

Further Information

General information on the noise action planning for federal major railways and the public participation procedure can be accessed via www.laermaktionsplanung-schiene.de

Flyer

Noise Action Planning

for Federal Major Railways

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Federal Railway Authority
Division 53: Environmental Noise Mapping,
Noise Action Planning and Geoinformation
Heinemannstraße 6
53175 Bonn
umgebungslaerm@eba.bund.de
<http://www.eba.bund.de>

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Noise Action Planning

The aim of noise action planning is to diminish harmful or annoying noise exposure. It is based on environmental noise maps and the outcomes of a public participation procedure. Noise action plans determine the extent of exposure to environmental noise and develop a long-term strategy for noise reduction.

Noise has various causes and sources, such as road traffic, rail traffic or air traffic. The responsibility for the noise action planning in Germany has therefore been decentralized. Since 2015, the Federal Railway Authority (German: Eisenbahn-Bundesamt, EBA) has been in charge of composing noise action plans for the federal major railways. Noise action plans must be reviewed and - if necessary - revised by EBA every five years.

Legal Basis

-  German Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchG)
-  EU Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)

In accordance with the EU Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) and the German Federal Immission Control Act (German: Bundes-Immissionsschutzgesetz, BImSchG) it is the responsibility of EBA to:

- create environmental noise maps for federal railways in Germany
- compose a noise action plan for the federal major railways in Germany
- contribute to the agglomerations' noise action planning
- report the results of the noise mapping to the European Commission and
- provide information to the public

Analysis of people exposed

To establish a link between noise burden and the number of people affected in a respective area, EBA uses a noise index (German: Lärmkennziffer, LKZ). For all municipalities in close proximity to federal major railways both a communal noise index and a grid-related noise index (based on 100m x 100m grid) were calculated.

The corresponding maps for the weighted 24-hour noise indicator L_{DEN} and the night-time noise indicator L_{Night} as well as statistical fact sheets on noise exposure are available from EBA's geodata service GeoPortal.EBA, which can be accessed via <https://geoportal.eisenbahn-bundesamt.de>.

Public Participation

Noise action planning for federal major railways is implemented through a multi-staged process. Public participation is conducted in two consecutive steps. In the first step, the public is invited to participate in the drafting of the action plan by providing information on individual noise exposure and annoyance. The second step consists in the review of both the noise action plan draft as well as the overall procedure. The public must subsequently be informed on the decisions taken.

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