

LACC

Proposed LACC Project Not Expected To Add To Existing Baseline Noise Levels

Axiall Corporation is part of a joint venture company, LACC, that is evaluating the construction and operation of a 1 million ton (or approximately 2 billion pounds)/year ethylene production facility in Calcasieu Parish. Lotte Chemical of South Korea is the joint venture partner, and Lotte is also evaluating an adjacent, wholly owned derivatives plant. A final investment decision remains subject to approval by both companies' boards of directors and is expected in the fourth quarter of 2015.

As part of front-end engineering and design (FEED) work for the proposed project, the two companies commissioned a third-party noise study. The study gathered sound level data at 10 separate locations to measure the consistent baseline experienced in specific areas on peak days of the week. These levels provide a comprehensive view of the noise levels regularly experienced around Sulphur and Westlake.

The Maplewood neighborhood lies northeast of the preferred project site across Interstate 10. Data collection focused on this area because of proximity to the project site and sensitivity to elevated noise. The study revealed heavy I-10 and local traffic to be the most significant sources of noise in the area. Average ambient noise measured decreased dramatically in sensors placed further away from the constant traffic of I-10.

The northern-most property boundary for the proposed LACC site is more than 1,000 feet from residential areas, and it's expected the nearest noise-generating equipment will be located at least 2,500 feet from the nearest homes. Noise generated at the site would drop in intensity as it traveled toward the neighborhood.

The study concluded noise from the proposed project should not have any effect on the city of Sulphur or the Maplewood neighborhood unless it overcomes the elevated noise levels already being generated by traffic along I-10. Regardless, monitoring noise will be a priority for LACC if the project goes forward. We will be looking at ways to keep noise levels as low as possible during construction, and ultimately, during start-up and operation of the facility.

