

McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant: Noise During Operations

Per the Township of Esquimalt’s Zoning Bylaw, operational noise from the McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant will not exceed 60 decibels (dBA) at the plant’s property line. This means predicted noise levels in James Bay, the closest location to the treatment plant in Victoria, will not exceed 35 dBA. This is 5 dBA below the most stringent limit in the City of Victoria’s noise bylaw.

Noise Levels for Common Sounds/Environments

NOISE / ENVIRONMENT	APPROXIMATE SOUND LEVEL (dBA)
Threshold of hearing	0
Just audible	10
Nighttime background noise, urban residential area	35
City of Victoria Noise Bylaw – most stringent limit	40
Township of Esquimalt Zoning Bylaw	60
Busy office	60
On sidewalk by passing car	70
On sidewalk by passing bus	80

About the Wastewater Treatment Project

The Wastewater Treatment Project will provide tertiary treatment for wastewater from the core area municipalities of Victoria, Esquimalt, Saanich, Oak Bay, View Royal, Langford and Colwood, and the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations. The Wastewater Treatment Project will be built so we comply with federal regulations by the end of 2020, and is being funded by the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and the CRD.

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Noise Model

- Noise levels at the locations shown on this map were calculated by assuming a “worst-case scenario” of 60 dBA everywhere along the property line. However, actual noise emissions from the treatment plant may result in lower noise levels.
- This noise model considers all sound propagation to occur under downwind or temperature inversion conditions (worst-case conditions).



Predicted noise from McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant. The noise model was generated with the state-of-the-art acoustical modelling software CadnaA which performs sound propagation calculations according to the widely used international standard ISO 9613-2:1996.