

Noise Management

Noise is a significant hazard in electrical infrastructure projects, particularly during construction, installation, and maintenance activities. Common noise sources in NCC T&D operations include power generation equipment, metal fabrication, power tools, drilling operations, and heavy machinery.

Prolonged exposure to excessive noise can result in temporary or permanent hearing loss. While temporary hearing loss may recover within hours after exposure ends, permanent hearing loss is irreversible and can significantly impact worker health and safety.

NCC T&D Project Leaders Key Responsibilities

Project Leaders must ensure comprehensive noise management through:

- Noise Assessment: Conduct and document regular noise level assessments in work areas
- Control Measures: Implement appropriate engineering controls and work practices
- Protection Equipment: Provide suitable hearing protection devices where needed
- Warning Systems: Install visible warning signs in high-noise areas
- Training: Ensure workers receive proper training on noise hazards and protection

Noise Control Requirements

Before work begins, Project Leaders must:

- Measure and document noise levels in work areas
- Implement engineering controls where noise levels exceed 85 dBA
- Provide appropriate hearing protection when engineering controls are not feasible
- Post clear warning signs in areas with regular noise exposure above 85 dBA
- Maintain records of noise assessments and control measures

Worker Responsibilities

Workers must:

- Use provided hearing protection devices as instructed
- Maintain and care for hearing protection equipment
- Report any defects in hearing protection equipment
- Attend all required noise safety training sessions
- Report any concerns about noise levels to supervisors

Additional Considerations for NCC T&D Projects

Given the diverse nature of NCC T&D operations, additional measures include:

- Regular Monitoring: Conduct ongoing noise monitoring at different project stages
- Equipment Selection: Choose low-noise equipment when possible
- Maintenance Programs: Implement regular maintenance to minimize equipment noise
- Work Scheduling: Plan noisy activities during less-occupied periods
- Barrier Systems: Install temporary or permanent noise barriers where practical

Key Takeaways

- Noise Assessment: Regular monitoring and assessment of workplace noise levels is essential
- Control Measures: Engineering controls are the primary method of noise reduction
- Protection Equipment: Proper selection and use of hearing protection is crucial
- Training: Workers must understand noise hazards and protection methods
- Documentation: Maintain records of all noise-related assessments and controls

For more information, refer to NCC T&D's relevant IMS procedures or consult our HSE Department for expert guidance and training resources aligned with Saudi Arabian regulatory requirements.