

**LaSalle Environmental Audit
Response to Request for Additional Information**

Index #: 009 **RAI #:** MA-09 **Category:** Meteorology, Air Quality and Noise

Statement of Question:

Describe the LSCS off-site noise environment and primary noise sources in the vicinity of LSCS.

Response:

As indicated in Section 3.2 of the LSCS license renewal ER, land use within a 10-km (6-mi) radius is primarily agricultural, with cropland or pastures bordering the facility to the east, south, and west. A few residences are scattered throughout this vicinity. Three areas managed by the IDNR for public use and recreation are within 10 km (6 mi) of LSCS: LaSalle Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area, Marseilles State Fish & Wildlife Area, and Illini State Park. There are no major industrial facilities in the vicinity, but since 2008, more than 100 wind turbines have been installed within a 10-km (6-mi) radius.

The 1977 LSCS operating license stage ER (Table 5.6-3, p. 5.6-6) indicates that ambient noise levels in the vicinity prior to plant operation did not exceed 45 dBA and were projected to remain below 55 dBA at the site boundary after plant operation began, which is within U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for noise in residential, recreational and agricultural areas. No record of an offsite noise level survey since plant operation began has been found. Exelon Generation believes that the addition of more than 100 wind turbines within a 10-km (6-mi) radius since 2008 has likely increased the offsite ambient noise level in the vicinity of LSCS, but the increase seems nearly imperceptible, and no data have been collected by the company to verify the increase or to support an assessment of its significance.

List of Attachments:

None.