and Waitemata group rock). Due to the nature of the piling the applicant has calculated that the noise levels for the installation of several piles will result in infringing the maximum construction noise levels for two of the neighbouring properties along Wapiti Ave.

The applicant has calculated that the construction noise infringement will most likely be no more than 10 days. The amended proposal also involves extending the acoustic fence along the shared property boundary with 7 Wapiti Ave. Furthermore, the applicant has recommended a condition of consent to establish a communication plan (prepared in consultation with the Wapiti Avenue Residents Society) informing residents of the schedule for the piling activities.

Condition 25 of the original resource consent, states that all construction activities shall comply with the noise levels prescribed in Rule 4A.1.D of the Auckland Council District Plan (Auckland City Isthmus Section) and the recommendations of the noise assessment (involving the construction of an acoustic fence). This rule makes reference to the New Zealand Standard 6803P:1984 *'The Measurement and Assessment of Noise Construction, Maintenance and Demolition Work'*. This standard sets out the maximum construction noise level of 70dB LA10 for the daytime period. The original resource consent application illustrated compliance with this standard. However, the applicant has calculated that the revised proposal will infringe this standard to two of the neighbouring properties along Wapiti Ave by one decibel for several of the piles, hence the lodgement of the variation.

4. Was the drilling application a notifiable activity if so has it been notified?

The resource consent variation has recently been lodged with Council and the processing planner is awaiting reviews from Council experts, therefore no decision in terms of notification has been made. The proposal involves infringing the maximum permitted construction noise limits which is a discretionary activity and the District Plan does not preclude a notification assessment.

5. Will the council be monitoring the effects of the drilling (noise vibration etc) on the environment?

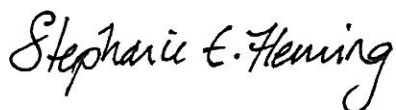
Yes, the resource consent monitoring team will ensure that all conditions of consent are met during and after construction.

6. And with regard to vibration will council be ensuring that no damage is done to residents buildings due to vibration?

The construction work will be required to comply with the vibration rules in the District Plan to ensure no damage is done to buildings.

If you have any further queries please contact me on 09 3010101, quoting Official Information Request No. 9000119570.

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Fleming
Public Information Advisor
Public Information Office

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