

Project Name: Land to the Northwest of Factory Road

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Introduction

Comments have been received from Bureau Veritas on behalf of Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC) in response to the noise impact assessment submitted for the proposed commercial development at Land Northwest of Factory Road, Northfleet.

Responses have been received in relation to two points, as follows:

- Application of façade corrections, and
- Operating parameters of the future workshop.

This document provides responses in relation to the issues raised.

Application of Façade Corrections

Bureau Veritas note that façade corrections should either be applied to both the survey measurement results and the predicted rating levels to provide a like-for-like assessment at a location 1 m from the worst affected window, or to neither.

It is confirmed that rating levels in Table 4.7 and 4.8 include a 3 dB increase to allow for façade reflections at the assessment location (i.e. at 1 m from the worst-affected window).

The numerical assessment therefore presents a like-for-like comparison against the corrected background sound levels at 1 m from a façade.

Operating Parameters of the Future Workshop

Bureau Veritas has queried the operating parameters of the future workshop, stating that there is likely to be variation in the operation of the lathe that would mean that intermittency may be noticeable at the receptor and therefore an intermittency correction should be applied in the BS 4142:2104 assessment.

Whilst Mr Tiller has confirmed that there are no pauses for “*adjustment of toolbits, pauses between cuts for adjustments and inspections, etc.*”, he has provided the following statement to further clarify operations in a typical hour reference period:

“I write the following statement to confirm the operations of the lathe to support the planning application for a new workshop at Land to the Northwest of Factory Road.

As already identified within the planning submission and accompanying noise assessment, the lathe is the most important tool as part of my business in making the graphite cylinders. The lathe is therefore turned on for most of the duration of the working day. When the lathe is in use it does not change speed, but each part is worked on for about 8 mins and then the lathe is switched off for about the same amount of time to switch it out for a new piece of material.

Reference: Land Northwest of Factory Road, Northfleet

Typically, 4 cylinders will be made in an hour, roughly one per quarter of an hour. Some cylinders are larger and therefore it takes longer to produce those, so it does vary, but that's typical."

As noted above, Mr Tiller has clarified that they produce a range of graphite cylinder sizes (workpiece), and each takes a slightly different amount of time on the lathe. The on-off cycle typically consists of 8 mins lathe run time and 8 mins stop time. On this basis, there are approximately 4 on-off cycles in a typical hour, with approximately 32 mins of 'on' time in any given hour.

Rating levels summarised in the following table have been corrected to reflect the typical lathe operating parameters above and include a 3 dB intermittency penalty and a 3 dB increase for the effect of façade reflections at the façade assessment location. Scenarios are presented for typical weekday and occasional Saturday operation of the lathe.

Results are only presented for the worst-affected receptor located directly adjacent to the proposed workshop (Receptor A), as the impact at other receptors is reduced due to relative orientation and/or distance.

Table 1: BS 4142:2014 Preliminary Assessment Results – Receptor A – Lathe Operation Only

Description	Scenario	
	Weekday	Saturday Morning
Calculated Rating Level at Receptor (dB $L_{Ar,1hr}$)	46	
Background Sound Level (dB $L_{A90,15mins}$)	47	42
Excess of Rating over Background Sound Level (dB)	-1	+4
Assessment of Impact	Indication of a low impact , depending on the context	Indication of a less than adverse impact , depending on the context

As noted in the table above, lathe operation is expected to result in a low or less than adverse impact at the worst-affected receptor in both situations.

Whilst lathe operation is noted to have a higher impact on Saturday mornings due to lower background sound levels, it is still expected to be below the LOAEL and in the context of the workshop only being used very occasionally on Saturdays ("3 weekends in the past 52 weeks"), the overall noise impact is considered to be low.