



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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ENERGY, INSTALLATIONS,
AND ENVIRONMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ENVIRONMENT & MISSION READINESS)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(INSTALLATIONS)

SUBJECT: Interim Guidance on Noise-Induced Sleep Awakening Analysis

In 2008, the American National Standards Institute and the Acoustical Society of America introduced S12.9-2008/Part 6, which established a probability-based method for estimating awakenings under habituated conditions. This method was integrated into NOISEMAP V7.3 for use in flight event analyses. However, this standard was withdrawn in 2017 due to concerns over technical inadequacies, leading to criticisms that its continued use could result in overestimated predictions of awakenings. Rescinding the standard has created a critical gap in methodologies for accurately estimating noise-induced sleep awakenings in environmental noise analyses.

Effective immediately, all Department of Defense (DoD) agencies will revert to the methodology outlined in Federal Interagency Committee on Aviation Noise's 1997 *Effects of Aviation Noise on Awakenings from Sleep* for assessing noise-induced sleep disturbance (Attachment 1). This approach provides a reliable framework for interim analyses until more comprehensive guidance is available (e.g., from research supported by the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute/National Institutes of Health or results from the Federal Aviation Administration's National Sleep Study). Compliance with this directive ensures consistent and defensible noise analyses.

My office is committed to minimizing the effects of military noise on the environment and integrating noise management with installation and facility plans and DoD programs while maintaining military readiness. I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure we maintain focus on noise issues and ensure sufficient resources to support the DoD Operational Noise Program.

My point of contact for the DoD Operational Noise Program is the chair of the DoD Noise Working Group, Ms. Erica Rohr, erica.s.rohr.civ@mail.mil or 703-614-5356.

Ronald E. Tickle
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Environmental Management and Restoration)

Attachment:
As stated