

1. NOISE MONITORING

1.1 Objective

The Contractors construction methodology will be such as to minimise any impact from noise. The construction methodology will respect the surrounding environment and will minimise impact on the sensitive receptors in the surrounding area.

The purpose of the noise mitigation and monitoring is to ensure that the limits prescribed in the event of a grant of planning approval will not be exceeded and to ensure and demonstrate that the works are undertaken in a manner that does not give rise to significant negative impacts through minimising either noise annoyance, noise disturbance or noise nuisance at noise sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed onshore pipeline during construction.

1.2 Scope

The Contractors will be required to submit a method statement for the proposed works to demonstrate compliance with SEPIL's Environmental Management System (as specified under Condition 11 proposed by Mayo County Council). SEPIL employs an Environmental Management System for all aspects of construction. This is rigorously enforced by a dedicated Environmental Team currently employed at the terminal site. This Environmental Management System will be extended to provide for the construction of the proposed onshore pipeline.

The noise section of the Environmental Management System includes the following:

- Specification of requirements in relation to noise during construction,
- Specification of the control measures to be employed, in addition to those with regard to traffic movements to and from all compounds,
- Specification of site inspection procedures, supervision and monitoring of noise levels during the construction phase,
- Specification of complaint logging and response procedures, including follow-up,
- Specification of noise monitoring reporting requirements.

1.3 Noise Monitoring Locations and Frequency

Throughout the construction period, audits will be undertaken to ensure that the noise minimisation methods identified at the planning stage are being implemented effectively on-site.

In addition, a number of noise monitoring locations have been identified. Two of these monitoring locations are situated on SEPIL property (as shown on Figure 1), while three private landowners have also agreed to have noise monitoring equipment on their property for the duration of the construction activities. These private landowners are situated in the townlands of Aghoos, Glengad and Rossport and as such, will increase the geographical spread of the noise monitoring locations from those shown in Figure 1, ensuring a clear picture of noise levels arising from the construction activities is obtained.

It is important to note that the privately owned properties are not shown on Figure 1 as the landowners in question did not wish to be identified at this stage.

It is proposed that monitoring be undertaken on a 24-hour, 7-day basis at the privately owned Aghoos location and on a weekly basis at the remaining four locations (subject to agreement with Mayo County Council), for the duration of the 26 month construction phase. (As well as continuous monitoring at the Aghoos location, a weekly, attended noise survey will also be undertaken.)

The proposed noise monitoring locations referenced above may be amended during the construction phase, subject to the nature of works at the different site compounds and pipeline spread sections

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and to the agreement of Mayo County Council as appropriate (following consultation with the Project Monitoring Committee, in accordance with Condition No. 13 (as proposed by the Planning Authority in its submission to An Bord Pleanála). In this regard, alternative noise monitoring locations may be used, in proximity to specific areas of the construction works, as appropriate. Additional noise monitoring may also be undertaken, if necessary, in response to requests from residents.

1.4 Monitoring Methodology

The noise monitoring surveys will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced personnel in accordance with ISO 1996^{Note1}: *Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise: Parts 1 – 3*, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) *Environmental Noise Survey Guidance Document*, 2003.

1.5 Monitoring Reports

A noise monitoring interpretative report setting out the noise monitoring results will be provided to Mayo County Council on a fortnightly basis.

The interpretative report will outline the full details, measurements and results of the noise monitoring. The report will include the noise monitoring data, a discussion of the apparent noise and vibration sources and the significance of the results and a summary and conclusions. An assessment of tonal and impulsive components of the noise will be conducted using one-third ($1/3$) octave band noise data recorded during the measurement periods. In this regard, the impact of the noise emissions associated with the construction phase will be considered with regard to the BS5228-1 standard guidance document.



Figure 1: Noise (and Vibration) Monitoring Locations

Note1

ISO 1996 (Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise: Part 1 – Guide to quantities and procedures (2003); Part 2 – Guide to the acquisition of data pertinent to land use (2007); and Part 3 – Guide to application to noise limits (1991).