

Excess Amplitude Modulation Condition - September 2014

The wind turbines shall not emit greater than expected amplitude modulation. Amplitude modulation is the modulation of the level of broadband noise emitted by a turbine at blade passing frequency. These will be deemed greater than expected if the following characteristics apply:

A change in the measured LAeq 100 milliseconds turbine noise level of more than 3dB (represented as a rise and fall in sound energy levels each of more than 3dB) occurring within a 2 second period.

The change identified in (a) above shall not occur less than 5 times in any one minute period provided that the LAeq, 1 minute turbine sound energy level for that minute is not below 28dB.

The changes identified in (a) and (b) above shall not occur for fewer than 6 minutes in any hour.

Noise emissions shall be measured at a complainant's dwelling not further than 35m from the relevant dwelling building, and not closer than 3.5m of any reflective building or surface other than the ground, or within 1.2m of the ground.

Within 21 days from receipt of a written request of the East Cambridgeshire Planning Authority, following a complaint to it alleging noise disturbance at a dwelling which relates to amplitude modulation, the wind farm operator shall, at its expense, employ a consultant approved by the Local Planning Authority, to assess whether there is greater than expected amplitude modulation from the wind farm at the complainant's property. The written request from the Local Planning Authority shall set out at least the date, time and location that the complaint relates to. Within 14 days of receipt of the written request of the Local Planning Authority made under this condition, the wind farm operator shall provide the information logged in accordance with this condition to the East Cambridgeshire Planning Authority in the format set out in the Guidance Notes.

Prior to the commencement of any measurements by the independent consultant to be undertaken in accordance with this condition, the wind farm operator shall submit to the East Cambridgeshire Planning Authority for written approval the proposed measurement location identified. Measurements to assess compliance with the noise limit of this condition shall be undertaken at the measurement location or locations approved in writing by the East Cambridgeshire Planning Authority.

