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Background noise in the Permit Area is representative of a quiet rural area. In the afternoon of June 13, 2007, field measurements of noise in the Permit Area were below the instrument detection limit of 40 decibels. Thirty to 35 decibels is considered the normal range for background noise in a quiet rural area, according to a government study (Federal Interagency Committee on Urban Noise, 1980). There are no sensitive receptors near the Permit Area. The closest residence is in Bairoil, about 15 miles northeast from the Permit Area.