



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
TRANSPORTATION CABINET

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MEMORANDUM

TO: District Environmental Coordinators

FROM: Danny Peake, Director  
KYTC-DEA

DATE: September 10, 2020

SUBJECT: **KYTC Noise Policy Update**

Due to recent changes in the KYTC Noise Policy and development of a new screening tool, guidance has been developed to assist the Project Team in the determination of the need for a full noise impact analysis. The guidance provides information on the timing and data needed for this determination.

By copy of this memo, the District Environmental Coordinators are to inform the appropriate staff of these updates. The screening tool is for internal use only and should not be provided to any consultant.

Please refer to Craig Craig of my staff for questions concerning this policy and screening tool.

c: A. Perkins District DEC's 1-12 (w/attachment), DEA EPMs



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## 2020 KYTC Noise Policy Update

The KYTC Noise Policy has been updated for 2020, and contains several changes to the body of the document. The new policy along with the change summary is available on the KYTC DEA Noise section of website.

Along with the new policy, KYTC and FHWA have developed a *Screening Tool* for use on *low* volume Type I Highway projects.

This tool will allow KYTC to exclude some Type I projects from requiring a full Noise Impact Analysis based on several criteria.

### Screening Tool Criteria

The Screening Tool requires the input of several noise related criteria:

- The number and distance of receptors from edge of pavement.
- Traffic Volume. There is not a limit on ADT; however, it is a necessary data point.
- Design speed from 25 mph – 55 mph.
- Percent trucks for the screened alternate.
- Design hour volume is preferred.

The Screening Tool **cannot** be utilized on high volume roadways such as interstate highways or on new alignment projects.

### Information for EPM's and DEC's

After selection of the preferred alternate, the DEC will forward a TC 58-50 Request for Assistance, including mapping, DGN files etc. to the Noise SME.

1. The SME will review the request for completeness and provide a response within 5 working days.
2. If the Screening Tool results indicate a TNM Noise Impact Analysis is not necessary, then the NEPA requirements are fulfilled. Standard template language is provided for the NEPA document and a copy of the screening tool results and map illustrating receptors in the study area will be provided in the NEPA document as an appendix; or

3. The Noise SME will recommend if a full TNM Noise Impact Analysis is necessary and coordinate with the Project Team on the preferred contracting method for these services.

**NOTE;** Obviously, since this is a new process for all parties involved, these procedures are likely to evolve as we gain experience using this tool.