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**To:** Ashley Smith  
**From:** Waterford Consultants  
**Date:** 28 January 2020  
**Subject:** AT&T Bayside Acres Wireless Facility CCL04747 – Noise Compliance Report

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Ashley: based on our review of the project drawings and technical specifications, we are pleased to submit this summary of our noise analysis of the supporting equipment for the proposed Bayside Acres AT&T Wireless Communications Facility (CCL04747) to be installed at 10 Bayview Drive, San Rafael, CA, located in the jurisdiction of Marin County.

## PROJECT CRITERIA

### Marin County General Plan – Noise Element

Section 3.10 NO-1.a of the Marin County General Plan Noise Element presents benchmarks for allowable noise exposure from stationary noise sources within Marin County. The Implementation Program NO-1.a states that the benchmarking noise standards, presented below in Table 1, are to be used as *guidelines* for planning and siting land uses and are not intended as a noise ordinance.

**Table 1 – Benchmarks for Allowable Noise Exposure from Stationary Noise Sources**

Noise Level Descriptor	Daytime (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.)	Nighttime (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.)
Hourly Leq, dBA <sup>[1]</sup>	50	45
Maximum Level, dBA <sup>[1]</sup>	70	65
Maximum Level, dBA <sup>[1]</sup> (Impulsive Noise)	65	60

[1] Although not explicitly stated in the Noise Element guidelines, we assume the above benchmarking noise standards are provided in units of A-weighted decibels (dBA).

The benchmarking noise standards shall be applied at the property line of the receiving land use. Importantly, the Marin County Noise Element does not allow any exemptions for the operation of emergency equipment; noise emissions from equipment such as standby generators are subject to the benchmarking noise standards.



## NOISE ANALYSIS

Our review of the project documents revealed one primary noise source of concern, presented below in Table 2. However, the documents include a “generator plug”, allowing for hookup of a temporary generator. While this equipment is not specified, we have analyzed a generator commonly used by AT&T at their wireless facilities; this is also presented below in Table 2:

**Table 2 – Supporting Equipment Noise Data**

Equipment Type	Make	Model	Power Rating	Manufacturer Noise Data (dBA)	Noise Data Reference Distance (ft)
AC Unit	Marvair	ECUA SlimPac	1/4 HP	52	5
Generator	Generac	SD030	30 kW	63 <sup>[1]</sup>	23

[1] Average sound pressure level for the generator set with a Level 2 Acoustic Enclosure, full-load operating condition.

To present a conservative analysis, our noise modeling has assumed a ‘worst case’ scenario: that the AC Unit would operate in the full-load condition during nighttime hours. Table 3 presents estimated noise levels at each property line due to the operation of this equipment.

**Table 3 – As-Designed Estimated Noise Levels: AC Unit**

Receptor (Property Lines)	Distance from AC Unit (ft)	Calculated Equipment Noise Level (dBA)	Marin County Benchmarking Noise Standards (Hourly Leq <sup>[1]</sup> , dBA)	
			7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.
Northern Property Line	120	24	50	45
Eastern Property Line	140	23	50	45
Southern Property Line	150	22	50	45
Western Property Line	350	15	50	45

[1] Maximum Level and Maximum Level Impulsive Noise standards are not applicable as noise emissions from the generator are steady-state, subject to hourly Leq levels and do not qualify as impulsive noise per NO-1.a.



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The noise produced by a typical generator used at AT&T wireless facilities would range from 39 to 49 dBA at the closest receptor property lines; this would exceed the nighttime noise benchmarking standards by 1 to 4 dBA at the northern, eastern, and southern adjacent land uses, but would meet the daytime standards.

We note that the equipment is to be located on the property of the St Luke/Korean American Presbyterian Church; it is assumed that Marin County noise benchmarking standards wouldn't apply to the property containing the equipment.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the project documentation, our noise analysis indicates that the Bayside Acres AT&T Wireless Facility (CCL04747) meets the Marin County Noise Element Benchmarking Noise Standards at all property lines. If a temporary generator were to be used, a common model used at other AT&T wireless facilities would nominally exceed the nighttime benchmarking standards and meet the daytime standards. Given that a) the exceedance is nominal; b) use of a generator would be temporary; c) the existing sound levels in the area may already exceed the nighttime benchmarking standards; and d) the standards are to be used for guidance and not intended as an ordinance; we would consider the site to be in substantial compliance with the Marin County Noise Element.

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Please feel free to call or write with any questions or comments; our contact information is below.

Best regards,

Tyler Rynberg, PE