



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND**  
**US ARMY GARRISON ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND**  
**4510 BOOTHBY HILL AVENUE**  
**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND MARYLAND 21005-5001**

MAY 22 2013

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Environmental Noise Policy

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Army Regulation 200-1, Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection and Enhancement, 13 Dec 07.
- b. Aberdeen Proving Ground Regulation 385-1, Safety, Range Administration, 1 Jul 10.

2. PURPOSE. This memorandum outlines policy and procedures for management of environmental noise, assigns specific responsibilities, and prescribes guidance to control noise which results from activities at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG).

3. APPLICABILITY. This policy applies to the US Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground (USAGAPG), all tenants, organizations, and all users of APG facilities.

4. SCOPE. Environmental compliance is a command responsibility, and all commanders are responsible for compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations within their command. While Directors within the USAGAPG, and Commanders/Directors of tenants and organizations are responsible for environmental compliance within their commands, the USAGAPG Commander is responsible for environmental compliance on the entire Installation. This policy distinguishes between environmental noise and hearing hazardous noise. The current policy applies to the propagation of environmental noise and vibration into the community.

a. Excessive noise and vibrations transmitted off the Installation must be considered and minimized. The current policy is not intended to unduly restrict or retard any of the test, training or research activities, but to protect the residents of the surrounding areas. Firings, detonations, simulators, jet engine tests or any other action that will or can produce noise off-post, may only be conducted within the following restrictions:

- (1) Weekdays between 0830 and 2200 (except as noted in (2) below).
- (2) Weekdays between 0700 and 2200 for ammunition limited to:
  - (a) 5.56mm up to .50 caliber (all types)

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- (b) 60 and 81mm mortars (non-high explosive cartridges)
- (c) Recoilless Rifle Systems, up to and including 84mm, non-high explosive projectiles
- (d) Range area locations limited to:
  - Michaelsville Small Arms Ranges
  - Light Rifle Range
  - M Range (Transonic Range Area)
  - Romney Creek firing positions
  - F-1 through F-5 (Old Bombing Field positions)
- (3) Saturdays between 0900 and 1600.
- (4) Sundays and holidays between 1000 and 1530 with command approval.
- (5) At least 100 meters from the Installation boundary.

b. The above rules apply unless a one-time deviation has been granted by the Garrison Commander. In addition, firing off 105mm and above or static detonations of 10 pounds or more of high explosive or equivalent, will only be conducted if the noise model prediction value is less than 130 dB outside the Installation boundary. The noise prediction model is validated with a daily noise model calibration shot conducted by the US Army Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) between 0730-0800.

c. A one-time deviation for range activities must be requested in writing. It must provide sufficient information and may include an environmental assessment or record of environmental consideration on the noise impact, along with concurrent/recommendation on activity range control coordinators, activity environmental coordinators, and activity commanders. One-time deviations are not a blanket approval and are evaluated on a case by case basis.

d. The use of meteorological noise prediction models and off-post monitor readings will form the basis for decision by the Garrison Commander. The request for deviation should include justification identifying every effort has been made to accomplish the activity during the time period outlines above or there is a nighttime requirement.

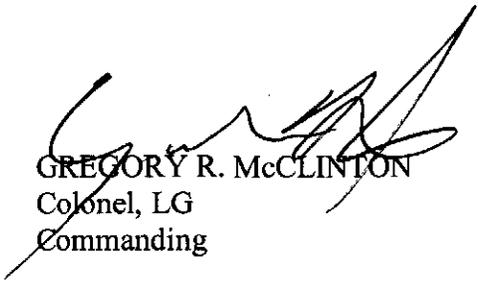
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e. For unscheduled events expected to produce significant environmental noise such as emergency demolition of unexploded ordnance, the noise prediction model will be employed whenever possible. However, the Garrison Commander may approve the emergency action in spite of adverse environmental impact. In these cases, the noise levels from the event recorded by the monitoring system, and the meteorological data for the time period of the event, will be recorded in a file for reference in answering complaints and damage claims.

f. To request a one-time deviation, a noise deviation form must be submitted to ATC Environmental Noise Office. This form can be requested at 410-278-8605.

5. POLICY POC. Point of contact for further information is Mr. John Wrobel, Acting Chief, DPW, Natural Resources Branch at 410-436-4840.



GREGORY R. McCLINTON  
Colonel, LG  
Commanding

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