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Planning Application P/2022/0820
Wrexham County Borough Council



Response to Wrexham County Borough Council

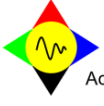
**Additional Clarification: Technical Note on Noise
Impact Assessments, 18 December 2024**

24 February 2025

Prepared by:

J E Grant	Acoustics & Environmental Consultant	Electronic	 Acoustics Environment
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Checked & approved by:

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Client:

Maelor Foods Ltd. Pickhill Lane Cross Lanes Wrexham LL13 0UE	
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This response is prepared on behalf of Maelor Foods Ltd. further to submission of a Technical Note on Noise Impact Assessments (Updated and Additional Information, 18 December 2024) to Wrexham County Borough Council addressing various concerns raised in their dealings with pending planning application, P/2022/0820, submitted on behalf of Maelor Foods.
- 1.2 Since the December 2024 Technical Note was presented the council has sought the following information via email from Graham Aveyard, Specialist Public Protection Officer (Environmental Health), dated 17 February 2025:
- *Can you confirm that the proposed background noise level (daytime) in the table at the top of Page 8 (para 2.3) in the latest revision [Technical Update December 2024] is a typo and should be 42 dB and not 49 as included in the pdf report?*
 - *If this is an error related to the proposed rating level (referenced later in the same document [i.e. 49 dB] how has this been arrived at for Marlbrook House?*
 - *What are the calculations for the various component noise sources and their combined level [Specific Sound level] i.e. before comparison to your backgrounds as reported in the table in para 4.4?*
 - *What character corrections to result in the rating level at Marlbrook House have been applied (or not applied and why).*
- 1.3 This response should be read having regard to Technical Note on Noise Impact Assessments (Updated and Additional Information, 18 December 2024) which has now been amended.

2.0 RESPONSES

Background Sound Levels – Marlbrook House, Pickhill Lane

- 2.1 There is a typographical error in respect of the table presented in clause 2.3 of the Technical Note, pp.8. The Background Sound Level for daytime at Marlbrook House should correctly read '42', rather than '49'.
- 2.2 For clarity, this value is taken from measurement data previously reported with the Maelor plant operational on 29 September and October 2023, with no measured values excluded.

2.3 Clause 2.12 of the Technical Note at pp.9 ‘Consolidated and Revised Background Sound Levels’ in the December 2024 Technical Update confirms.

2.4 Noise ratings in clause 3.3 of the Technical Note are unaffected and use a Background Sound Level value of 42 dB for Marlbrook House.

Component Noise Sources

2.5 Noise sources are taken from Report 1 (Environoise, 6th issue, 15th February 2023) and were evaluated respectively as Plant and HGVs.

2.6 Subsequently, these were combined for the purposes of the IPPC permit variation granted by Natural Resources Wales and are as presented, for example, in Report 3 Appendix 5.

Acoustic Character (Penalty) Corrections

2.7 In Report 1 (Environoise) no acoustic character corrections were applied other than for intermittency in regard to HGV movements on-site.

2.8 Natural Resources Wales, in a Schedule 5 Notice issued under the Environmental Permitting Regulations to Report 1, set out: *“Where neither tonal nor impulsive corrections apply, the environment agencies will generally expect a +3 dB ‘other’ correction to be applied for readily distinguishable industrial noise, unless you can demonstrate this is not justified”, and “As the plant is audible at receptors, a +3 dB penalty should be applied in-line with current guidance”*. This was therefore addressed in Report 2.

2.9 The existence of relevant tonal noise was specifically considered for existing plant in Report 3, Appendix 6 using the BS4142 one-third octave band method. This demonstrated no tonal components.

2.10 Character corrections at Marlbrook House consequently comprise +3 dB for ‘other’ components in line with Natural Resources Wales comments, and +3 dB for intermittency in respect to HGVs as originally used.

2.11 The ‘other’ penalty is marginally higher than the +2 dB minimum correction normally applied for tonal elements. Clause 3.4 of the Technical Note confirms.