

Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm Life Extension

Appendix A1.3 Noise Summary

Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm Proposed Life Extension Noise Statement

This statement has been produced to confirm that the wind turbines at Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm can continue to adhere to the applicable noise limits within Condition 5 of the original consent.

Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm has a noise limit specified in Condition 5 of the planning consent which states:

'The level of noise emitted from the site shall not exceed 55 dB(A) during daylight hours and 43dB(A) at any other times, as measured at the nearest residential property to the site (Troed y Rhiw Farmhouse).'

The noise limit is not structured in accordance with the guidance document ETSU-R-97¹, which is current guidance together with the Institute of Acoustics Good Practice Guide (IoAGPG)². However, ETSU-R-97 does include a night-time limit of 43 dB (decibel) L_{A90} or the background noise + 5dB (whichever is the greater). Therefore, it is possible to assess noise levels against a limit of 43 dB L_{A90} . The Proposed Life Extension can comply with this limit.

The scoping opinion received from NPTCBC in response to the Scoping Report for the Proposed Life Extension was that the Authority's Environmental Health (noise) Officer confirmed that no further noise assessment is required for the reasons set out in section 13 of the Scoping Report submitted.

Because the original ES for Ffynnon Oer considered noise from Bonus (now Siemens) 1.3 MW wind turbines, but the constructed turbines were Repower MM70 2 MW (58 m hub height) turbines, assessments conducted during scoping included new noise predictions for the as-built scheme (for the Repower MM70 turbines) using a sound power level of 105.5 dB LWA at rated power (typically at wind speeds from 7 to 10 m/s at 10 m height). The predictions were carried out according to ISO 9613-253 with input parameters and restrictions specified in accordance with the IoAGPG (current Welsh Government planning guidance indicates that the IoAGPG should be used for wind turbine noise assessments). A noise contour plot for the Proposed Life Extension is provided as Figure 13.1: Predicted Noise Contours, of the Scoping Report.

Predicted noise levels at Troed-y-Rhiw Farmhouse are 38.6 dB L_{A90} at rated power. This indicates the Proposed Life Extension complies with the noise limit in the planning conditions. Based on the available aerial imagery, Troed-y-Rhiw Farmhouse appears to be unoccupied. The next nearest residential properties are at least 1,400 metres from the nearest turbine of Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm.

¹ ETSU-R-97 The Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a798b42ed915d07d35b655a/ETSU_Full_copy_Searchable.pdf [Accessed 13/01/2026]

² The Institute of Acoustics Good Practice Guide to the Application of ETSU-R-97 for the Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms <https://www.ioa.org.uk/publications/wind-turbine-noise> [Accessed 13/01/2026]

In addition to the operational noise from the Proposed Life Extension, any occasional traffic noise associated with its maintenance is also deemed negligible and was therefore also scoped out of the assessment.