

February 14, 2007

Mr. David Onuczko, P. Eng., Executive Director
Northeast Capital Industrial Association
#204, 9902 – 102 Street
Fort Saskatchewan AB T8L 2C3

Dear Mr. Onuczko:

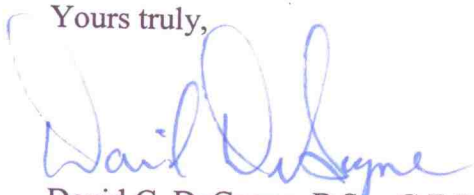
NCIA REGIONAL NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

This is to inform you that the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) has granted your request for approval of the NCIA Regional Noise Management Plan (RNMP) as outlined in your application of February 7, 2007.

The EUB will be continuing its collaboration with NCIA and other affected stakeholders in the implementation, measurement, and reporting aspects of the RNMP. In addition and because of the precedent setting nature of the work associated with the RNMP, the EUB will provide limited technical and financial resources to develop a regional noise model.

Please contact the undersigned at (403) 297-3200 should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Yours truly,



David C. DeGagne, B.Sc., C.E.T.
Senior Advisor

pc: Don Burke, EUB Environment Group
Anita Lewis, EUB Operations Group



Mr. David DeGagne
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
640 - 5th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3G4

February 7, 2007

Dear Mr. DeGagne:

RE: **NCIA Regional Noise Management Plan**
Request for Approval

On January 16, 2007 a meeting between NCIA EH&S Subcommittee members and you and your staff was held, at which the NCIA Regional Noise Management Plan (RNMP) was reviewed. The RNMP is a framework for compliance pursuant to EUB Directive D-38, which NCIA understands, is to be imminently published in a new edition. Section 5.2 of that revised edition states that if confirmed by EUB that a standard PSL compliance approach is not practical "an acceptable detailed Noise Management Plan (NMP) may be used".

In follow-up to that meeting and on your direction, this letter is a request for approval of the NCIA RNMP from the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB).

The NCIA aims to manage the noise issue from a regional perspective, in keeping with the following general principles:

- Responsibly manage industry's noise contribution in the region
- Identify additional changes to further reduce noise
- Recognize area concern (no single entity)
- Sustain or grow industry activity
- Ensure healthy vibrant industry in Alberta.
- Balance industry needs with community expectations
- Address issues collectively and proactively
- Work collaboratively with the community

The RNMP is the first of its kind approach to managing industrial noise issues in a given region where application of permissible sound level for noise control is inappropriate. The NCIA region is experiencing significant growth in recent years and more is expected in the near future, and noise is a cumulative impact issue. Although it is acknowledged that growth will introduce additional noise sources, both industrial and ancillary, the RNMP will ensure that noise emissions are responsibly managed.

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Northeast Capital Industrial Association (NCIA) Regional Noise Management Plan

The NCIA RNMP addresses noise control expectations for new industry and offers a management-system approach continuous improvement of existing industrial noise sources. The most important feature of the plan is adoption of a best-practices approach to noise control, which will absolutely benefit industry workers, and on a continuous improvement basis as end of life equipment is replaced in accordance with best (noise management) practices, result in abatement of noise migration to the off-site environment.

The RNMP framework in summary form is in attachment to this letter. The key elements of the framework include implementation of:

- Corporate Policy
- Management system for noise control
- Engineering and purchasing standards for noise abatement in design (new and replacement equipment)
- Annual report to EUB on implementation and improvements that will be publicly communicated
- Regional Noise Model that will be developed in joint partnership with the EUB.

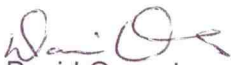
Subject to your acceptance of our RNMP and to facilitate compliance with the RNMP the NCIA will amend its Charter/ By-laws to indicate that the RNMP will establish compliance with D-38 when members sign on to the plan. For those members not wishing to participate, compliance with D-38 Permissible Sound Levels for the said facility will apply directly.

The passing of the resolution for the Charter / By-law amendment is slated for an NCIA Board of Directors meeting in February 2006.

In closing, NCIA wishes to acknowledge guidance and support received from you and EUB staff in developing the precedent setting framework for regional noise management and your commitment of financial and technical support to the development of a key component of the RNMP - the regional noise model.

We look forward to your approval.

Respectfully,



David Onuczko
Executive Director
Northeast Capital Industrial Association

Cc Don Burke EUB
Robert Lacroix Dow
Peter St. George Shell Canada

Attachment

NCIA Member companies to establish:

1. **NOISE CONTROL COMMITMENT STATEMENT:**

NCIA member company senior management sets clear expectations for management of noise compliance at their site(s).

2. **SITE NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

If a company has not done so to-date, each company develops and implements a documented SITE NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN (NMP) that integrates occupational and environmental objectives. The plan uses an auditable management system model and includes the following elements at minimum:

- Source Identification
 - Formal gap analysis of hearing conservation (noise control) programs against the Alberta OH&S standard.
- Assessment (routine and planned)
 - Noise baseline at plant to reflect normal operation
 - Complaint management process to include response, tracking, and reporting
- Abatement strategies
 - Engineering control practices for selecting new equipment and for abatement of existing noise sources. The following references prepared by the Best Practices Subcommittee will serve as a benchmark tools.
 - “General & Equipment Specific Engineering Control Noise Reduction Strategies” documents as prepared in HFP/ATCO.
 - Phase II Database Tool (once developed) with engineering & costing tools for evaluation of noise mitigation strategies for both new and existing equipment
 - Work processes such as “Management of Change” to incorporate noise impacts assessment
 - Procurement Practices to assure quality in specified equipment and to promote continuous improvement in design by setting expectations for contractors and manufacturers. Best Practices Subcommittee recommended development of template clause to serve contractual purposes.
- Self Audits
 - Planned equipment monitoring surveys to confirm program effectiveness
 - Verification process to track and report on site implementation progress

3. **DISCLOSURE OF IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES TO NCIA**

Share results of annual NMP implementation with NCIA in an annual Association Report.

4. **REGIONAL NOISE MODEL**

Support the development of a Regional Noise Model on a partnership basis with EUB.

Northeast Capital Industrial Association (NCIA) Regional Noise Management Plan

5. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Support the communication of the Regional NMP with regional stakeholders.

Communication will involve the following initiatives:

- Communication of the EUB Approved Regional NMP to AIHA Community
- Prepare public progress reports on an annual basis
- Participate in the closure of IHCARI Synergy Conference noise related issues, i.e. external sources such as transportation (road/rail), non-NCIA member companies/ industries)