

Bulletin 2023-02

June 15, 2023

Technical meeting for potential changes to Rule 012: Noise Control

Background

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) has been consulting on certain provisions of [Rule 012: Noise Control](#) with the aim of streamlining and improving regulatory and adjudicative processes. A technical meeting has been scheduled for July 21, 2023, to continue discussions. Details of what will be discussed can be found below.

Written consultation process

To date, there have been two rounds of written consultation for the Rule 012 revision project.

- **Round 1 consultation:** The Commission issued [Bulletin 2022-08](#) along with proposed changes to Rule 012. No further consultation is required regarding the changes specified in Bulletin 2022-08. In addition to the changes proposed in Bulletin 2022-08, several stakeholders identified new matters for consideration, including the development of applicable permissible sound levels (PSLs) for receptors in urban areas and clarification on determination of PSLs for new dwellings.
- **Round 2 consultation:**
 - **Stage 1:** The Commission issued [Bulletin 2022-12](#) requesting stakeholder feedback specifically on urban PSLs and new dwelling PSLs. After reviewing stakeholder submissions in response to Bulletin 2022-12, the Commission identified a number of topics that required further consultation, which were carried over into Stage 2.
 - **Stage 2:** The Commission issued [Bulletin 2023-01](#) requesting stakeholder feedback on the following topics: definition of suburban and urban receptors, determination of suburban and urban PSLs, milestones for establishing PSLs at new dwellings, and tonality evaluation.

In reviewing stakeholder submissions in response to Bulletin 2023-01, the Commission noted a diversity of opinion on the topics under discussion. Therefore, the Commission has decided to hold a technical meeting to further discuss unresolved issues and to address specific concerns and questions from stakeholders.

AUC Engage consultation platform

All information related to the Rule 012 revision project including the written submissions provided during the consultation process can be found on the [Rule 012 Engage web page](#).

Technical meeting

Details about the technical meeting are below.

- **Scope:** The Commission intends to discuss the following topics or issues during the technical meeting:
 - (1) Ambient sound levels (ASLs) for populated areas.
 - (a) The relative benefits and drawbacks associated with assumed and measured ASLs.
 - (2) PSLs for populated areas.
 - (a) Need for suburban and urban PSLs.
 - (b) Definition of suburban and urban PSLs.
 - (c) Determination of suburban and urban PSLs.
 - (3) New dwelling PSLs.
 - (a) Appropriate development milestones for establishing PSLs at new dwellings constructed close to an approved but not yet constructed facility.
 - (4) Tonality evaluation.
 - (a) The need to evaluate tonality when assessing potential noise impacts.
- **Registration:** The Commission encourages stakeholders to attend the meeting in person; however, a Zoom link is available for stakeholders who are unable to participate in person.

To register for the meeting, stakeholders should complete the table below and provide a copy to Joan Yu via email (joan.yu@auc.ab.ca) by **4 p.m., July 6, 2023**.

Preferred pronouns	Title	First name	Last name	Organization	Role	Email address	Phone number	In person or virtual	Topic ¹

Note:

1. List the topics that you intend to comment on.

- **Documents:** Stakeholders who wish to refer to specific documents during the technical meeting should send a copy of the documents to Joan Yu (joan.yu@auc.ab.ca) by **4 p.m., July 6, 2023**, unless the documents have already been uploaded to the [Rule 012 Engage web page](#).
- **Test session:** The Commission has scheduled a test session **at 2 p.m. on July 18, 2023**, for participants who plan to attend the technical meeting via Zoom. The objective of the test session is to verify that participants can successfully connect to the Zoom platform. The Commission requests that participants make themselves available to participate in the test to reduce the risk of delays on the day of the technical meeting.

A Zoom invitation to join the test session will be sent to each participant via email. Participants are asked to conduct the test session in the same location and with the same equipment they intend to use for the technical meeting.

- **Technical meeting:** The location and time for the technical meeting are presented below:

Location	Time
AUC Calgary Office William Andrew Grieve Hearing Room 1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta	Friday, July 21, 2023 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A Zoom invitation to join the technical meeting will be sent to participants who plan to attend the meeting virtually.

Participants are required to sign in at the meeting room or log in to the Zoom link **no later than 1 p.m. on the meeting day.**

Any questions related to Rule 012 and the associated consultation process may be directed to Brian Shand at brian.shand@auc.ab.ca and/or Joan Yu at joan.yu@auc.ab.ca.

Alberta Utilities Commission