

**NEW JERSEY NOISE CONTROL COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2011,  
MINUTES**

**NCC ATTENDEES:** A. Schmidt (Vice Chairman, Public Member-Registered Environmental Health Specialist), J. Feder (Secretary, Public Member-pending confirmation), R. Hauser (DOL, Member), J. Kapferer (Public Member), C. Accettola (Public Member-pending confirmation), T. Pitcherello (Member-NJDCA), S. Szulecki (Public Member-pending confirmation, Ecologist), N. Dotti (Public Member), Eric Zwerling (RNTAC), D. Triggs (NJDEP).

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE**

Chairman Lepis was unable to attend due to personal issues Vice Chairman Schmidt ran the meeting. Minutes of the May 10, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Changes were requested to minutes contents on C versus A frequency weighting in regulating indoor amplified music. Mr. Zwerling had previously stated that he would like to make some changes to the April 12 minutes draft, but had not yet furnished these. He stated that he would forward these proposed changes to Secretary Feder. Minutes were not voted on.

Mr. Triggs reported that Mr. Ed Chromanski will be assuming the role of Assistant Commissioner previously occupied by Mr. John Castner.

Mr. Pitcherello announced that, going forward, he would be replaced as the NCC meeting representative by someone yet to be identified from his organization.

**II. WIND ELECTRICITY GENERATION**

Mr. Zwerling provided an update on his interactions with the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) regarding help in developing standards for regulating wind turbine sound emissions. Because of the breadth of expertise required to carry out this work, Mr. Zwerling has strongly recommended the involvement of the NCC. He has proposed that SADC provide funds for a professional literature search, following which the results would be reviewed by the NCC, which would then develop proposed standards. Due to the SADC desire to have this work completed as soon as possible, Mr. Zwerling will attempt to set up a special meeting between SADC and NCC members within a week or so to get this moving. NCC members agreed to try to make themselves available on short notice to attend this meeting.

Several Bills are being considered in the NJ legislature for regulating wind turbines. There had previously been concerns that one of these Bills is unduly restrictive and lacks appropriate scientific basis. It is therefore important that the NCC complete it's research investigations as soon as possible.

**III. REGULATION OF AMPLIFIED MUSIC**

The review of the May 10 meeting minutes prompted some additional discussion of issues relating to C weighting and "fast" meter response settings in regulating amplified music. (Secretary Feder had expressed concerns that the experiments done by the NCC had surfaced possible issues that

might warrant improvements in the guidance given to noise enforcement officers.) Mr. Dotti distributed copies of his measurements of the earlier NCC experiments as an aide to the discussion. Mr. Szulecki and Mr. Zwerling stated that, while the NCC experiments had surfaced issues regarding C weighting and “fast” meter response for regulating indoor amplified music, outside research and successful use in other areas, did not seem to be showing that these issues were serious problems. Since Chairman Lepis who is very interested in this issue was not present, further discussion was deferred until a later meeting at which Chairman Lepis could be present.

### **III. N.J.A.C. 7:29 REFERENCE TO INDUSTRIAL, PUBLIC, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE SITES AS A “RECEPTOR” CATEGORY**

Mr. Triggs provided an update on the status of attempts to remove industrial sites as a receptor category. Mr. Triggs had forwarded the latest set of NCC recommendations to the NJDEP Legal Department, yielding a “Notice of Change,” using altered facility definitions, to address the problem along the lines discussed at the last NCC meeting. The NCC was pleased at Mr. Triggs and the Legal Department’s swift and effective action. The group asked Mr. Triggs to forward the proposed “Notice of Change” for final review and Mr. Triggs agreed to do so.

### **IV. NCC BYLAW REVISIONS**

There was agreement that NCC Bylaws need to be revised to address two issues:

- 1) The difficulty in obtaining a quorum at NCC meetings due, in part, to delay in confirming new members.
- 2) Need for updates to accommodate electronic communication and possible voting via email.

Mr. Szulecki agreed to draft changes to the Bylaws to address these issues. Secretary Feder expressed concern that resolution of Item (2) might be difficult and lengthy and suggested that it might be preferable to address (1) first and then work on (2). The consensus of the NCC members present was to try to address both items simultaneously and then adjust course if this effort “bogged down.”

### **V. NEXT MEETING**

Although the norm in previous years has been to suspend meetings for the summer, due to several “hot” issues, Vice Chairman Schmidt suggested that the NCC hold a meeting in July. Therefore, the next scheduled meeting is on July 12, 2011.

Respectfully submitted:

Jerome Feder