



# Australian Acoustical Society

ABN 53 713 798 177

## NSW Division

XXXXX Council,  
Contact Name  
Address 1  
Address 2

1 May 2008

Dear Name,

### **Re: Recognised Acoustical Consultant**

We are aware there is a trend amongst some councils for a requirement to be placed on Development Applications, and the like, advising or stating that noise reports should be prepared by members of the Association of Australian Acoustical Consultants (AAAC).

This type of specific Council requirement, by implication, or by statement, would exclude many highly competent and professional Acoustical Consultants from preparing such reports. Such a statement may deter applicants from using non-AAAC member firms, restricting the ability of competent professionals to work within your Local Government Area.

We are well aware of difficulties that Council Officers face in assessing the quality and competence of work provided to Council by "Acoustical Consultants". We would like to strongly suggest that Council Officers in your Assessment, Planning and Health sections refer to the 'Noise Guide for Local Government' (Department of Environment & Conservation, June 2004), page 21 where it states:

"It is recommended that a suitably qualified acoustic consultant (eg a member of the Australian Acoustical Society, the Institution of Engineers, the Association of Australian Acoustical Consultants or a person with other appropriate professional qualifications) undertake acoustic assessment reports."

We encourage you to advise anybody who needs to obtain an acoustic assessment, to confirm that the person or company they are proposing to engage has the relevant acoustic experience in relation to the type of project being assessed.

To assist you in more fully understanding the Australian Acoustical Society, visit the Australian Acoustical Society web site located at <http://www.acoustics.asn.au>, in particular the Code of Ethics and membership requirements.

Yours Faithfully

Tracy Gowen MAAS  
Chairperson  
NSW Division – Australian Acoustical Society