



# Terms of Reference:

## Noise and Vibration Study

---

Town of Milton  
January 2023

**Disclaimer:** Terms of Reference documents will be reviewed and updated as necessary to reflect current policies, practices and accepted standards.

## 1. What is the purpose of this?

A noise and vibration study (environmental noise analysis) determines the projected sound and vibration exposures for a proposed development both from and to adjacent uses, for stationary and mobile noise sources, and any mitigation measures needed.

## 2. Who should prepare this?

The study should be prepared by a registered professional engineer qualified in acoustical engineering and experienced in the preparation of noise and vibration studies.

## 3. When is this required?

A noise and vibration study may be required as part of the following application(s):

- Official Plan Amendment;
- Zoning By-law Amendment;
- Draft Plan of Subdivision/Condominium; and,
- Site Plan Control.

## 4. Why do we need this?

The study is required to assess the potential environmental impacts on a proposed development and to ensure mitigation, if required, is compliant with the Environmental Protection Act ensuring the projected sound levels on the proposed development do not exceed the Ministry of the Environment regulated sound limits. This study is also required to support land use compatibility assessments in implementing the objectives of the Planning Act as well as provincial policies and plans.

## 5. What else should we know?

A noise and vibration study (or environmental noise analysis) should be based on the applicable guidelines established by the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, the Ministry of the Environment, CNR, Go Transit (Metrolinx), Halton Region and Town by-laws.

Input assumptions to a noise model relating to future traffic flows should be based upon the projected future long-term traffic forecasts contained in any Town, Region or area-specific transportation studies.

## 6. What other resources are there?

Town of Milton - Noise By-law 133-2012

[https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/resources/Accessible\\_Bylaws/133-2012-Noise-Control-By-law-and-Repeal-By-law-16-84-Consolidated.pdf](https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/resources/Accessible_Bylaws/133-2012-Noise-Control-By-law-and-Repeal-By-law-16-84-Consolidated.pdf)

Halton Region - Noise Abatement Policy for Regional Roads, Retrofit Locations and New Developments:

<https://www.halton.ca/Repository/Noise-Abatement-Guidelines>

Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario - Guideline, Professional Engineers Providing Acoustical Engineering Services in Land Use Planning (1998)

<https://www.peo.on.ca/sites/default/files/2019-07/Professional%20Engineers%20Providing%20Acoustical%20Engineering%20Services%20in%20Land-Use%20Planning.pdf>

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Noise Assessment Criteria in Land Use Planning, Publication LU-131 (October, 1997)

<https://acoustical-consultants.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Ontario-Ministry-of-the-Environment-LU-131.pdf>

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Annex to Publication LU-131, Noise Assessment Criteria in Land Use Planning (October, 1997)

<https://archive.org/details/std01079356.ome>

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Noise Assessment Criteria in Land Use Planning: Requirements, Procedures and Implementation (1997)

<https://provisioncoalition.com/Assets/Environmental%20Benchmarking%20Tool/Ontario%20Regulatory%20Reference/Noise%20Assessment%20Criteria%20in%20Land%20Use%20Planning%20Requirements,%20Procedures%20and%20Implementation.pdf>

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Sound Levels due to Road Traffic, Publication NPC-206

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/sound-levels-due-road-traffic-npc-206>

(Note: the MOE has a new standard not yet approved but is under development at the time of preparing this Terms of Reference document, see ERO-4176)

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Sound Level Limits for Stationary Sources in Class 1 and 2 Areas (Urban), Publication NPC-205 (October 1995)

<http://acoustical-consultants.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Ontario-Ministry-of-the-Environment-NPC-205.pdf>

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Environmental Noise Guideline - Stationary and Transportation Sources - Approval and Planning (NPC-300) (2013)

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/environmental-noise-guideline-stationary-and-transportation-sources-approval-and-planning>

Ontario Ministry of Transportation - Environmental Guide for Noise (2022)

[https://prod-environmental-registry.s3.amazonaws.com/2022-03/Environmental%20Guide%20for%20Noise%20\(2022\)\\_1.pdf](https://prod-environmental-registry.s3.amazonaws.com/2022-03/Environmental%20Guide%20for%20Noise%20(2022)_1.pdf)

National Research Council of Canada - Building Practice Note No. 56: Controlling Sound Transmission into Buildings (September, 1985)

<https://publications-cnrc.canada.ca/fra/voir/td/?id=9a6fe2f1-4d4e-4973-bc32-d62cab92be0>