



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those “Partners” (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

## Noise (EA Level Reviews) – PARTNER

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/noise-abatement-and-control>

### 1. What activities does your project involve? Check all that apply:

- New construction for residential use

NOTE: HUD assistance to new construction projects is generally prohibited if they are located in an Unacceptable zone, and HUD discourages assistance for new construction projects in Normally Unacceptable zones. See 24 CFR 51.101(a)(3) for further details.  
→ *Continue to Question 2.*

- Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

NOTE: For major or substantial rehabilitation in Normally Unacceptable zones, HUD encourages mitigation to reduce levels to acceptable compliance standards. For major rehabilitation in Unacceptable zones, HUD strongly encourages mitigation to reduce levels to acceptable compliance standards. See 24 CFR 51 Subpart B for further details.  
→ *Continue to Question 2.*

- None of the above

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.*

### 2. Complete the Preliminary Screening to identify potential noise generators in the vicinity (1000’ from a major road, 3000’ from a railroad, or 15 miles from an airport).

Indicate the findings of the Preliminary Screening below:

- There are no noise generators found within the threshold distances above.

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing the location of the project relative to any noise generators.*

- Noise generators were found within the threshold distances.

→ *Continue to Question 3.*

### 3. Complete the Noise Assessment Guidelines to quantify the noise exposure. Indicate the findings of the Noise Assessment below:

Acceptable (65 decibels or less; the ceiling may be shifted to 70 decibels in circumstances described in §24 CFR 51.105(a))

**Indicate noise level here:** 62 dB

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide noise analysis, including noise level and data used to complete the analysis.*

Normally Unacceptable: (Above 65 decibels but not exceeding 75 decibels; the floor may be shifted to 70 decibels in circumstances described in 24 CFR 51.105(a))

**Indicate noise level here:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

If project is rehabilitation:

→ *Continue to Question 4. Provide noise analysis, including noise level and data used to complete the analysis.*

If project is new construction:

**Is the project in a largely undeveloped area<sup>1</sup>?**

No

Yes → ***The project requires completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to 51.104(b)(1)(i).***

→ *Continue to Question 4. Provide noise analysis, including noise level and data used to complete the analysis.*

Unacceptable: (Above 75 decibels)

**Indicate noise level here:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

If project is rehabilitation:

*HUD strongly encourages conversion of noise-exposed sites to land uses compatible with high noise levels. Consider converting this property to a non-residential use compatible with high noise levels.*

→ *Continue to Question 4. Provide noise analysis, including noise level and data used to complete the analysis, and any other relevant information.*

If project is new construction:

***The project requires completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to 51.104(b)(1)(i). Work with HUD or the RE to either complete an EIS or obtain a waiver signed by the appropriate authority.***

→ *Continue to Question 4.*

**4. HUD strongly encourages mitigation be used to eliminate adverse noise impacts. Work with the RE/HUD on the development of the mitigation measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.**

Mitigation as follows will be implemented:

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<sup>1</sup> A largely undeveloped area means the area within 2 miles of the project site is less than 50 percent developed with urban uses and does not have water and sewer capacity to serve the project.

Please see mitigation below.

→ *Provide drawings, specifications, and other materials as needed to describe the project's noise mitigation measures.*

*Continue to the Worksheet Summary.*

No mitigation is necessary.

**Explain why mitigation will not be made here:**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

→ *Continue to the Worksheet Summary.*

### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

### **Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.**

Noise levels in the project area are defined primarily by traffic along SR-49 (Pleasant Valley Road). The average day/night sound levels are 62 dBA, which falls into the acceptable range, according to HUD Noise Standards. A noise study concluded that an exterior-to interior noise level reduction of 14-17 dB would be required to meet the El Dorado County General Plan and HUD interior noise standards of 45 dBA. In addition, the project would implement noise control measures during construction to reduce noise during construction operations.

**Mitigation 1:** To achieve a noise level reduction of 14-17 dB, certain design elements should be incorporated into the project. Standard building construction (stucco siding, STC-27 windows, door weather-stripping, exterior wall insulation, composition plywood roof), typically results in an exterior to interior noise reduction of approximately 25 dB with windows closed and approximately 15 dB with windows open. This level of noise reduction would be adequate to reduce future SR-49 traffic noise levels within all residences in this development to 45 dB DNL or less, which result in satisfaction of the General Plan and HUD interior noise level standard of 45 dB DNL. As a result, further consideration of additional building facade construction improvements would not be warranted for the residential buildings of the development provided that mechanical ventilation (air conditioning) is included to allow occupants to close doors and windows as desired for additional acoustical isolation.

### **Mitigation 2:**

- Noise-generating construction activities shall occur within the hours and days identified in Policy 6.5.1.11 of the El Dorado County General Plan.
- All noise-producing project equipment and vehicles using internal-combustion engines shall be equipped with manufacturers-recommended mufflers and be maintained in good working condition.
- All mobile or fixed noise-producing equipment used on the project site that are regulated for noise output by a federal, state, or local agency shall comply with such regulations while in the course of project activity.
- Electrically powered equipment shall be used instead of pneumatic or internal combustion-powered equipment, where feasible.

- Material stockpiles and mobile equipment staging, parking, and maintenance areas shall be located as far as practicable from noise-sensitive uses.
- Project area and site access road speed limits shall be established and enforced during the construction period.
- Nearby residences shall be notified of construction schedules so that arrangements can be made, if desired, to limit their exposure to short-term increases in ambient noise levels.