EXHIBIT D – Approximate Spectral Frequency Distribution of a Heron Call

Figure D-1 below shows an approximate spectral distribution of a heron call in 1/3 octave bands. The spectrum was obtained by processing a playback of a recording through a standard speaker system. The spectrum is viewed as approximate as the origin and the quality of the recording is unknown and the response of the speaker system is not completely flat. However, qualitatively, the spectrum is viewed as acceptable for the purpose of the present review. Primarily, it is meant to illustrate a rather broad bandwidth of the heron call.

Although it is not my area of expertise, I understand that not much quantitative data is available on the effects of prolonged exposure of herons to continuous, relatively low level, noise, as the case would be in the presence of the proposed power plant. However, it is not unreasonable to assume that for herons, like most animal species, there would a strong correlation between auditory sensitivity and vocalization. Consequently, in view of the broad bandwidth of heron vocalization, the assessment of the noise impact from the proposed facility on the nearby heron colony should consider the low frequency component of noise in addition to the overall A-weighted levels.

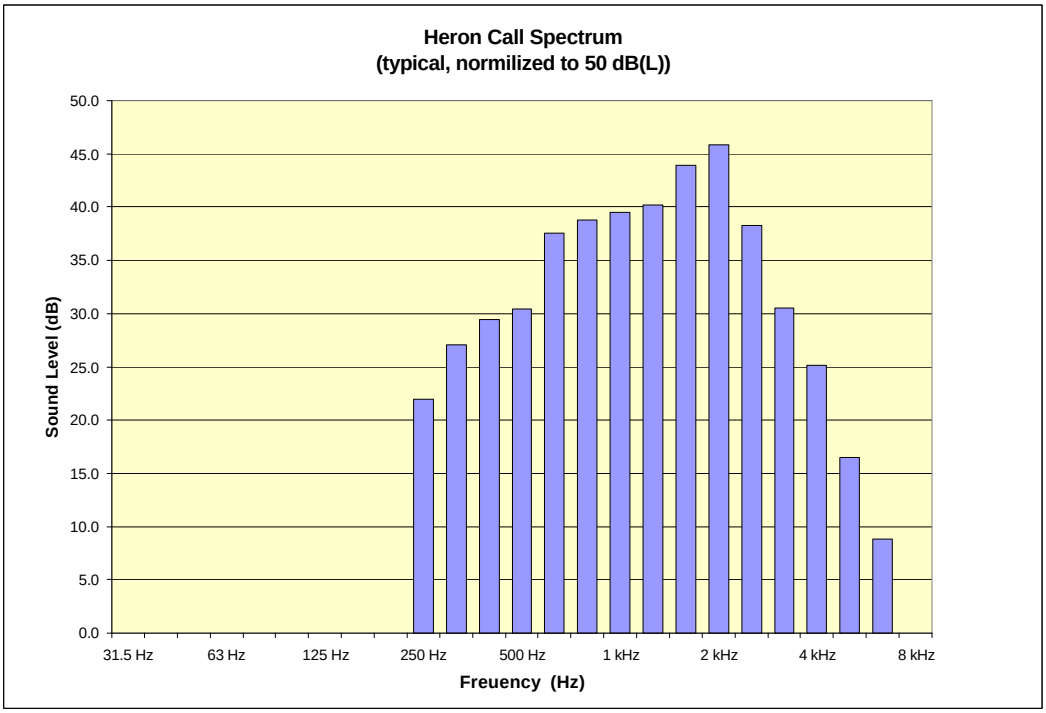

Figure D-1. Approximate 1/3 Octave Spectrum of Heron Call.