

Subject: FW: F/26/101776 - Proposed 2 storey plant room to house Nitrogen Generation plant located in service yard at the rear of the building (revision to application ref. F/25/99212) - Nois comments

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Good afternoon Rebecca

Thank you for consulting the Pollution Team on the application reference F/26/101776 revision to application ref. F/25/99212 to discharge of Condition 3 for the now built 2 storey plant room to house Nitrogen Generation plant located in service yard at the rear of the building at SPEEDWELL HOUSE, SPEEDWELL CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD.

I reviewed Sustainable Acoustics Report No. 25-0043-2 R02 Post Remedial Work Noise Assessment dated 16 June 2026

This report aims to discharge condition 3 of Application No. F/25/99212

Condition 3

"Within 1 week of the plant room becoming fully operational, a post installation noise survey must be carried out and a report submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate compliance with the noise calculations set out in the Noise Assessment prepared by Sustainable Acoustics, ref. 25-0043-0 R01, dated 4 April 2025. The assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant and shall consider the plant operating at full capacity as well as all the existing plant operating at full capacity, for both daytime and nighttime periods"

The report confirms that the additional mitigation works have now been completed and include:

- an absorptive noise barrier around the ground floor louvre in the east façade (replacing the temporary barrier),
- blocking off the upper louvre in the east façade from the inside,
- attenuators fitted to the internal discharge,
- door seals improved to the acoustic doors in the south façade,
- and sound absorptive material added inside the plant enclosure.

The survey was undertaken between 21:30 on 10 June 2026 and 05:30 on 11 June 2026. During the survey period, the nitrogen plant and the wider CooperVision site were operating under normal conditions.

A character correction was applied only to the Thirlstane Firs receptor. Even if the same correction were applied to the Castle Lane receptor, the BS 4142 result would still be 5 dB below the background sound level and would therefore meet the required assessment criteria.

The discharge events are still audible and the focus of the several noise complains we received. Future investigations may consider the discharge events as nuisance and future work may be necessary.

Nevertheless, given the length of time this matter has been ongoing, and taking into account the mitigation measures that have been implemented, I am prepared to accept the report and recommend that the planning condition be discharged. Once again even now with all this additional mitigation in place the assessment outcome is very different than the initial noise planning report.

Condition 3 can be discharged.

However, background noise creep remains a concern in this area for any future plant proposals at the CooperVision site. It will become increasingly difficult to justify additional noise-generating plant where the prevailing background sound level has been progressively elevated by operational noise from the same site over many years. Any future proposals will therefore be assessed rigorously, and a robust review will be in place at the planning stage and after.

Thank you

Andre

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