Response given on 28 July in response to an inquiry about noise conditions and testing at the Hilltop shooting range:

In response to the results of noise monitoring undertaken for the Hilltop shooting range, the proponent has lodged an application to modify the noise limits which apply to its existing approval for the facility. The Department is currently considering this modification application and as such, has reached no conclusion at this stage.

The application will be the subject of a thorough assessment process by the Department before a decision is made. Details of this application are on the Department’s website at http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

The current project approval requires the proponent to undertake monitoring to measure noise levels at the boundary of existing residences. Based on the information which the proponent has provided to the Department – and which is also available on its website at http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/publicat/search.asp?pub_keyword=hill – the Department believes this requirement is being met.

These noise monitoring requirements must also involve monitoring of the noise generated by the known noisiest firearms used on the 800m range. Again, information about the types of weapons is included in the noise monitoring reports. If residents have specific concerns about the noise monitoring being undertaken, they should write to the Department with their concerns.