New Sewer Pipeline Project

Managing Noise

As work on the new sewer pipeline gets underway, there may be times when noise levels increase in your area. Here's what to expect, and what we're doing to minimise the impact.

Managing construction noise

We recognise construction noise can be a major annoyance, especially in residential areas. So we're committed to keeping our noise impact as low as possible.

What is noise?

Noise is defined as 'unwanted sound'. It's perceived differently from person to person, and is measured on a scale of units called 'decibels' (dBA).

Before beginning this project, we undertook a detailed assessment to predict the noise level of our works, and identify the areas where this noise was likely to be noticeable to people. We do this by averaging the quietest and loudest measurements, while also considering how the human ear will perceive it.

Learn more at taswater.com.au
or scan the QR code.

The Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan
is a partnership between:

Australian Government · Tasmanian Government · City of LAUNCESTON · TasWater

Our River.
Our Future.

Revitalising kanamaluka/Tamar estuary

What is construction noise?

This is noise associated with construction activities. It is often temporary and varies as our activities change and work progresses.

For this project, the construction activities that may generate unwanted noise or vibration are:

- Earthwork activities
- Project vehicle movements
- Reversing alarms and beepers
- Generators
- Workers
- Drilling, tunnelling and hammering
- Loading, unloading, or moving equipment and construction materials

What will be the noisiest construction work?

When we drill into the ground and hammer in the new pipe sections, there may be noticeable noise. We recognise that if you live nearby, this repetitive noise may be disruptive for you and your family.

To keep this noise to a minimum, we've adapted our schedule to ensure that drilling and hammering activity will not take place more than 3 times a day. Depending on the density of the ground, we expect the hammering duration could be up to 4 hours. In between these times, we will be lining up and welding the next pipe sections to be hammered into our bore holes. This activity will take up most of our time, meaning for the majority of the day, noise levels will be far lower.

What are we doing to minimise the noise?

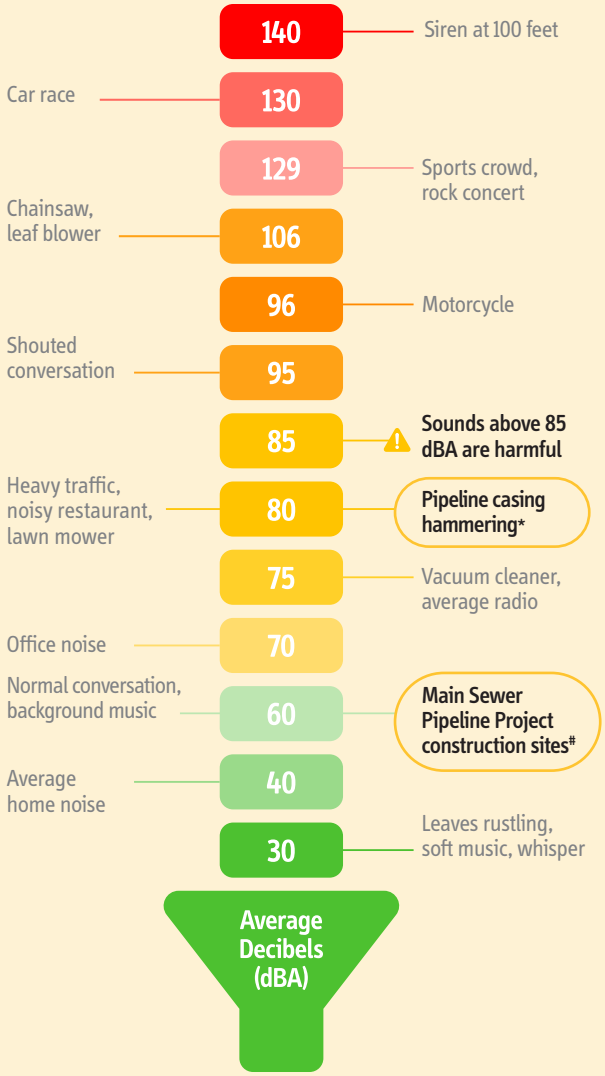
In our impact assessments and background noise measurements, we consider the distances from the work area to sensitive receivers. Where noise may exceed guidelines or is likely to adversely impact you, we have put measures in place to reduce noise and vibration impact, including:

- Erecting noise shrouds – to help absorb and redistribute the sound away from nearby homes
- Installing double stacked containers – in areas we expect the noise to be higher
- Scheduling noisy work at less sensitive time periods (normal daytime work hours where possible)
- Regular maintenance of equipment
- Installing noise control equipment on machinery and tools
- Scheduling respite periods for high noise activities, such as when we are installing the pipeline casings (up to 4 hours on, 3 hours off)

Most importantly, before beginning major construction works in residential or business areas, we'll provide advanced notice that ensures the potentially affected will have time to plan.

Unfortunately, given the range of machinery and equipment required to carry out this large project, there may be times where we have limited options available to reduce noise levels. Where noise is excessive and prolonged, respite periods will be scheduled to provide relief to neighbours.

What will the noise sound like?



*The highest expected noise from the hammering of the pipeline casing is 80dBA. #The expected noise levels of the Directional Drilling Works at 100m radius from our main construction sites will typically be between 50 and 65 dBA.