

NOISE ANALYSIS

The proposed solar array will be constructed east of Caterpillar Hill Road in Sedgwick, Maine and will be within the Limited Residential Zoning District. Noise generated from this project includes noise produced from the inverters, transformers and equipment fans, located a few hundred feet away from the property lines. The Town of Sedgwick does not include noise standards in the Site Plan Review Ordinance. As such, the standards outlined in the Maine Department of Environment Projection Chapter 375 Section 10 Control of Noise have been used for reference. Sound levels at the project site shall be limited to 60 dBA between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and 50 dBA between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Noise generating equipment is expected to produce 82 decibels (dBA) at one meter away. At the nearest property line 500 feet away from the equipment, the sound level will be approximately 38 dBA as calculated by the inverse square law, which is within the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) limitation. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Typical Sound Levels, a soft whisper would typically be measured at 40 dBA at 5 feet away. This calculation does not consider woodland surrounding the project area, which will further buffer noise created by the project.