



AUC

Alberta Utilities Commission

Technical Meeting **Rule 012 Revision Project**

July 21, 2023



Land acknowledgement



- » As we gather here today, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge that we are in Treaty 7 territory, and to acknowledge the First Nations and Métis Peoples of Alberta, whose presence continues to enrich our community. We pay our respects to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

» As specified in Bulletin 2023-02, in this meeting, we intend to discuss these topics or issues related to the Rule 012 revision project:

1. Ambient sound levels (ASLs) for populated areas

(a) The relative benefits and drawbacks associated with assumed and measured ASLs.

2. Permissible sound levels (PSLs) for populated areas

(a) Definition of suburban and urban receptors.

(b) Determination of suburban and urban PSLs.

3. New dwelling PSLs

(a) Appropriate development milestones for establishing PSLs at new dwellings constructed close to an approved but not yet constructed facility.

4. Tonality evaluation

(a) The need to evaluate tonality when assessing potential noise impacts.

» **Email: joan.yu@auc.ab.ca**

Schedule



» Bulletin 2023-03: based on the assumption that each participant will have up to four minutes to comment on one topic.

Activity		Time (in minutes)	Start time	End time
Participants sign in		30	1 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
Opening remarks and introduction		15	1:30 p.m.	1:45 p.m.
Discussion	Ambient sound levels for populated areas	30	1:45 p.m.	2:15 p.m.
	Definition of suburban and urban receptors	35	2:15 p.m.	2:50 p.m.
Break		15	2:50 p.m.	3:05 p.m.
Discussion	Determination of suburban and urban permissible sound levels	35	3:05 p.m.	3:40 p.m.
	Milestones for new dwelling permissible sound levels	15	3:40 p.m.	3:55 p.m.
	Tonality evaluation	25	3:55 p.m.	4:20 p.m.
General discussion and closure		15	4:20 p.m.	4:35 p.m.

Audio and video requirements



» Speakers

- For in-person participants, please make sure you have turned off your own speakers all the time.

» Cameras

- For all participants, please turn off your cameras when you are not speaking. Please turn on your cameras when you are speaking.

» Microphones

- For all participants, please make sure you have muted your microphones.
- For in-person participants, when you are speaking, please use the AUC microphone on your table, and please do not use your own microphone. When you are not speaking, please make sure AUC microphones and your laptop microphones are muted.
- For virtual participants, when you are speaking, please turn on your microphone. When you are not speaking, please make sure your microphones are muted.

» Raise hands

- Participants who would like to speak should raise their hands in the meeting room or turn on the hand sign in Zoom, and wait for a meeting monitor to give permission.
- It is expected one participant to speak at a certain time. Cross-talking should be avoided as much as possible. Only the participant who is speaking is allowed to turn on the microphone.

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Ambient sound level (ASLs) for populated areas

- » How to establish ambient sound levels for populated areas.
- » **Assumed ASL vs. measured ASL**
 - The relative benefits and drawbacks associated with assumed and measured ASLs for populated areas.

Permissible sound levels (PSLs) for populated areas



- » How to define **suburban and urban receptors**. How to **determine PSLs** for populated areas.
- » In Bulletin 2023-01, the Commission proposed to revise Table 1 of Rule 012 as below.

Basic sound levels for nighttime (dBA L _{eq})					
Proximity to transportation	Dwelling density per quarter section of land				
	1 to 8 dwellings	9 to 160 dwellings	161 to 400 dwellings	401 to 1,000 dwellings (Suburb)	>1,000 dwellings (Urban)
Category 1	40	43	46	48	53
Category 2	45	48	51	53	58
Category 3	50	53	56	58	63

Category 1—dwelling(s) distance is more than or equal to 500 metres (m) from heavily travelled roads or rail lines and not subject to frequent aircraft flyovers.

Category 2—dwelling(s) distance is more than or equal to 30 m, but less than 500 m from heavily travelled roads or rail lines and not subject to frequent aircraft flyovers.

Category 3—dwelling(s) distance is less than 30 m from heavily travelled roads, or rail lines or subject to frequent aircraft flyovers.

- Is it reasonable to add two columns to Table 1 for suburban and urban receptors? Has the Commission selected appropriate dwelling densities?
- Please also comment on the basic sound levels for suburban and urban receptors proposed for new Table 1.

New dwelling permissible sound levels (PSLs)

- » In Rule 012, “new dwelling” is defined to be a dwelling that is built after submission of the noise impact assessment for a proposed facility (i.e., a circumstance in which the noise impact assessment does not present modelled cumulative sound levels at the new dwelling).
- » The Commission would like to select an **appropriate development milestone** for establishing permissible sound levels at new dwellings built close to an approved but not yet constructed facility.
 - 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.

Tonality evaluation

- » Current Rule 012 requires a comprehensive sound level survey to include low frequency noise analysis that includes tonality evaluation **for low frequency noise**.
- » Whether Rule 012 should include tonality evaluation **for all audible frequencies**.
- » 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**?



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Thank you!

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