

Section 1 Requirement changes		
Topic 1.1 Noise receptor		
Original text	Proposed change and Commission comment	GCR comments
N/A	<p>Add definitions for “noise receptor” and “the most affected noise receptor” to the Glossary (Appendix 1):</p> <p>A noise receptor is any dwelling located within 1.5 km of the facility property boundary. If there are no dwellings within 1.5 km of the facility property boundary, a noise receptor is any point at 1.5 km from the facility property boundary.</p> <p>For wind power projects, a noise receptor is any dwelling located within 1.5 km of the centre point of the tower of a wind turbine or within 1.5 km of the substation boundary. If there are no dwellings within 1.5 km of the wind turbine or substation, a noise receptor is any point at 1.5 km from the wind turbine or substation boundary.</p> <p>The Commission may consider other types of noise receptors (e.g., sites of ceremonial or cultural importance) on a case-by-case basis. In these circumstances, the party who requests consideration of a non-dwelling receptor must provide justification or explanation for why noise compliance at this location should be considered.</p> <p>The most affected noise receptor(s) are those noise receptors subject to the highest cumulative sound level relative to the permissible sound level.</p>	<p>We often prepare a Project NIA prior to stakeholder consultation such that the results can be provided to stakeholders as part of the process. There may be cases where the NIA has been finalized, and the Project layout has been finalized, but a historical or cultural site is subsequently identified and requires mitigation or changes to the layout. This presents a risk to developers as these sites may be difficult to identify without consultation and could be identified late into the development and even AUC permitting process.</p> <p>GCR suggests further clarification is required as to how the other types of noise receptors should be identified and what criteria is required to be met, such that this can be taken into consideration at an earlier stage of the design and development process.</p>
Topic 1.3 New noise impact assessment flowchart		
Original text	Proposed change and Commission comment	GCR comments
N/A	<p>New:</p> <p>A new subsection (3.1(2)) under Section 3.1</p> <p>3.1 General requirements</p> <p>(2) Noise impact assessment flowchart</p> <p>(a) When a facility is exempt from the requirement to file a Rule 007 application or is eligible to file a checklist application under Rule 007, the facility must still comply with Rule 012 permissible sound levels. In these cases, a proponent may complete an Appendix X – Noise impact assessment flowchart to determine if a noise impact assessment is required.</p>	<p>Further clarification is needed for near field and far field. The definitions are based on the dimensions of the noise source. Are these dimensions assuming the inverter/transformer unit dimensions, or the project fence line dimensions?</p> <p>It is unclear what the output of the flowchart looks like. Does this take the form of a results table Or, does the Commission expect to see</p>

	<p>(b) Preparation of a noise impact assessment may be avoided in cases where the noise impact from a facility is expected to be minimal. For an exempt facility or a facility eligible to file a checklist application, the noise impact assessment flowchart provides objective criteria for determining if noise impacts are expected to be minimal.</p> <p>(i) If these criteria are satisfied, then further assessment is not required.</p> <p>(ii) If these criteria are not satisfied, then the proponent must complete a noise impact assessment.</p> <p>(c) A noise impact assessment flowchart is only applicable to a facility that is exempt from filing a Rule 007 application or that is eligible to file to a checklist application under Rule 007. For other types of facilities, a noise impact assessment must be filed</p>	<p>flowchart itself? Clarification is required.</p>
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Topic 1.8 Conditions for a time extension request

Original text	Proposed change and Commission comment	GCR comments
<p>PDF page 6 1.5(1) 1.5 Conditions for a time extension request (1) A new noise impact assessment must be filed as part of a time extension request, if construction has not begun prior to the expiry date of the approval and one or more of the following conditions is satisfied:</p> <p>(a) The licensee is proposing major amendments to the approved facility; (b) The most affected dwelling(s) have changed; or (c) There are new energy-related facilities that may influence sound levels at dwellings located within 1.5 kilometres (km) of the proposed facility boundary.</p>	<p>Edits: 1.5(1) 1.5 Conditions for a time extension request (1) A new noise impact assessment must be filed as part of a time extension request, if one or both of the following conditions is satisfied:</p> <p>(a) The most affected noise receptor(s) have changed (e.g., construction of a new dwelling); or (b) There are new energy-related facilities that may influence compliance at noise receptor(s).</p> <p>If a new noise impact assessment is not included in a time extension request, the applicant must confirm that the most affected noise receptor(s) have not changed and there are no new energy-related facilities that may influence sound levels at noise receptors.</p>	<p>Clarification is required to define whether the time extension request relates to commencement of construction or completion of construction.</p> <p>It is unclear from the proposed wording whether this now means that a time extension application that is filed <i>after</i> construction commences must include an updated NIA.</p> <p>GCR’s suggestion is to re-add the following extract “if construction has not begun prior to the expiry date of the approval and one or more....” to clarify the intent.</p>

Topic 1.9 Noise complaint investigation

Original text	Proposed change and Commission comment	GCR comments
<p>PDF page 37 5.2(3) (3) If monitoring is conducted due to a noise complaint, completed noise complaint investigation forms (see Appendix 4) identifying the representative conditions for</p>	<p>Edits: 5.2(3) (3) Noise complaint investigation forms (see Appendix 4) must be completed and submitted to the Commission whenever there is a noise</p>	<p>GCR foresees a practical risk in the complexity of the form requiring specific sign-off and issues with AUC review of forms (data collection vs. review and requirements for noise monitoring). This may be burdensome</p>

<p>monitoring must be completed and submitted to the Commission.</p>	<p>complaint, regardless of whether noise monitoring is ultimately required to address the complaint.</p>	<p>for both the Project developer and the complainant.</p> <p>Clarification is required as to the process upon receipt of the noise complaint investigation forms. Does the Commission decide whether further noise monitoring and investigation will be required?</p>
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