

NOISE ABATEMENT AND CONTROL (24 CFR Part 51B)

Specific noise standards have been established by HUD which can affect where a project may be located or how it is constructed. Generally, new construction projects, which are exposed to a noise level in decibels (dB) of 75 Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) or greater, cannot be assisted with HUD funds. If the noise level is between 65 and 75 dB DNL then the project can only be constructed if the interior noise levels are reduced 5 and 10 decibels, and any outdoor spaces connected to the project are mitigated. Projects in areas where the noise level is below 65 dB DNL are acceptable. In urban areas, projects located near busy roads or highways or large airports often exceed the 65 dB DNL standard. In rural areas, the major noise sources are typically airfields.

Threshold for Review: Properties proposed for new construction, conversion, major rehabilitation, and acquisition of undeveloped land.

HUD Regulatory Reference: “24 CFR Part 51, Subpart B”

Basic Steps to Obtain Concurrence:

1. Prepare a determination that the proposed site/project is not located within 1,000 feet of a major road or highway, 3,000 feet of a railroad, or within 15 miles of a civil or military airfield and include it and appropriate support documents in the ERR file.
2. If the proposed site/project is not located within the above parameters no further steps are required.
3. If the project is within the parameters in # 1 follow the “Noise Abatement and Control Checklist for HUD or Responsible Entity to determine the review required based on the project type.

For CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION determinations: If mitigation action is required, the Tribe must complete and post a NOI/RROF and submit an RROF to the AONAP.

Additional information regarding the HUD Noise Assessment Guidelines can be found at the following Internet address:

Community Planning and Development Noise Guidebook:

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/environment/training/guidebooks/noise

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