

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



Noise Pollution Control & Standards Regulation

2017

REGULATORY INSTRUMENT

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY

Instrument: Noise Pollution Control & Standards Regulation, 2017

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Environmental Protection Agency Noise Pollution Control & Standards Regulation, 2017

of the

**THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION & MANAGEMENT LAW OF
LIBERIA 2003(Sections 41, 42 & 43)**

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IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by the Environmental Protection & Management Act (*Section 41, 42 & 43*), the Environment Protection Agency makes the following Regulations:-

NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL & STANDARDS REGULATIONS, 2009

PART I - PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Noise Pollution Control & Standards Regulations, 2009.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

“Act” means the Environment Protection & Management Law of Liberia 2003;

“action plan” means a plan designed for the purpose of managing noise or excessive vibrations and their effects, including reduction of noise or excessive vibrations ;

“Agency” means the Environment Protection Agency established under Section 4 of the Environment Protection Agency Act 2003; “commercial zone” means any place where goods and services are exchanged, bought or sold;

“construction” includes erection, alteration, repair, dismantling, demolition, structural maintenance, painting, mowing, land clearing, earth-moving, landscaping, grading, excavating,

Short Title.

Interpretation.

	<p>laying of pipes and conduits whether above or below ground level, road, railway and highway building, concreting, installation and alteration of equipment, and the structural installation of construction components and materials in any form or for any purpose that includes any work in connection with the construction; “dB(A)” means decibels of noise, measured with an A-weighted filter;</p> <p>“decibel” means a dimensionless unit used in comparison of the magnitude of sound pressure or power;</p> <p>“intermittent noise” means a noise whose level suddenly drops to several times the level of the background noise;</p> <p>“intrusive noise” means external noise, or noise from another part of the building, which penetrates the structural borders of a room or building;</p> <p>“Line Ministry or lead agency” means any Government ministry, department, parastatal, state corporation or local Agency, in which any law vests functions of control or management of any element of the environment or natural resources;</p> <p>“mapping” means the presentation of data on an existing or predicted noise or excessive vibration situation, indicating breaches of any relevant limit value in force, the number of people affected in a certain area or the number of dwellings exposed to certain values of noise or excessive vibration limit in a certain area;</p>
	<p>"local council" means a city, town councils and administrative unit established in the Counties;</p> <p>“mapping-body” means a noise-mapping or excessive vibration-mapping body as designated in these Regulations;</p> <p>“noise” means any undesirable sound that is intrinsically objectionable or that may cause adverse effects on human health or the environment.</p> <p>“noise pollution” means the emission of uncontrolled noise that is likely to cause danger to human health or damage to the environment.</p> <p>“place of entertainment” means premises or any other place where activities including amusement, enjoyment, playing of music, dancing, performing of shows take place;</p>

	<p>“property boundary” means the surveyed line at ground surface which separates the facility owned, rented or leased by one or more persons from any other such facilities.</p> <p>“silent zone” means designated area that includes health facilities, educational and research institutions, courts, and any other area declared as such by the Agency;</p> <p>“sound” means an oscillation in pressure, particle displacement, particle velocity or other physical parameter in a medium with internal forces that causes compression and rarefaction of that medium. “sound source” means any person or thing from which sound is emitted</p> <p>“Environmental Court" means the Environmental Administrative Court established under Section (32) of the Environmental Protection Agency Act.</p> <p>“vibration” means an oscillatory motion of solid bodies of deterministic or random nature described by displacement, velocity or acceleration with respect to a given reference point.</p> <p>"excessive vibration" means the presence of vibration which :- (a) is of such intensity, duration, frequency or characteristic as to annoy, disturb, or cause or tend to cause adverse psychological or physiological effects on persons, or to damage or tend to damage personal or real property; and,</p> <p>(b) exceeds 0.5 centimeter per second beyond any source property boundary or 30 meters from any moving source.</p> <p>3. The Objectives of these Regulations are to ensure the maintenance of a healthy environment for all people in Liberia, the tranquility of their surrounding and their psychological well-being by prescribing standards, regulating noise and vibration levels, and to improve the standard of living by -</p> <p>1)Providing standards for noise and vibrations</p>
<p>Objectives of the Regulations</p>	<p>2) Prescribing the maximum permissible noise and vibrations levels from a facility or activity to which a person may be exposed;</p> <p>3) Providing for the control of noise and for mitigating measures for the reduction of noise;</p> <p>4) Giving effect to Section 41, 42 and 43 of the Act.</p> <p>Part II: NOISE STANDARDS, GENERAL PROHIBITIONS,</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Establishment of Permissible Noise Level Standards.</p> <p>Permissible noise levels.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MEASUREMENTS, CONTROL & EXEMPTIONS</p> <p>4. Permissible noise and vibrations levels shall be in accordance with and shall not exceed those set in the First Schedule to these Regulations and the levels shall apply as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The maximum noise levels from a facility in the general environment specified in Column 1 (<i>Residential Areas, hospitals</i>) of Part I of the First Schedule to which a person may be exposed shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 of that Part for the time specified in that Part. 2) The maximum noise levels of continuous or intermittent noise from a <i>factory or a workshop</i>, to which person may be exposed shall not exceed the level specified in Column 1 of Part II of the First Schedule, for the time specified in Columns 2 and 3 of that Part. 3) The maximum noise level from <i>impact or impulsive</i> noise to which a person may be exposed shall be as specified in column 1 of Part III of the First Schedule for the permitted number of impulses or impacts emitted per day specified in Column 2 of that Part. 4) The maximum noise level from a <i>construction site</i> to which a person in a facility specified in Column 1 of Part IV of the First Schedule may be exposed, shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 during the time specified in that Part. 5) The maximum noise level from a <i>public announcement system or address system</i> or device to which a person in the Noise Control Zone specified in Column 1 of Part V of the First Schedule may be exposed, shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 during the time specified in that Part. 6) The maximum noise level from a <i>place of entertainment</i> or establishment to which a person in the Noise Control Zone specified in Column 2 of Part VI of the First Schedule may be exposed, shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 during the time specified in that Part. 7) The maximum noise level from a <i>place or area of worship</i> to which a person in the Noise Control Zone
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	<p>specified in Column 1 of Part VII of the First Schedule may be exposed shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 during the time specified in that Part.</p>
<p>Measurements to Control Noise By Environment Inspectors</p> <p>City & Town Inspectors to Jointly Implement For Measurement and Control.</p> <p>Guidelines for measurements</p> <p>General Prohibitions of generation of noise and vibrations by place and time.</p> <p>Standards</p>	<p>8) The maximum noise level from an <i>accelerating vehicle</i> to which a person may be exposed in the category specified in Column 1 of Part, VIII of the First Schedule shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 of that Part.</p> <p>9) The maximum noise level from a <i>quarry or mine</i> to which a person in the facility specified in Column 1 of Part IX of the First Schedule may be exposed shall not exceed the level specified in Column 2 of that Part.</p> <p>5. Measurements shall be taken by the Environment Inspectors, City police or the Lead Agency as may be appropriate as provided for in these Regulations.</p> <p>6. In cases where there are city police or relevant lead agency to take the measurements, or where the Local Authority has failed to take action after being given reasonable notice by the Agency, the measurement shall be taken by a person duly authorized by the Agency, who is knowledgeable in the proper use of the measuring equipment.</p> <p>7. The Agency in consultation with the relevant authorities shall issue guidelines for the measurement of noise and excessive vibration.</p> <p>PART III: NOISE CONTROL PROVISIONS</p> <p>8. Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, no person shall make or cause any loud, unreasonable, unnecessary or unusual noise, and, excessive vibrations which annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health or safety of others and the environment.</p> <p>9. In determining whether noise or vibration is loud, unreasonable, unnecessary or unusual, the following factors shall be considered: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Standards established by these Regulations b) time of the day; c) proximity to residential area;

	<p>d) whether the noise or vibration is recurrent, intermittent or constant;</p> <p>e) the level and intensity of the noise;</p> <p>f) whether the noise or vibration has been enhanced in level or range by any type of electronic or mechanical means; and,</p> <p>g) Whether the noise or vibration can be controlled without much effort or expense to the person making the noise.</p> <p>10. These Regulations shall not be applicable to: -</p> <p>a) the emission of noise for the purpose of alerting persons to</p>
<p><i>Exemptions</i></p> <p>Hawkers, peddlers, touts street preachers.</p> <p>Public Nuisances of Noise</p>	<p>the existence of an emergency;</p> <p>b) noise caused by the operation of a loudspeaker or siren for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes or other emergency response;</p> <p>c) noise caused in connection with the protection of the health and safety of residents or their property during emergency conditions;</p> <p>d) Parades, national and cultural events.</p> <p>e) Noise caused by a person as a result of temporary or accidental cause which could not have been prevented by the exercise of due diligence and care on the part of that person;</p> <p>f) Noise caused by the horn of a vehicle for the purpose of giving sufficient warning of the approach or position of the vehicle;</p> <p>11. No person shall-</p> <p>a) Preach, tout, advertise, promote or sell any goods; or</p> <p>b) engage in any commercial activity, in such manner as to emit noise by shouting within the Central Business Zone of any city, town, a residential area, a silent zone, or any other area declared as a silent zone by the Agency,</p> <p>12. No person shall cause annoyance, disturbance resulting in public nuisance in a Central Business Zone of any city, town, a</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Noise from Radio, TV, sound sonic and amplifying devices</p> <p>References to</p>	<p>residential area or Silent Zone by acts, which include the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) yelling, laughing, clapping, shouting, hooting, pounding, whistling and singing; (b) selling or advertising by shouting or outcry or amplified sound; <p>13. No person shall use or operate any radio, cell phone, mobile or receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, television set, any other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound or any other sound-amplifying equipment in a loud, annoying or offensive manner such that the, noise from the device-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) interferes with the comfort, repose, health or safety of members of the public; b) creates a risk thereof, within any building or, outside of a building, at a distance of 20 meters or more from the source of such sound; c) or interferes with the conversation of members of the public who are 20 meters or more from the source of such sound. <p>2) Any person who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence.</p> <p>14. For the purposes of these Regulations, “person” includes -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) in the case of an offence that occurs on any public property where permission was obtained to use that public property, the person or persons who obtained permission to utilize that property for that event.
<p style="text-align: center;">Any Person In Respect to public and private property</p> <p>Exemptions for permitted public events</p> <p>Parties and social events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) in the case of an offence that occurs on private property, any adult person or persons who live in or on the property that is involved in the offence; c) and in the case of an offence that occurs after granting of a permit pursuant to this Regulation, the person or persons who are listed in the permit. <p>15. Provided that these provisions shall not be construed to prohibit the selling by shouting of merchandise, food and beverages at permitted sporting events, parades, fairs, and other similar permitted public entertainment events.</p> <p>16. Any person in charge of a party or other social event which occurs on any private or public property shall ensure that the party or event does not produce noise in a loud, annoying or offensive manner such that noise from the party interferes with the comfort,</p>

<p>Responsibility of occupier of premises on noise levels from household equipment</p> <p>By- Laws</p> <p>Noise Standards & Levels for Machinery, Automobiles & Construction Equipment</p>	<p>repose, health or safety of members of the public within any building or, outside of a building, or recklessly creates the risk thereof, at a distance of 30 meters or more from the source of such sound.</p> <p>17. For the purposes of this Regulation, a "person in charge of a party or other social event"-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) in a public property shall include the person or persons who obtained permission to utilize that property for that event and who are listed in the permit; 2) on private property shall include the person who owns the premises involved and any adult person who lives in or on the premises involved in such party or social event; <p>18. No person shall use any sound-amplifying equipment in their premises in such a way that such equipment is or is likely to be heard outside of any building between 8:00 p.m. of any day and 7:30 a.m. of the next day, without a valid permit.</p> <p>19. The municipal authorities shall in consultations with the Agency promulgate by-laws to regulate hawkers, peddlers, touts, street preachers and public nuisances, and shall regulate noise relating to sound amplifying equipment specified in these Regulations.</p> <p>20. Any person wishing to-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) operate or repair any machinery, motor vehicle, construction equipment or other equipment, pump, fan, air-conditioning apparatus, domestic appliances or similar mechanical device; 2) engage in any commercial or industrial activity, which is likely to emit noise or excessive vibrations; shall carry out the activity or activities within the relevant noise levels prescribed in the Schedules 2 to these Regulations. <p>21.1) No person shall operate a motor vehicle which: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) produces any loud and unusual sound; and 2) exceeds limits specified in Schedule 2.
<p>Noise limits for automobiles & Transport & Traffic laws Regulations</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) No person shall at any time sound the horn or other warning device of a vehicle except when necessary to prevent an accident or an incident. 4) The Transport Ministry shall ensure that the transport and traffic laws are promulgated to apply to this Regulation.

<p>Noise, excessive vibrations from construction, demolition, mining or Quarrying sites.</p>	<p>5) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this Regulation commits an offence.</p> <p>22. 1) No person shall operate construction equipment (including but not limited to any pile driver, steam shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick or steam or electric hoist) or perform any outside construction or repair work so as to emit noise in excess of the permissible levels as set out in the Second Schedule to these Regulations.</p> <p>2) Where defined work of construction, demolition, mining or quarrying is to be carried out in an area, the Agency may impose requirements on how the work is to be carried out including but not limited to requirements regarding: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) machinery that may be used, b) and the permitted levels of noise as stipulated in Schedule One to these Regulations. c) The relevant lead agency shall ensure that mines and quarries where explosives and machinery used are located in designated areas and not less than two kilometers away from human settlements. d) Any person who contravenes this Regulation commits an offence. e) This Regulation shall not apply to: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) any work of an emergency nature; b) work of a domestic nature on buildings, structures or projects being undertaken by a person residing in such premises; or c) public utility construction, or, with respect to construction of public works, projects exclusively relating to roads, bridges, airports, public schools and sidewalks f) Provided that, if any domestic power tool, including, but not limited to mechanically powered saws, sanders, grinders and lawn and garden tools used outdoors, is operated during the <i>nighttime</i> hours, no person shall operate such machinery so as to cause noise within a residential building or across a residential real property boundary where such noise interferes with the comfort, repose, health or safety of members of the public within any building or,
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	<p>the taking of such steps, as may be specified in the notice; or carrying out of any other order as may be issued.</p> <p>2) Where it appears to the Environmental Inspector that the level of noise emanating from any premises or area is not acceptable or is causing a public nuisance, the inspector may issue an compliance notice, for the benefit of the public.</p> <p>3) An improvement notice shall direct all or any or all of the following:-</p> <p>a) the carrying out of any of the improvement orders issued under (24. 1);</p> <p>b)cessation of the noise or excessive vibration, or prevention or discontinuance of any annoyance, or prohibiting or restricting its occurrence or reoccurrence;</p>
<p>Closure</p> <p>Rendering an Operating Equipment Immobile</p> <p>Power to seize, confiscate machinery</p> <p>Costs of Impoundment & Storage</p>	<p>c) compliance with the permissible noise or excessive vibration levels;</p> <p>d) the reduction of the level of noise or excessive vibration emanating from the premises to a level specified in the notice;</p> <p>4) A control order compliance notice issued under sub-regulation (1) or (2) shall specify the period within which the requirements of the notice are to be complied with.</p> <p>5) The compliance notice shall be served on the person responsible or alleged to cause or likely to cause the noise pollution or annoyance or, if that person cannot be found, or the noise or annoyance has not yet occurred, on the owner or occupier of the premises from which the noise is emitted or is likely to be emitted.</p> <p>6) A person on whom a compliance notice is served under this regulation who contravenes or fails to carry out any requirements of the compliance notice commits an offence.</p> <p>7) The failure to comply with the conditions in a compliance notice within the period specified in the notice is prima facie evidence of the commission of an offence.</p> <p>8) Any person who fails or refuses to comply with the conditions in a compliance notice commits an offence and is</p>

	<p>liable, upon conviction, to the penalties described under Section 42 of the Act.</p> <p>26. Where there is continuous emission of noise or excessive vibration after the Environmental Inspector has issued an compliance notice, and a compliance order, which has not been complied with in the time specified, the Environmental Inspector may, order the closure of an establishment or undertaking emitting such noise or excessive vibration.</p> <p>27. An Environmental Inspector or a member of a local council may remove from the source of the noise, or render inoperable by the removal of any part from, or lock or seal or close so as to make unusable, any instrument, appliance, vehicle, or machine</p> <p>28. An Environmental Inspector or a City Police Officer may seize, impound or confiscate any property, tool, machinery or other instrument which is likely to, or has caused the emission of noise, if, in their opinion the confiscation would cause tranquility in the area. That is producing or contributing to the noise.</p> <p>29. The owner of anything seized, impounded or confiscated under this regulation is responsible for the costs incurred in the confiscation and storage.</p> <p>30. Where any property, tool, machinery or other instrument has</p>
<p>Request for restitution of Property</p> <p>Forfeiture</p> <p>Restitution of property</p> <p>Public Complaints</p> <p>Abatement of</p>	<p>been seized or impounded or confiscated under regulation 17, the owner or occupier, or person using that property, tool, machinery or other instrument may, at any time, in writing, apply to the Agency, or municipal authority which seized or impounded it for the property, tool, machinery or other instrument to be returned to him or her.</p> <p>31. Restitution of property shall be subject to Section 109 of the Act on forfeiture, where that operator or person from whom the property was confiscated is charged with an offence.</p> <p>32. On receipt of an application for restitution, the Agency or local council may return the property, tool, machinery or other instrument or part of it, upon being satisfied that its return is not likely to lead to the resumption of the emission of noise, or on terms and conditions as may be directed by the Agency or the municipal authority as the case may be.</p> <p>33. Any person may lodge a complaint to the (Manager of Compliance & Enforcement) Agency or a municipal authority on</p>

<p>Noise upon complaint</p> <p>General Civil Action for noise</p> <p>Application for a Permit in a residential or commercial zone</p> <p>Public Address Systems</p> <p>Requirements</p>	<p>the grounds that they are aggrieved by noise being emitted, or likely to be emitted, in contravention of these Regulations.</p> <p>34. On receiving a complaint, the Agency or municipal authority shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the noise is abated or controlled, and that these Regulations are complied with.</p> <p>35. Any person or group of persons is entitled to bring an action in a court to stop, prevent or control the emission of noise from any source or place.</p> <p>36. In lodging a complaint or action it is not necessary for the complainant to show or prove personal loss or injury or discomfort caused by the emission of the alleged noise.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PART V: PERMIT FOR NOISE & VIBRATIONS IN EXCESS OF PERMISSIBLE LEVELS</p> <p>37. Where a sound source is planned, installed or intended to be installed or modified by any person in a residential or commercial zone, in such a manner that such source shall create or is likely to emit noise or excessive vibrations beyond the standards, or otherwise fail to comply with the provisions of these Regulations, such person shall apply for a permit to the municipal authority as the Agency may prescribe in guidelines issued from time to time.</p> <p>38. Where any person uses or plans to use a public-address system which is likely to emit sound outside of a building, such person shall secure a permit under these Regulations.</p> <p>39. 1) An application for the permit shall provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the reasons for such usage, including a demonstration as to why
<p>for a Permit Application to the City & Town Council</p>	<p>it is desirable or necessary that the sound source involved be authorized by a permit pursuant to this Regulation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) plans and specifications of the use; c) noise-abatement and control methods to be used with respect to the sound source involved; d) the period of time during which the permit shall apply. e) the name of the person(s) who is responsible for ensuring that the activity complies with any permit issued for it pursuant to this Regulation; and

<p>Forms for permit applications and payment</p>	<p>f) evidence that notification of the application for the permit has been given to each person reasonably expected to be affected by the noise, the content of such notification and the manner in which such notification has been given, if the event is not a community-wide or public event.</p> <p>2) Provided that the notification shall state that any person objecting to the granting of such a permit may contact the appropriate office to whom the application is being made to express his/her opposition to the granting of the permit.</p>
<p>Factors to determine in Issuing a Permit</p>	<p>40. Permit applications made to the City & Town Councils shall be in a form to be issued by the City & Town Council and shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee payable to the City & Town Councils.</p> <p>41. When determining if a permit should be issued, the factors the City or Town Council shall be the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the purposes of such permit; b) the level of the noise or excessive vibrations; c) the proximity of the noise or excessive vibrations to accommodation or residential facilities; d) the time of the day or night the noise or excessive vibrations occur; e) the time duration of the noise or excessive vibrations; f) the impact of the noise on persons living or working in different places or premises who are affected by the noise or excessive vibrations;
<p>Period for Processing a Permit</p>	<p>42. The City or Town Council shall process the application for a permit within Fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the application, failure to which the applicant shall be free to proceed with the activity in respect of which the application is made.</p>
<p>Factors to be considered in determining the Application for a Permit</p>	<p>43. A permit shall contain requirements relating to the manner in which the activities are to be carried out and may, in particular specify:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the equipment or material to be used; 2) the hours during which the activities may be carried out; <p>the level of noise or vibrations which may be emitted in excess of the permissible levels;</p>
<p>Form of Permit</p>	<p>4) the activities and the method by which they are to be carried out; and</p>

<p>Period of Permit</p>	<p>5) the steps proposed to be taken to minimize noise or excessive vibrations resulting from the activities.</p>
<p>Construction, firing ranges and heavy duty industry to be permitted by the Agency</p>	<p>44. Then shall issue a permit in a prescribed form.</p> <p>45. A permit issued under this Regulation shall be valid for a period as required by such activity being undertaken and not exceeding 3 months.</p>
<p>Prohibitions of works without a permit</p>	<p>PART VI: ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS TO BE PERMITTED BY THE AGENCY</p>
<p>Period for applying for a Permit</p>	<p>46. Activities of fireworks, demolitions, construction, firing ranges or operation of specific heavy industry as specified in the Schedule shall be regulated through a permit issued by the Agency.</p>
<p>Additional Powers of the Councils & Agencies</p>	<p>47. No person shall carry out activities relating to fireworks, demolitions, construction, firing ranges or operate specific heavy industry without a valid permit issued by the Agency.</p> <p>48. An application for a permit shall be made to the Agency at least 30 days before commencement of operations.</p>
<p>Further Conditions</p>	<p>49. In order to further the purposes of these Regulations and to facilitate compliance and enforcement, the Municipal authority and relevant lead agency shall have power to attach such other conditions to the permit in relation to these Regulations issued in accordance with the municipal authority by laws and applicable sectoral laws, as deem necessary.</p>
<p>Prescribed Form of Permit</p>	<p>50. The Agency shall forward such categories of Applications for permits to the Municipal Council or lead agency as may be agreed from time to time for the evaluation and attachment of any further conditions before issuance of the permit.</p>
<p>Issuance of Permit by the Agency</p>	<p>51. An application shall be in the prescribed form in accordance with the Schedule.</p>
<p>Period of Permit</p>	<p>52. The Agency may, on receiving an application, issue the applicant with a permit to carry out fireworks, demolitions, firing ranges and operate specific heavy industrial work, in the form set out in the Schedule to these Regulations, on such terms and conditions as may be contained in the permit.</p>
<p>Revocation of permit</p>	<p>53. A permit to carry out activities such as fireworks, demolitions, firing ranges and specific heavy industry shall be valid for a period not exceeding six months (6) months.</p>
<p>Offences</p>	<p>54. The Agency may, at any time and after giving notice of seven days to the licensee, revoke a permit if satisfied that the conditions of the permit have not been complied with, or that the continued</p>

	<p>emission of noise in excess of the permissible noise levels is likely to be injurious to the residents in the area, or to the environment.</p>
<p>Magistrates court with jurisdiction</p>	<p>55. Any person who contravenes the provisions of these Regulation commits an offence.</p>
<p>Appeals On Permit</p>	<p>56. The Magistrate’s court is the court of first instance for bringing an action for the control of noise under these Regulations.</p> <p>57. Any applicant who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Agency to grant a permit may appeal to the Environment Administrative Court.</p>
<p>Strategic Noise Mapping in each County</p>	<p>PART VII -MAPPING OF ZONES FOR NOISE AND EXCESSIVE VIBRATIONS CONTROL & ACTION PLANS</p> <p>58. Each County administration, in consultation with the County environmental inspectors, municipal authority and the relevant agencies, make a strategic noise or vibration map for its area.</p>
<p>Review of Strategic noise and excessive vibration maps.</p>	<p>59. Each County shall review its strategic noise or vibration map every three (3) years from the date on which the strategic noise or vibration map was made, or earlier where there is significant change in land use or noise or vibration level.</p>
<p>Minimum Requirements for mapping</p>	<p>60. A strategic noise or excessive vibration map shall satisfy the minimum requirements set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.</p>
<p>Action plans</p>	<p>61. Each County, and in consultations with the municipal authority and County environmental inspectors shall prepare an action plan relevant to its area.</p> <p>62. An action plan shall satisfy the minimum requirements set out in the Schedule;</p> <p>63. An action plan shall be reviewed every three (3) years after the date on which it was made or last reviewed, provided that an action plan may be reviewed earlier in the event of a material change in land use or noise or vibration level in the area concerned.</p>
	<p>PART VIII: PUBLIC CONSULTATION</p>
	<p>64. 1) Public Consultation shall be conducted in respect of the provisions of these Regulations, proposals for the Strategic Mapping and Action Plans by the municipal authority under the direction of the Agency in each County.</p>
<p>Public Consultation</p>	<p>65. 1) Consultations with the public on proposals shall:</p> <p>a) Ensure the public is given early and effective opportunities to participate and review action plans;</p>

FIRST SCHEDULE.

MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE NOISE LEVELS

PART I

Regulation 4

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for General Environment

Column 1	Column 2	
Facility	Noise Limits B (A) (Leq)	
	DAY	NIGHT
A. Any building used as hospital, convalescence home, home for the aged, sanatorium and institutes of higher learning, conference rooms, public library, environmental or recreational sites.	45	35
B. Residential buildings	50	35
C. Mixed residential (with some commercial and entertainment)	55	45
D. Residential + industry or small-scale production + commerce	60	50
E. Industrial	70	60

Time Frame: use duration

Day : 6.00 a.m 10.00p.m.

Night : 10.00p.m - 6.00a.m

The time frame takes into consideration human activity.

PART II

Regulation

4 Maximum Permissible Noise Levels (Continuous or intermittent noise)

from a Factory or Workshop

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Leq dB (A)	Duration (Daily)	Duration (Weekly)
85	8 hours	40 hours
88	4 hours	20 hours
91	2 hours	10 hours
94	1 hour	5 hours
97	30 minutes	2.5 hours
100	15 minutes	1.25 hours
103	7.5 minutes	37.5 minutes
106	3.75 minutes	18.75 minutes
109	1.875 minutes	9.375 minutes

Noise Levels shall not exceed a Leq of -

- (i) Factory/Workshops 85 dB (A)
- (ii) Offices 50 dB (A)
- (iii) Factory/Workshop Compound 75 dB (A).

PART III

Regulation 4

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Impact or Impulsive Noise

Column 1	Column 2
Sound Level dB (A) (Lmax)	Permitted number of Impulses or Impacts per day
140	100
130	1,000
120	10,000

PART IV

Regulation 4 Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Construction Site

Column 1	Column 2	
Noise Control Zone	Sound Level dB (A) (Leq)	Sound Level dB (A) Leq
	Day	Night
Residential Area	60	40
Commercial Area	75	50
Industrial Area	85	65

Time Frame:

Day : 6.00 a.m -
10.00p.m.

Night : 10.00p.m - 6.00a.m

The time frame takes into consideration human activity.

PART VI

Regulation 4

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Places or Establishments of Entertainment

Column 1	Column 2	
Noise Control Zone	Sound Level dB (A) (Leq)	Sound Level dB (A) Leq
	Day	Night
Residential	60	40
Commercial	75	50
Industrial	85	65

Time Frame: The time frame takes into consideration human activity.

Day : 6.00 a.m 10.00p.m.

Night : 10.00p.m - 6.00a.m

PART VII

Regulation 5

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Places or Areas of Worship

Column 1	Column 2	
Noise Control Zone	Sound Level dB (A) (Leq)	Sound Level dB (A) Leq
	Day	Night

Residential	60	40
Commercial	75	50
Industrial	85	65

Time Frame:

Day 6.00 am 10.00p.m

Night : 10.00p.m - 6.00a.m

The time frame takes into consideration human activity.

PART VIII

Regulation 5

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Accelerating Vehicles

	Column 1	Column 2
1	Vehicles intended for carriage of passengers and equipped with not more than nine seats, including the driver's seat	78
2	Vehicles intended for carriage of passengers, and equipped with not more than nine seats, including the drivers seat and having maximum permissible mass of more than 3.5 tones	
	a) - with an engine power of more than 150 KW	80
	b) - with an engine power of less than 150 KW	83

3 Vehicles intended for carriage of passengers and equipped with more than nine seats including the driver's seat:
vehicles intended for carriage of goods

a) - with a maximum permissible mass 79 not exceeding 2 tonnes

b) - with a maximum permissible mass 80 exceeding 2 tonnes but not exceeding 3.5 tonnes

4 Vehicles intended for the carriage of goods and having a maximum permissible mass exceeding 3,5 tonnes

a) -with an engine power of less than 75 81 KW

b) -with an engine power of not less than 83 75 KW but less than 150KW

c) -with an engine power of not less than 84 150 KW

PART VIII

Regulation 4

Maximum Permissible Noise Levels for Residential & Commercial Areas

Column 1	Column 2
Facility	Limit Value in dB(C)
1 For any building used as a hospital, school, convalescent home, old age home or residential building	109dB (C)
2 For any building in an area used for residential and one or more of the following purposes: Commerce, small-scale production, entertainment, or any residential apartment in an area that is used for purposes of industry, commerce or small-scale production, or any building used for the purpose of industry, commerce or small-scale production.	114dB (C)

Schedules 2 : Noise Standards for Automobiles & Domestic Appliances

A. Noise limits for automobiles (from at 7.5 metre in dB(A) at the manufacturing stage):

a)	Motorcycle, scooters and three wheelers	80
b)	Passenger cars	82
c)	Passenger or commercial vehicles up to 4 tonne	85
d)	Passenger or commercial vehicles above 4 tonne and up to 12	89

e) Passenger or commercial vehicles exceeding 12 tonne	91
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Schedules 3:

B. Domestic appliances and construction equipments at the manufacturing stage:

a) Window air conditioners of 1- 1.5 tonne	68
b) Air coolers	60
c) Refrigerators	46
d) Diesel generator for domestic purposes	90
e) Compactors (rollers), front loaders, concentrate mixers, cranes (movable), vibrators and saws	75

APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO EMIT NOISE/ VIBRATIONS IN EXCESS OF PERMISSIBLE LEVELS (May be made to the City or Town Council)

1. Name of Applicant:.....
Address:.....
Identity No. / Passport No.....
Tel.:..... Mobile:.....
Fax..... E-mail:

2. Physical Address of Premises or facility where Noise/Excessive vibrations will be produced:

.....
(Location, Town, District, Street, House Number)

3. Source of noise.....
Activity/Purpose.....
Predicted levels:

4. Describe the neighborhood within a radius of 2 kms (describe whether industrial, residential, commercial and whether it is near a school, hospital or residential area):
.....
...
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

5. State the measures intended to be used in controlling the noise/excessive vibrations (may attach separate sheet):
.....
...
.....
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.....

6. Intended time of noise/ excessive vibrations emission (indicate time of day):
.....
.....

Date: Signature of Applicant:

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date received

Mapping Area

Zone.....

Approved / Not Approved

Fees Charged

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Comments

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Officer Sign Date

Countersigned Date

FIFTH SCHEDULE

PERMIT TO EMIT NOISE/ VIBRATIONS IN EXCESS OF PERMISSIBLE LEVELS

Permit No.....

/(NAME)..... of

.....

(Address)

Is hereby permitted to cause emission or emit noise/excessive vibrations in excess of the permissible noise levels

at.....

.....

...

(Location, Street, District)

Activity:

Mapping Zone Area

This Permit is valid from:/...../20..... to

...../...../20..... from the hours of to

..... of each day.

This Permit is granted subject to the following conditions:

- 1.

2.
3.

Date:Signature:

.....
(SEAL)

.....
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Or CITY COUNCIL/TOWN COUNCIL

SIXTH SCHEDULE

APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO CARRY OUT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES: - CONSTRUCTION SITES, DEMOLITIONS, FIREWORKS, FIRING RANGES, SPECIFIC HEAVY INDUSTRIES, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, MACHINERY OTHER (SPECIFY)

1. Name of Applicant:

.....
Address:

ID No. / Passport No.....

Tel:Mobile:

Fax.....E-mail:.....

Personal Identification No. (PIN):.....

2. Physical Address of Premises or facility where Noise will be produced:

.....
.....

(Sub-location, Location, Division, District, Street, House Number)

3. Source of noise..... Activity/
Purpose

Machinery or Equipment to be Used (Trade name, Amps other specifications)

.....
Period of Activity

EIA Project Permit No.....

Predicted levels.....

.....

Officer Sign Date
Countersigned.....Date

COMMENTS OF THE CITY/TOWN COUNCILS/ AGENCY

SEVENTH SCHEDULE

PERMIT TO EMIT NOISE IN EXCESS FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

- 1. FIREWORKS/FANFARES 2.DEMOLITIONS 3.FIRING RANGES 4.SPECIFIC HEAVY INDUSTRIES**
- 5. OTHER (SPECIFY).....**

Permit No..... EPA /
(NAME)..... of
..... (Address)

Is hereby permitted to cause emission or emit noise in excess of the permissible noise levels at.....

.....
(Location, Street, District)

Activity: Fireworks/ Demolition/ Firing range/ Heavy industry*(specify)

This Permit is valid from:/...../20..... to
...../...../20.....from the hours of to
..... of each day.

This Permit is granted subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. This Permit shall be for the period provided in the validity clause above.
- 2.....
...
- 3.....
...

Date.....Signature:
(SEAL)

.....

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

CC CITY COUNCIL/TOWN COUNCIL

EIGHTH SCHEDULE

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR STRATEGIC NOISE AND EXCESSIVE VIBRATIONS MAPPING FOR A COUNTY

1. A strategic noise or excessive vibration map is the presentation of data on the following aspects
 - (a) an existing, previous or predicted noise or excessive vibration situation in terms of a noise or vibration level;
 - (b) the exceeding of a limit value;
 - (c) the estimated number of buildings, educational institutions and health facilities in a certain area that are exposed to specific noise or excessive vibration levels;
 - (d) the estimated number of people located in an area exposed to noise or excessive vibration.
 - (e) The mitigation measures for minimizing the noise or excessive vibration.
2. Strategic noise or excessive vibration maps may be presented to the public as-
 - (a) graphical plots
 - (b) numerical data in tables, or
 - (c) numerical data in electronic form
3. Areas that excessive noise may be permitted and relevant levels.
4. In residential areas, zoning areas for public purposes

NINTH SCHEDULE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTION PLANS

1. An action plan shall indicate the following elements-
 - (a) A description of the local authority, the major road, the railway or airport and other noise or excessive vibrations sources taken into account;
 - (b) The responsible lead agency;
 - (c) The legal context;
 - (d) Any statutory limit values in place;
 - (e) a summary of the results of the noise or excessive vibration mapping
 - (f) a record of the public consultations organized
 - (g) any noise or excessive vibration reduction measures already in force and any projects in preparation;
 - (h) actions which the mapping body intends to take in the next three years, including any measures to preserve silent areas;
 - (i) long-term strategy

2. The actions which the mapping body intends to take in the field within its competence may include-

- (a) traffic planning;
- (b) land- use planning;
- (c) technical measures at noise or excessive vibration sources;
- (d) selection of quieter sources;
- (e) reduction of sound transmission;
- (f) regulatory or economic measures or incentives; (g) Procedure for carrying out an activity.

**TENTH SCHEDULE
IMPROVEMENT NOTICE**

Form EPA No.

To:

.....

TAKE NOTICE that on the of 20 an Environmental Inspector carried out an inspection of your establishment/facility located in

.....

...

.....

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.....

...

(physical address) where it was found that you or your agents were generating or producing noise/ excessive vibration in excess of the permissible levels in contravention of the Noise Pollution Control & Standards Regulation, 2009. The Environmental Inspector particularly found the following:

1.....

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2.....

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(attach more paper if necessary)

You ARE HEREBY DIRECTED to reduce the noise/ excessive vibration levels to the permissible levels in the above mentioned facility/establishment within a period ofhours/ days from the date of this Notice.

You ARE NOTIFIED THAT in accordance with Sections..... of the Environmental Protection & Management Act, 2002, and the Regulations failure to comply with this Notice shall result in criminal prosecution being instituted against you and/or your agent or both.

Name:

Signature:

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR

c.c. MANAGER COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

ELEVENTH SCHEDULE FEES

Application for a permit to the City & Town Council...	Dollar. 00
Permit.....	Dollar.00
Application for a permit to EPA.....	Dollar. 00
Permit.....	Dollar.00

These regulations become effective as of the date of publication.

Done under our hands and signatures, this _____ day of _____ A. D. 2017 in the Port City of Buchanan, County of Grand Bassa.

Approved: _____

Madam Anyaa Vohiri
Executive Director/CEO
Environmental Protection Agency