



# NSW DIVISION TECHNICAL MEETING

## Revised Topic

The EPA Noise Policy for Industry, what it says, and how it will be implemented



Date: Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017

Venue: Room 101, Ainsworth building (J17), UNSW

Time: NSW DIVISION AGM 5:30pm for 6:00pm start  
TALK WILL FOLLOW THE NSW DIVISION AGM (2017)  
*Refreshments prior to AGM/talk*

Speaker: Gordon Downey, NSW Environment Protection Authority  
Jeff Parnell, NSW Department of Planning and Environment

RSVP: **Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016** to Laura Keen by email  
[Laura.Keen@aecom.com](mailto:Laura.Keen@aecom.com)

AAS members and guests who sent a RSVP by the due date (25 Oct 17) are welcome to attend the talk.

Additional AAS members may attend, but must RSVP by 31 Oct. Unfortunately, no further non-members can be accommodated

The EPA released the *Noise Policy for Industry* on 27 October 2017 to replace the existing *Industrial Noise Guideline* (2000). The new document balances the need for industrial activity with the community's desire to minimise intrusive sounds. It sets assessment noise levels, consistent methods, and best practice measures to manage industrial noise, and is based on the latest scientific research regarding the health effects of noise. Key changes include:

- clarifying ways in which the EPA considers noise levels when developing site-specific requirements
- adjusting the minimum daytime noise level to 40 decibels; night-time and evening noise levels have not changed
- incorporating sleep disturbance assessment levels based on World Health Organization guidance
- amending the way meteorological conditions are considered to ensure that noise requirements apply under all conditions
- updating methods for identifying and assessing annoying noise characteristics, for example, tonal and low-frequency noise, to reflect current standards and practices
- introducing a 'precinct' concept to better manage noise and impacts from multiple premises at one site

The presentation will also discuss the NSW Government implementation strategy for the new policy. The Policy may be accessed at: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/industrial-noise>