

13.0 noise

Objective

Minimise noise from our construction and maintenance work activities by applying practical and feasible mitigation measures.

Why is this important?

Construction and generator noise can cause annoyance and frustration to neighbours near work sites and can interfere with human health. The effect of noise from construction or maintenance activities depends on:

- Existing background noise levels
- Distance between the site and the area affected by the noise
- Duration and time of the activity generating the noise
- The nature of the noise such as volume, pitch and frequency.

'Switch on' to your responsibilities:

- Operate and maintain equipment in an efficient and appropriate manner to avoid excessive, prolonged noise
- Schedule the use of noisy equipment with consideration to local conditions and community impacts:
 - Chainsaws may only be used within 300 m of residential premises between 7 am and 6 pm from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 6 pm on Sunday



In residential areas baffles can be used to reduce noise generated by equipment

- Mobile machinery may only be operated from 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 6 pm on Sunday
- Power lawn mower and other vegetation maintenance powered by an engine may be used from 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 6 pm on Sunday.
- Shut down machines between works or throttle down to a minimum when used intermittently
- Arrange the work site to take advantage of existing obstructions between working equipment and sensitive receivers
- Keep engine covers closed during use if machines are fitted with them
- Consult with the occupants of nearby residences that could be affected by noisy activities
- Ensure noise is kept to acceptable levels particularly outside normal business hours.

Further information:

- *The ZoNe – Risk Management HSE Management System Procedure*
- *The ZoNe – Personal Protective HSE Management System Procedure*
- *HSE Team.*