

Building and Plumbing Newsflash 544

Inclusion of railways as designated transport noise corridors under the *Building Act 1975*

Purpose

From 8 July 2015, certain railways have been designated as transport noise corridors under the *Building Act 1975*. These corridors have been mapped and included on the property search tool that is used for compliance with the Queensland Development Code Mandatory Part 4.4–Buildings in transport noise corridors (QDC 4.4).

Background

Residential buildings (classes 1 to 4) located in a designated transport noise corridor are required to comply with QDC 4.4. This applies to new residential buildings or an existing dwelling undergoing a major renovation (alteration, addition or relocation). Transport noise corridors can be designated under the *Building Act 1975* for State-controlled roads, railways and local government's major roads.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has completed mapping for certain railways. These railways have been designated and gazetted as transport noise corridors under the *Building Act 1975*.

Application

Inclusion of railways and mapping

Transport noise corridors have been designated for the following railway lines:

- all South East Queensland network (excluding the Interstate line and the Richlands to Springfield line)
- the North Coast Line System (Nambour to Cairns)
- the Western System (Rosewood to Oakey), and
- the Mount Isa System (Stuart (near Townsville) to Mount Isa).

These railway lines have been incorporated into the transport noise corridor mapping system and are presented with the results generated for a property search, as shown in the figure on the following page. These railway corridors are all mandatory areas for compliance purposes.

Building practitioners and property owners are able to identify if a property is located in a designated transport noise corridor by using the free online [property search tool](#).

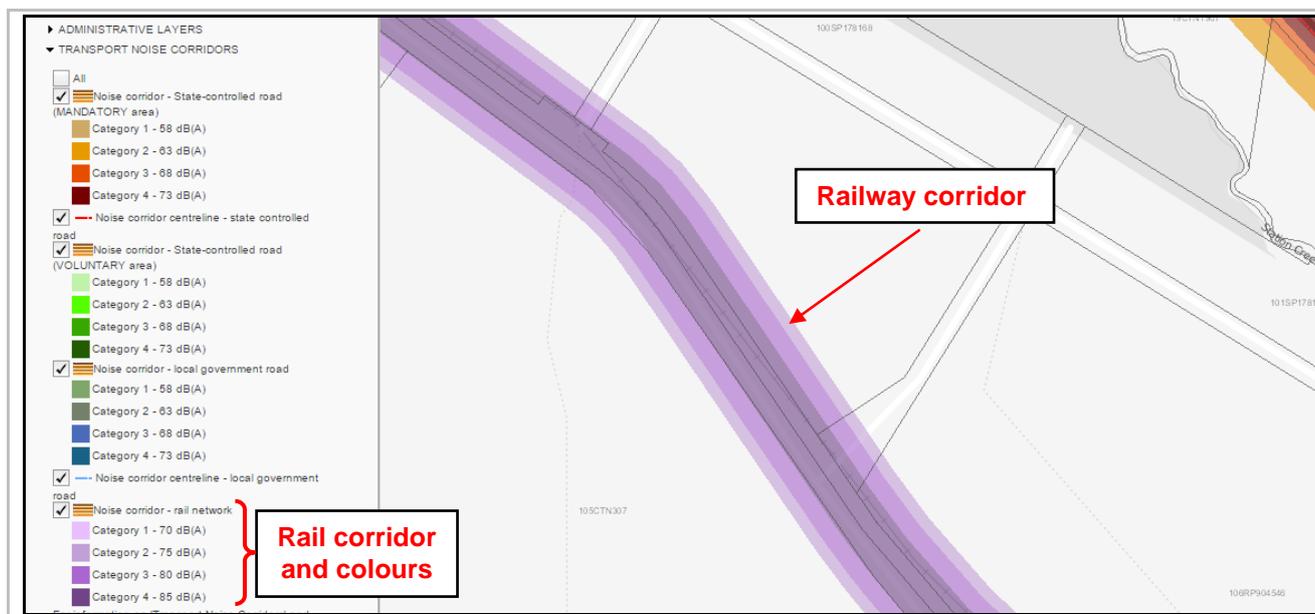


Figure: Property search result for a designated railway line

Changes to building application process

As a result of these railway lines being designated as transport noise corridors, the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning will remove provisions regarding internal noise for residential buildings located in these rail corridors from the State Development Assessment Provisions. The State Government will cease to condition these development applications.

Instead, where a building development application is submitted for a property affected by the designated railway corridor, it will need to comply with [QDC 4.4](#). This change provides a more efficient building application process for properties affected by a railway corridor, thereby saving time and costs for industry practitioners and property owners.

More information

Information about 'transport noise corridors', including user support material and the free online property search tool, is available on the department's website at www.hpw.qld.gov.au.

Contact for further information

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