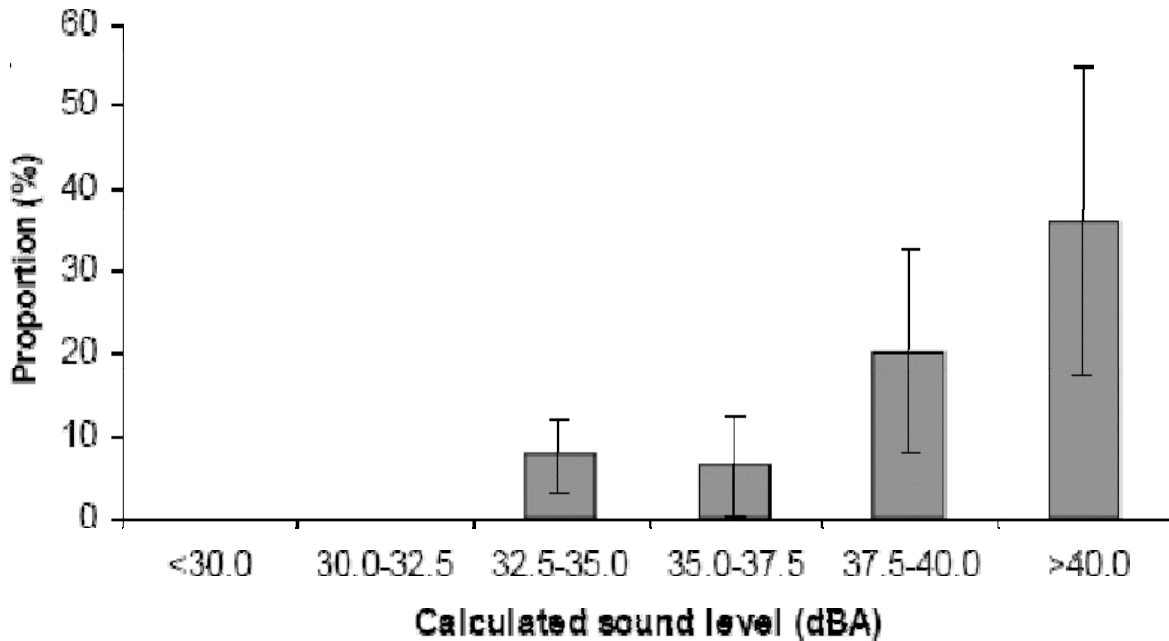


Noise levels are limited in Windmill Law #2 to 52 dBA at 1500' from the base of each tower. This limit is unreasonably high. A rigorous scientific study done surveying 356 nearby residents in Sweden in 2002 documented the annoyance produced by wind turbines at different sound levels. They noted that “the annoyance increased with increasing sound pressure levels exceeding 35 dBA. No respondent stated themselves ‘very annoyed’ at sound pressure levels below 32.5 dBA. At sound pressure levels in the range of 37.5 to 40.0 dBA, 20% were very annoyed, and above 40 dBA 36%”.



The proportions “very annoyed” by noise outdoors from wind turbines (95%CI) at different A-weighted sound pressure levels [Pedersen and Persson Waye 2002]

This study did not even measure levels above 50 dBA, but one can assume from the data collected that the number of those “very annoyed” could be well over 50% at 52 dBA, especially if the disturbance is at night.

With documented annoyance or “noisome nuisance” levels as high as these, European countries with greater wind power experience than ours have set much more stringent rural noise limits than those specified in Windmill Law #2:

Country	Daytime	Night
Denmark	45 dBA	40 dBA
Germany	45 dBA	35 dBA
Netherlands	40 dBA	30 dBA
Sweden	40 dBA	40 dBA

Given that the wind in our area is strongest at night, we believe that 30-35 dBA should be the maximum permitted turbine noise level outside homes. And since the large turbines selected by UPC (originally designed for offshore placement) cannot be this quiet at 1500', a reasonable noise ordinance as suggested would require them to be placed farther away from residences, perhaps as much as 2500' or more, rendering the proposed configuration of wind turbines in the current DEIS completely unacceptable.