

**From:** [Jason Cao](#)  
**To:** [Joan Yu](#)  
**Subject:** RE: AUC Bulletin 2023-01 - Stage 2 of round 2 consultation for potential changes to AUC Rule 012: Noise Control  
**Date:** Friday, May 12, 2023 4:06:48 PM

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Hi Joan,

Please see my responses below.

Question 1. Please comment on the definition of suburban and urban receptors proposed for Table 1 of Rule 012. Is it reasonable to add two columns to Table 1 of Rule 012 for suburban and urban receptors? Has the Commission selected appropriate dwelling densities for suburban and urban receptors?

Response: The proposed definition of suburban and urban receptors is based on dwelling density, which is consistent with the existing Rule 012 and Directive 038. And therefore, I think it is reasonable. The proposed PSLs for suburban and urban areas seem reasonable to me. It maybe a little challenging when an acoustical practitioner tries to determine the density in a populated area. For example, to confirm if they have counted 995 dwelling units or 1005 units, particularly when there are high rise buildings. And I also think that "401 to 1,000 dwellings" can be described as "Suburb or urban" in the table.

Question 2. Please comment on the basic sound levels for suburban and urban receptors proposed for Table 1 of Rule 012. In particular, the Commission requests that noise consultants and others who may represent members of the public comment on the basic sound levels for suburban and urban receptors from the perspective of suburban and urban residents.

Response: They seem reasonable. The AUC had applications for facilities in urban areas. Were those ambient survey results representative of the proposed suburban and urban BSLs?

Question 3. Please suggest changes to subsection 2.5(2) of Rule 012. In particular, please specify an appropriate development milestone for a facility that has been predicted or measured to be compliant with Rule 012. After this milestone, owners/residents of a new dwelling should be aware that a new facility will be located nearby and the permissible sound level at the new dwelling will be greater of the modelled cumulative sound level at the start of the dwelling construction, or the permissible sound level as determined in Section 2.1 of Rule 012.

Response: My suggestion for the milestone is noticeable construction activities, or noticeable foundation or structure.

Question 4. Please comment on whether Rule 012 should include tonality evaluation for all audible frequencies.

Question 5. If Rule 012 should include tonality evaluation for all audible frequencies, please comment on the circumstances where it would be appropriate to evaluate tonal noise. Should tonality evaluation be required in all comprehensive sound level surveys ordered by the Commission? Should tonality evaluation only be required in comprehensive sound level surveys arising from complaints?

Question 6. Please comment on potential unintended consequences if Rule 012 were to require tonality evaluation for all audible frequencies.

Question 7. If the Commission were to require tonality evaluation for all audible frequencies, should any changes be made to the current criteria for low frequency noise? In particular, should the dBC minus dBA element of the low frequency noise evaluation be eliminated?

Response: Tonality analysis can be quite complicated. I suggest including tonality analysis for all audible frequencies for suburb and urban receptors as an interim requirement to test. At the current stage, I am leaning towards the option of tonality evaluation arising from complaints. The current LFN evaluation remains until we find a consistent tonality evaluation method to transition from the current LFN analysis to that for all audible frequencies.

We can chat for more details when you have time.

Regards,

Jason Cao

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**From:** Crystal Carstens <Crystal.Carstens@auc.ab.ca>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2023 10:26 AM

**Subject:** AUC Bulletin 2023-01 - Stage 2 of round 2 consultation for potential changes to AUC Rule 012: Noise Control

You don't often get email from [crystal.carstens@auc.ab.ca](mailto:crystal.carstens@auc.ab.ca). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good morning,

The Alberta Utilities Commission has issued Bulletin 2023-01: *Stage 2 of round 2 consultation for potential changes to AUC Rule 012: Noise Control*. Please see the attached bulletin.

Any feedback should be sent to Joan Yu at [joan.yu@auc.ab.ca](mailto:joan.yu@auc.ab.ca) **by May 15, 2023**.

Thank you,

**Crystal Carstens**

Administrative Assistant

[www.auc.ab.ca](http://www.auc.ab.ca)



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