

To: CORENET e-INFO subscribers

Date: 02 September 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

NEW REQUIREMENT – MANDATING OF PERIMETER NOISE BARRIERS AT SELECTED CONSTRUCTION SITES

Background

All construction sites are required to abide by the permissible noise limits set by the National Environmental Agency (NEA) to protect residents from negative health effects of construction noise. The noise limits were last revised in Oct 2007.

2 Since 2021, there has been an uptrend in public feedback on construction noise in tandem with an increased demand from the public for respite from construction noise. To help reduce the noise disamenity to nearby residents, we will be requiring developers and/or contractors of selected construction sites to install noise barriers along the perimeter of the worksite.

New Requirement

3 From 1 Apr 2025, a new project* that meets the following two criteria is required to have noise barriers installed along the perimeter of the worksite:

- a) Construction project value of **\$50 million and above** (per project location), and
- b) Worksite located within **75 meters** of nearby sensitive premises (e.g. hospital, school, institution of higher learning, home for the aged sick or residential building).

** Refers to tenders for sale of land for development/re-development that are published on and after 1 Apr 2025*

4 The specifications of the noise barriers to be installed are in **Annex A**.

5 NEA will issue a Notice to the developer of the project that meets the criteria in para 3 to have noise barriers installed along the perimeter of the worksite. Failure to comply with the Notice is an offence under the Environment Protection Management Act (EPMA) and offenders are liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

6 Should you have any enquiries, please contact us through our feedback channels such as the feedback form (www.nea.gov.sg/feedback) available on the NEA's website, or the myENV (www.nea.gov.sg/myenv) or OneService (www.oneservice.gov.sg) mobile applications.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chow Chee Kiong', with a large circular flourish at the beginning.

Chow Chee Kiong
Director
Pollution Control 2 Division
National Environment Agency

Specifications of Perimeter Noise Barriers (subject to review by NEA)

- a. Noise barriers shall be installed along the perimeter of the whole construction site
- b. Height of the noise barriers shall be at least 6 meters
- c. Noise barriers shall comprise of acoustic absorbing material and achieve a Sound Transmission Class of at least 20dB
- d. Noise barriers shall be tested and reported according to the following standards or equivalent international standards:
 - 1. ISO 10140-2: 2010 Acoustics – Laboratory measurement of sound insulation of building elements - Part 2: Measurement of airborne sound insulation; and
 - 2. ISO 717-2: 2013 Acoustics – Rating of sound insulation in buildings and of building elements- Part 1: Airborne sound insulation;

Or

- 1. ASTM E90 Standard Test Method for Laboratory Measurement of Airborne Sound Transmission Loss of Building Partitions and Elements; and
- 2. ASTM E413 Classification for Rating Sound Insulation;