

Peak Acoustics have reviewed the comments and provide the following answers below.

Thank you for consulting the Pollution team on the above planning application. Please note this response relates to noise only.

A BS4142 noise report has been submitted with this application which predicts that noise from the proposed plant will have a “low impact”. Therefore, mitigation measures are not proposed. Before we can provide comment we require clarification regarding the following matters:

- Existing background sound levels were recorded overnight on a weekday. Further detail is required about the working hours and days for the industrial estate. It is believed some companies (including Sumika) may operate 24-hours throughout the week which in turn may increase background sound levels. Background sound levels should be taken during the quietest part of the week.*

I have contacted Sumika who were reluctant to give away too much information but did say that they **do have midweek night shifts**. This may require us to come back to site and measure over a weekend period for the potential to nullify this potential increase of Background Sound Levels. However, looking at the graphical measured data in **Appendix E** it appears that during the night, the background sound level appears to level out for a prolonged period between 02:30 – 04:00. **It is hard to know whether there will be any difference during the weekend as the nightshifts may only last for a short period.** Furthermore, the BG level used within the assessment **is the lowest** of the measurement to nullify the uncertainty over increased background sound levels.

Rural areas in the UK are typically between 20-30 dB. When putting that into context, **a BG level of 39 dB does not appear out of the ordinary for a location such as this**, due to the high number of industrial businesses. Furthermore, the trainline which separates the site and residential houses was observed to see **passing trains every 10-15 mins**.

- Confirmation that there is no other plant at the monitoring location which may have artificially increased background sound levels. I have visited the site and noted the existence of a ground mounted unit at the proposed application site.*

I have attached the site pics and ones from where the measurement was undertaken from. Please see attached. As stated in BS4142, the background measurement should be taken as close to the noise sensitive receptor (residential housing) as possible. As can be seen from pictures, Kyle has positioned the monitoring equipment as representative of the houses on the opposite side of the railway line. It is very likely that if any artificial increase has influenced the measurement, residents would likely be exposed to the same noise sources due to the small distance between the industrial sites and closest residential house. From the pictures, we can see no sign of stationary ground mounted plant nearby. **Can clarity of what plant is being made reference too?**

- *A full breakdown of the calculations provided in the report.*

The calculations are provided in a grid noise map form are attached to appendix E. The calculation method is described in Section 9 and input parameters in Table 3. The calculation is all completed internally within the software which uses the commonly adopted method of ISO-9613-2, as described in BS4142. Using noise modelling software eliminates for human error and many variables which come into effect regarding temperature, downwind corrections, and ground attenuation etc. **I can therefore confirm that the accuracy of calculations are to a professional standard.**