

**Before the Hearing Commissioners appointed by Hawke's Bay
Regional Council & Hastings District Council**

In the matter of the Resource Management Act 1991
(**the Act**)

And in the matter of an application by The Te Mata
Mushroom Company Limited to
discharge contaminants into air from a
composting and mushroom growing
operation and associated activities at
174-176 Brookvale Road, Havelock
North

And in the matter of an application by The Te Mata
Mushroom Company Limited to
expand an existing intensive rural
production activity at 174-176
Brookvale Road, Hastings

Statement of evidence of Fadia Sami

17 July 2018

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INTRODUCTION

Qualifications and experience

- 1 My name is Fadia Sami. I am the Director of Earcon Acoustics Limited. I have more than 20 years of experience in the field of engineering including 14 years in New Zealand specialized in acoustics. I have a BSc of Mechanical Engineering from the University of Jordan, 1996. I have a Post Graduate Diploma from The Institute of Acoustics from the UK in co-operation with University of Liverpool, 2004. I am a Member of the Acoustic Society of New Zealand (ASNZ), Member of the Australian Acoustical Society (AAS), Member of the Institute of Acoustics of the United Kingdom (IOA - UK) and a member of Engineering New Zealand.
- 2 I have personally prepared acoustic reports for more than 100 various commercial activities on sites across New Zealand.

Expert witness Code of Conduct

- 3 I have been provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses contained in the Environment Court's Practice Note dated 1 December 2014. I have read and agreed to comply with that Code. This evidence is within my area of expertise, except where I state that I am relying upon the specified evidence of another person. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF EVIDENCE

- 4 In November 2017 I undertook an assessment of the environmental noise effects associated with the proposed Te Mata Mushroom Company Bunker Extension.
- 5 The purpose of this evidence is to confirm my original assessment in respect of the noise effects arising from the proposal.

TECHNICAL REPORT – SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

- 6 My report "Te Mata Mushroom Company – Acoustic Report – Rev B" is at Appendix 4 of the application lodged with the Hastings District Council.

- 7 The primary sources of noise are expected to be from wheeled loaders primarily and HVAC equipment (compost fans, bunker fan and chiller compressor).
- 8 Modelling was done assuming that all machinery was running at full capacity simultaneously. This does not actually happen in reality.
- 9 In accordance with the requirements of the Hastings District Plan, and based on conservatively modelled scenarios pertaining to the operation of the proposed facility, it is predicted that the noise levels from the operation would comply with the relevant noise criteria at all assessed receivers at all times.

RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED IN THE SECTION 42A REPORT

- 10 I have reviewed the Council's section 42A report and recommendation issued on 8 July 2019. Matters relating to Acoustics and Noise are addressed primarily under 8.2.2 on page 29. The Council's reporting planner accepts as appropriate the conclusions of my technical report.

RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED IN SUBMISSIONS

- 11 Submitters have raised a general concern for noise noting the existing activity as producing unacceptable noise.
- 12 The noise levels are predicted to comply with the Hastings District Plan standards and any noise effects are considered to be less than minor.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13 Based on conservative modelling scenarios pertaining to the operation of the proposed facility, the noise levels are predicted to comply with the Hastings District Plan at all neighbouring receivers, at all times.

Fadia Sami
15 July 2019