



## Natural Resources Conservation Service

United States Department of Agriculture

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## Farmland Protection Policy Act

To learn more about the Farmland Protection Policy Act, you can play the webinar below or download the webinar's slides as a PDF.

Webinar - Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) Overview ...



### Background

The National Agricultural Land Study of 1980-81 found that millions of acres of farmland were being converted in the United States each year. The 1981 Congressional report, *Compact Cities: Energy-Saving Strategies for the Eighties*, identified the need for Congress to implement programs and policies to protect farmland and combat urban sprawl and the waste of energy and resources that accompanies sprawling development.

The *Compact Cities* report indicated that much of the sprawl was the result of programs funded by the Federal Government. With this in mind, Congress passed the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-98) containing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. On June 17, 1994, the final rules and regulations were published in the Federal Register.



## **Purpose**

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The FPPA is intended to minimize the impact Federal programs have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. It assures that to the extent possible federal programs are administered to be compatible with state, local units of government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland. Federal agencies are required to develop and review their policies and procedures to implement the FPPA every two years.

The FPPA does not authorize the Federal Government to regulate the use of private or nonfederal land or, in any way, affect the property rights of owners.

For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. It can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

## **Projects and Activities**

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Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a Federal agency or with assistance from a Federal agency.

### **Assistance from a Federal agency includes:**

- Acquiring or disposing of land.
- Providing financing or loans.
- Managing property.
- Providing technical assistance

### **Activities that may be subject to FPPA include:**

- State highway construction projects, (through the Federal Highway Administration)
- Airport expansions
- Electric cooperative construction projects
- Railroad construction projects
- Telephone company construction projects
- Reservoir and hydroelectric projects

Federal agency projects that convert farmland  
Other projects completed with Federal assistance.

**Activities not subject to FPPA include:**

- Federal permitting and licensing
- Projects planned and completed without the assistance of a Federal agency
- Projects on land already in urban development or used for water storage
- Construction within an existing right-of-way purchased on or before August 4, 1984
- Construction for national defense purposes
- Construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations
- Surface mining, where restoration to agricultural use is planned
- Construction of new minor secondary structures such as a garage or storage shed.

**Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form**

If you represent a Federal agency in a project that has the potential to convert important farmland to non-farm use, please contact your local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or USDA Service Center. NRCS uses a land evaluation and site assessment (LESA) system to establish a farmland conversion impact rating score on proposed sites of Federally funded and assisted projects. This score is used as an indicator for the project sponsor to consider alternative sites if the potential adverse impacts on the farmland exceed the recommended allowable level.

The assessment is completed on form AD-1006, Farmland Conversion Impact Rating. The sponsoring agency completes the site assessment portion of the AD-1006, which assesses non-soil related criteria such as the potential for impact on the local agricultural economy if the land is converted to non-farm use and compatibility with existing agricultural use.

**Program Contacts**

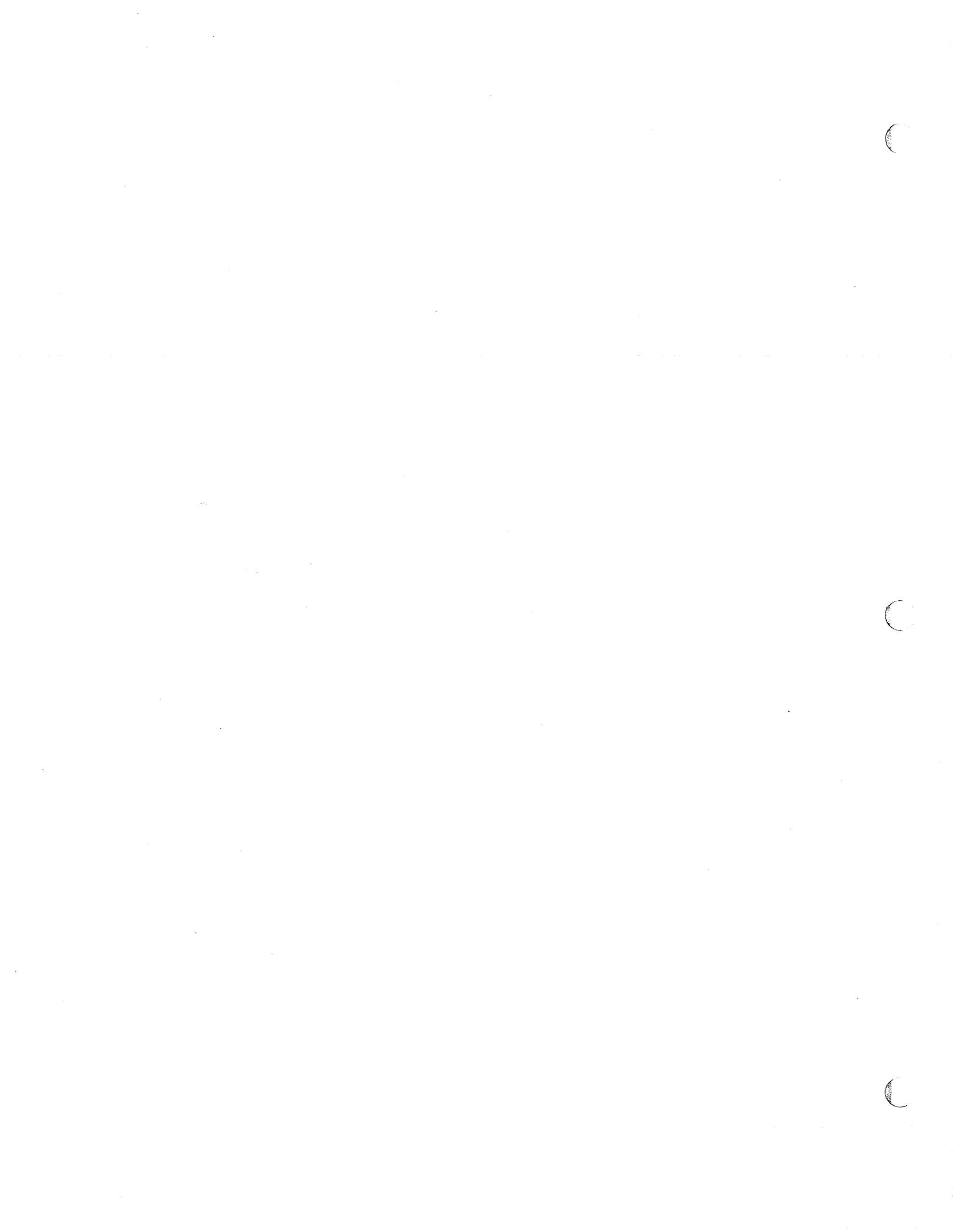
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John Andreoni, Management Analyst - Soil & Plant Science Division, 720-544-2841

State FPPA Contacts

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# Noise Abatement and Control

## Introduction

HUD's noise standards may be found in 24 CFR Part 51, Subpart B. For proposed new construction in high noise areas, the project must incorporate noise mitigation features. Consideration of noise applies to the acquisition of undeveloped land and existing development as well.

All sites whose environmental or community noise exposure exceeds the day night average sound level (DNL) of 65 decibels (dB) are considered noise-impacted areas. For new construction that is proposed in high noise areas, grantees shall incorporate noise attenuation features to the extent required by HUD environmental criteria and standards contained in Subpart B (Noise Abatement and Control) of 24 CFR Part 51. The interior standard is 45dB.

The "Normally Unacceptable" noise zone includes community noise levels from above 65 decibels to 75 decibels. Approvals in this noise zone require a minimum of 5 dB additional sound attenuation for buildings having noise-sensitive uses if the day-night average sound level is greater than 65 dB but does not exceed 70 dB, or a minimum of 10 decibels of additional sound attenuation if the day-night average sound level is greater than 70 dB but does not exceed 75 dB.

Locations with day-night average noise levels above 75 dB have "Unacceptable" noise exposure. For new construction, noise attenuation measures in these locations require the approval of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development (for projects reviewed under Part 50) or the Responsible Entity's Certifying Officer (for projects reviewed under Part 58). The acceptance of such locations normally requires an environmental impact statement.

In "Unacceptable" noise zones, HUD strongly encourages conversion of noise-exposed sites to land uses compatible with the high noise levels.

## HUD Guidance

**Are there potential noise generators in the vicinity of the project?** Review general location maps and/or conduct a field review to screen for major roadways (within 1,000 feet), railroads (within 3,000 feet), and military or FAA-regulated airfields (with 15 miles) in the vicinity of the project.

**If a noise assessment was performed, was the noise found to be Acceptable, Normally Unacceptable, or Unacceptable?**

Site Acceptability Standards

Noise Zone	Day-Night Average Sound Level (in Decibels)	Special Approvals and Requirements
Acceptable	Not exceeding 65 dB	None

Noise Zone	Day-Night Average Sound Level (in Decibels)	Special Approvals and Requirements
Normally Unacceptable	Above 65 dB but not exceeding 75 dB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental assessment and attenuation required for new construction</li> <li>• Attenuation strongly encouraged for major rehabilitation</li> </ul> <p>Note: An environmental impact statement is required if the project site is largely undeveloped or will encourage incompatible development.</p>
Unacceptable	Above 75 dB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental impact statement required</li> <li>• Attenuation required for new construction with approval by the Assistant Secretary of CPD or Certifying Officer</li> </ul>

## Compliance and Documentation

The environmental review record should contain **one** of the following:

- Documentation the proposed action is not within 1000 feet of a major roadway, 3,000 feet of a railroad, or 15 miles of a military or FAA-regulated civil airfield
- If within those distances, documentation showing the noise level is *Acceptable* (at or below 65 DNL)
- If within those distances, documentation showing that there's an effective noise barrier (i.e., that provides sufficient protection)
- Documentation showing the noise generated by the noise source(s) is *Normally Unacceptable* (66 - 75 DNL) and identifying noise attenuation requirements that will bring the interior noise level to 45 DNL and/or exterior noise level to 65 DNL

[View Noise Abatement and Control \(CEST\) - Worksheet \(/resources/documents/Noise-Abatement-and-Control-CEST-Worksheet.docx\).](#)

[View Noise Abatement and Control \(EA\) - Worksheet \(/resources/documents/Noise-Abatement-and-Control-EA-Worksheet.docx\).](#)

[View Noise \(CEST\) - Partner Worksheet \(/resources/documents/Noise-CEST-Partner-Worksheet.docx\).](#)

[View Noise \(EA\) - Partner Worksheet \(/resources/documents/Noise-EA-Partner-Worksheet.docx\).](#)

## Related Resources

HUD Noise Guidebook (<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/313/hud-noise-guidebook/>)

The Noise Guidebook has been prepared to serve as the basic reference document for all who are responsible for implementing the Department's noise policy. It brings together training and guidance to complete HUD noise assessments.

**Day/Night Noise Level Electronic Assessment Tool (DNL Calculator)**

(<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/daynight-noise-level-electronic-assessment-tool/>)

The Office of Environmental and Energy (OEE) has developed an electronic assessment tool that calculates the Day/Night Noise Level (DNL) site exposure. This is a web-based application of the existing Noise Assessment Guidelines (NAG). It is the basic noise assessment tool; most assessments start here. The DNL Calculator calculates noise from road and railway activity levels. It then combines the noise with airport projections and incorporates the effects of loud, impulsive sound for a site exposure at any Noise Assessment Location. The user-friendly DNL Calculator can document compliance or aid in site planning.

**Barrier Performance Module (<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/bpm-calculator/>)**

The Barrier Performance Module (BPM) is an automated version of the noise barrier evaluation worksheets and charts in the Noise Guidebook. It reports the amount of noise to be reduced by a particular design and is linked to the DNL Calculator. The output of the DNL Calculator is used as the input to the BPM, but it can also be used stand-alone.

**Sound Transmission Classification Assessment Tool (<https://www.hudexchange.info/stracat/>)**

The Sound Transmission Classification Assessment Tool (STraCAT) is a web-based application that automates and streamlines the completion of HUD's Figure 19 in The Noise Guidebook. That is the form that reports the noise mitigation performance of wall systems.

**FAA Noise Map Archive: Airport Noise Exposure Maps**

([https://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport\\_noise/noise\\_exposure\\_maps/](https://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport_noise/noise_exposure_maps/))

This Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) site includes links to noise contour maps for many U.S. airports.

**Fact Sheet: Recommended Environmental Review Record Documentation to Support an Environmental Impact Statement Waiver for Projects in Unacceptable Noise Conditions**

(<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3305/recommended-err-documentation-to-support-an-eis-waiver/>)

This fact sheet provides the recommended environmental review record documentation to support an environmental impact statement waiver for projects in unacceptable noise conditions.

**Fact Sheet: Public Art and Noise Mitigation (<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5784/fact-sheet-public-art-and-noise-mitigation/>)**

This fact sheet provides guidance on integrating public art into noise mitigation projects to make noise mitigation an amenity that is visually interesting and culturally relevant to the residential community.

**HUD Memo: Application of §51.104 to Land Use Conversions**

(<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5343/hud-memo-application-of-51-104-to-land-use-conversions/>)

This memorandum clarifies existing policy on rehabilitation of existing buildings that changes the original land use. New land uses resulting from rehabilitation may be considered new noise-sensitive uses as if they were new construction. If those new uses are in Unacceptably noise-exposed areas (external noise greater than 75 decibels), an Environmental Impact Statement is required. For more information, contact your Field or Regional Environmental Officer.

**FHWA Barrier Design Guidelines**

([https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/noise\\_barriers/design\\_construction/](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/noise_barriers/design_construction/))

This Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) resource addresses design requirements for a highway noise barrier that fits with its surroundings and performs its intended acoustical and structural functions at reasonable life-cycle cost; and a state-of-the-art reference of common concepts, designs, materials, and installation techniques for the professional highway engineer, the noise barrier designer, and the non-professional community participant.

**Federal Railroad Administration Railroad Operations Data Sources**

(<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6027/federal-railroad-administration-railroad-operations-data-sources/>)

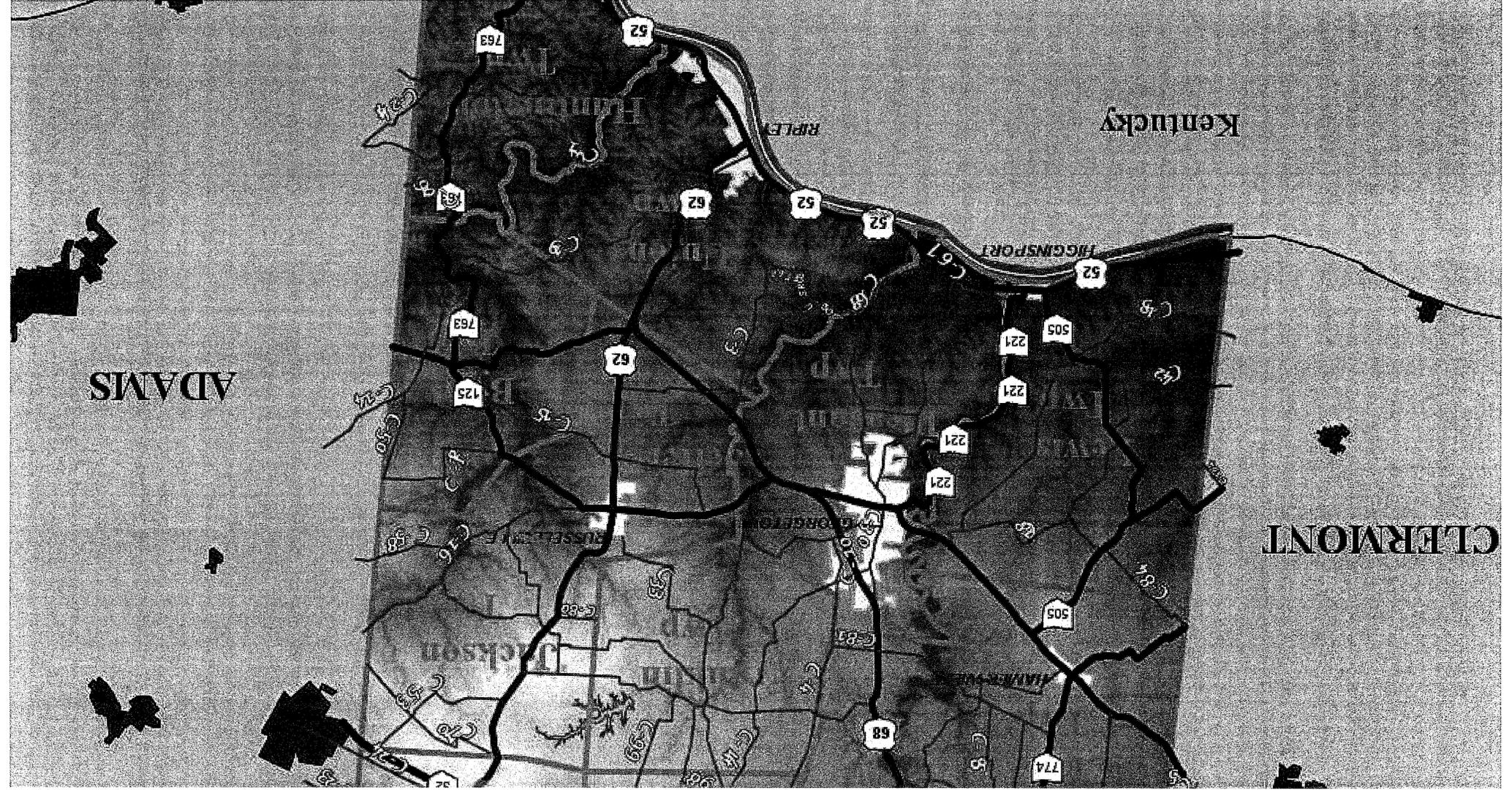
The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) resources help obtain rail traffic data.

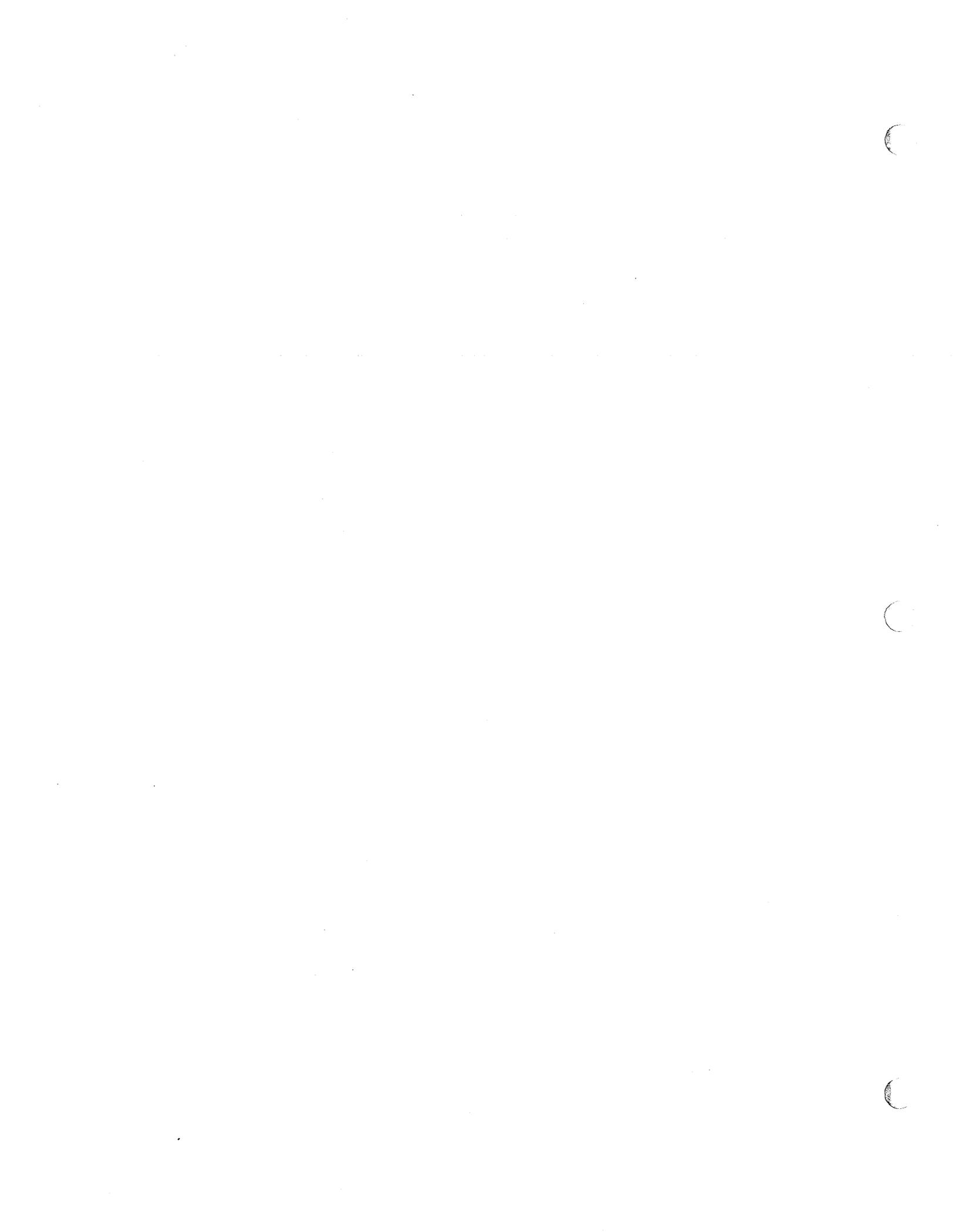
**WISER: Noise Abatement and Control Online Module** (<https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/wiser/>)

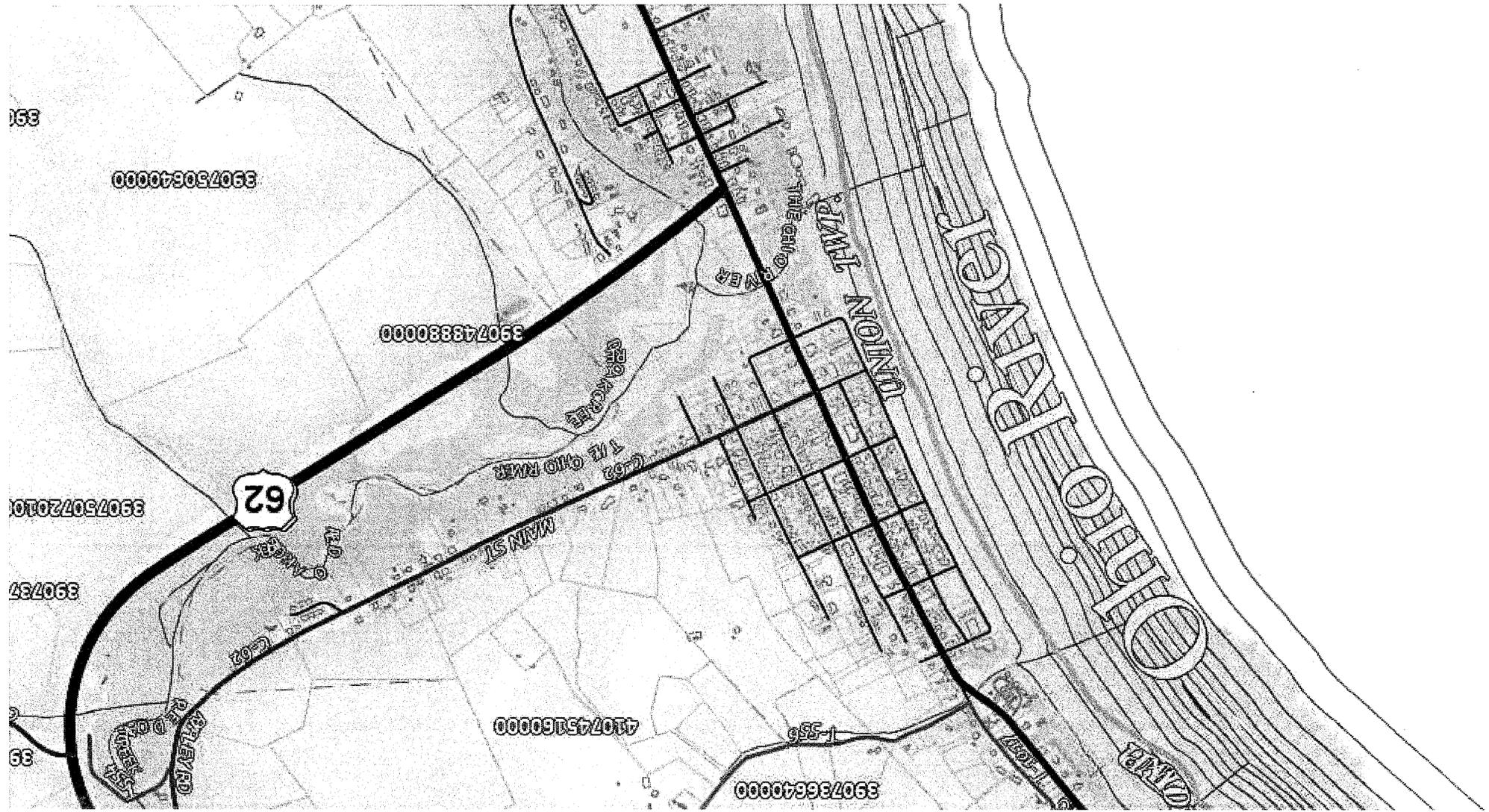
Web-Based Instructional System for Environmental Review (WISER) provides interactive training on HUD environmental review factors including noise abatement.

**Noise Assessment Training Webinar** (<https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/noise-assessment-training/>)

This webinar, held October 19, 2011, describes basic concepts of noise related to the built environment; use of OEE's Day/Night Noise Level Calculator and Barrier Performance Module; common errors and mistakes to avoid; and potential applications for project planning.







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THE OHIO RIVER

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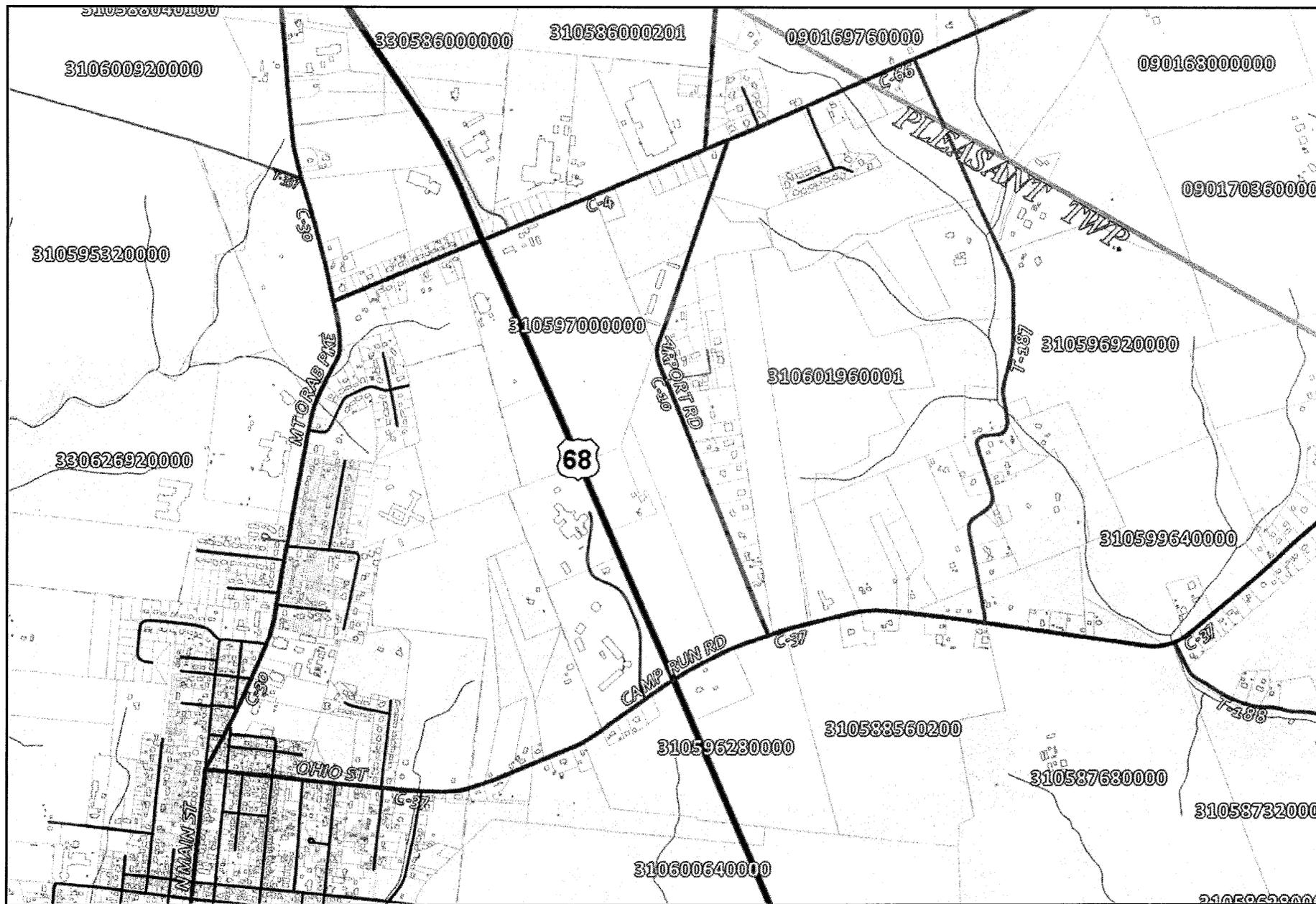
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RILEY RD



# Brown County Airport

Camp Run Rd., Georgetown



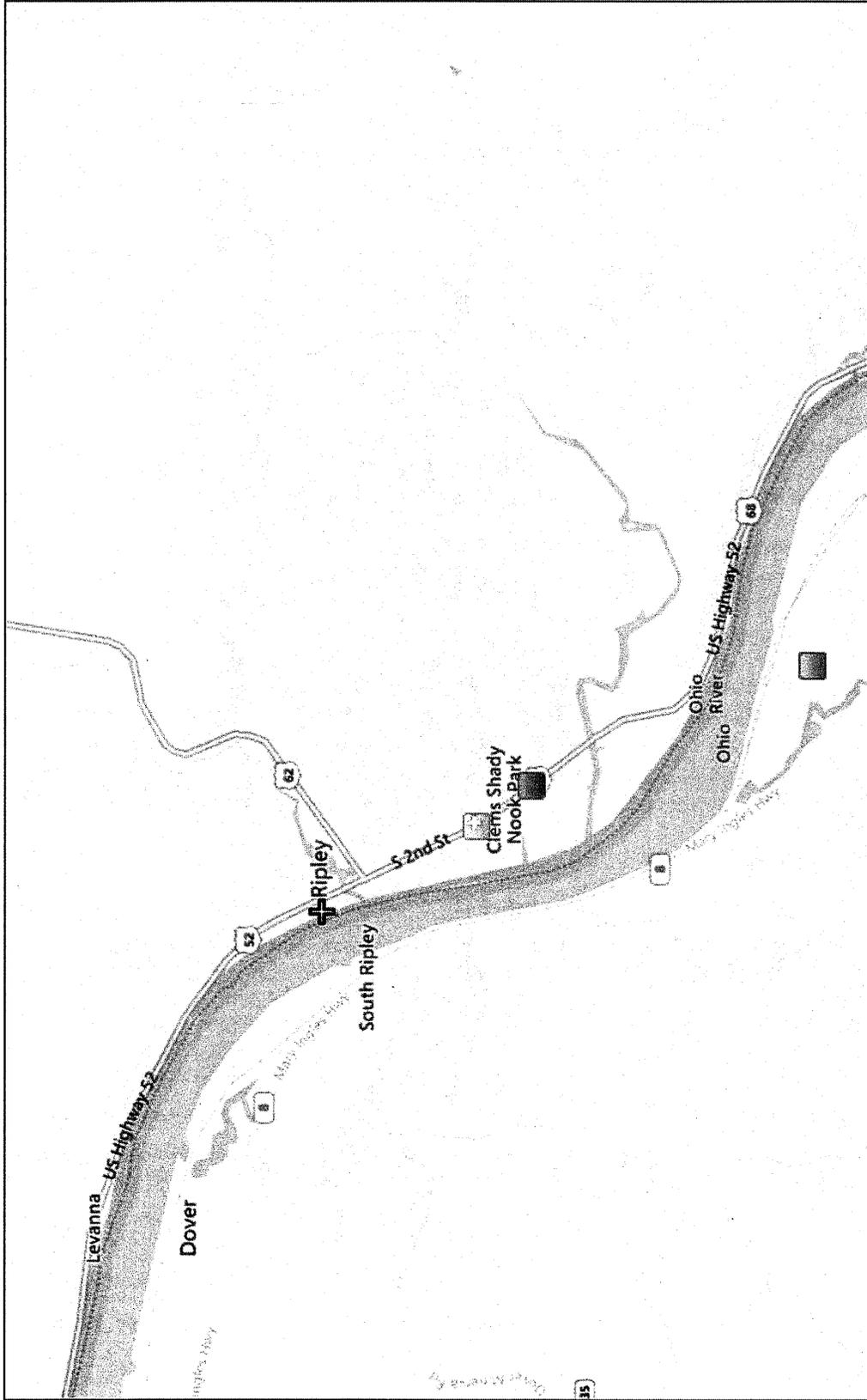
300 m  
1100 ft

Jan/15/2021  
Scale 1:17194

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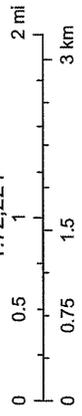
# 2 & 4 Main EPA NEPA map



January 19, 2021

-  Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
-  Toxic Releases (TRI)
-  Toxic Releases (TRI)
-  Air Pollution (ICIS-AIR)
-  Search Result (point)

1:72,224



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## RCRAInfo Overview

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Hazardous waste information is contained in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information (RCRAInfo), a national program management and inventory system about hazardous waste handlers. In general, all generators, transporters, treaters, storers, and disposers of hazardous waste are required to provide information about their activities to state environmental agencies. These agencies, in turn pass on the information to regional and national EPA offices. This regulation is governed by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984. You may use the [RCRAInfo Search](#) to determine identification and location data for specific hazardous waste handlers, and to find a wide range of information on treatment, storage, and disposal facilities regarding permit/closure status, compliance with Federal and State regulations, and cleanup activities.

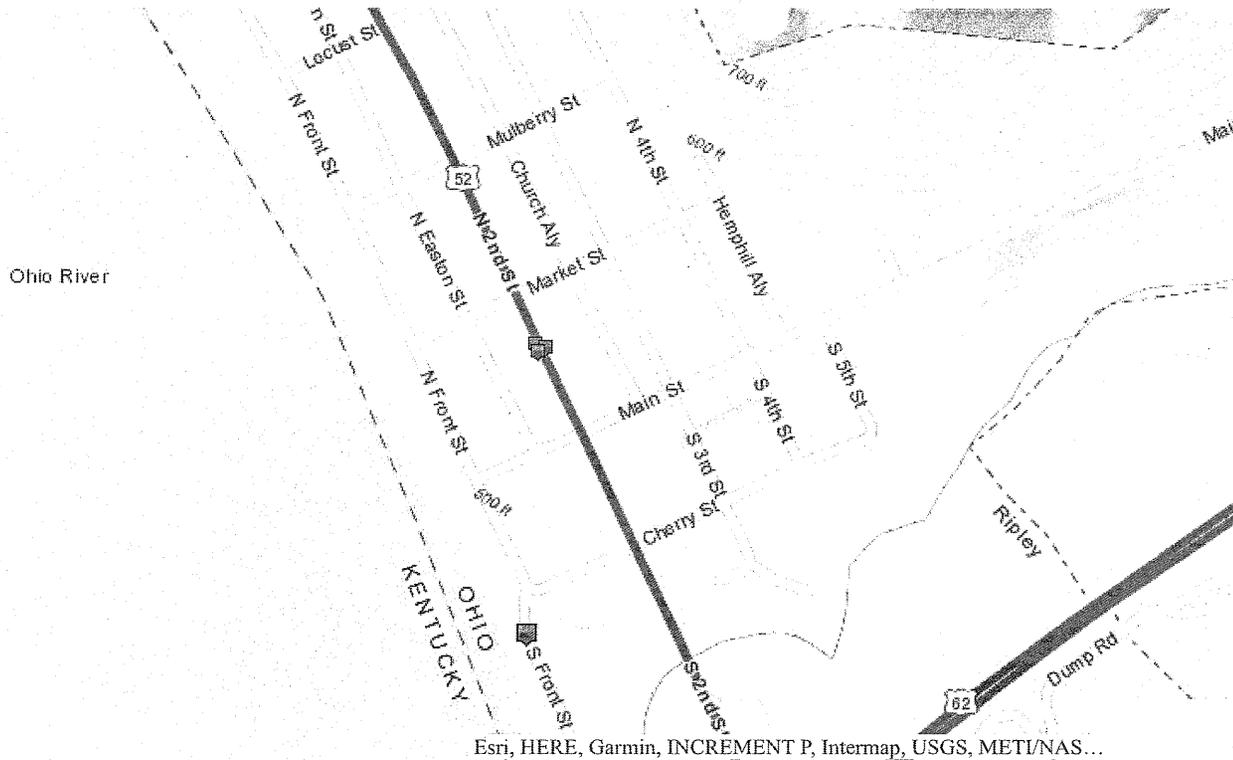
## RCRAInfo Links

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Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, Intermap, USGS, METI/NAS...

The facility list below is based upon the facilities that are visible with the map above. To refine your search to a more targeted area of interest, please visit the [Envirofacts Multisystem Search Form](#). To search Envirofacts via an interactive map, please view your results in [EnviroMapper for Envirofacts](#)

**List of EPA-Regulated Facilities in Envirofacts**

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <span><b>Copy</b></span> <span><b>CSV</b></span> <span><b>Excel</b></span> <span><b>PDF</b></span> <span><b>Print</b></span> </div>											
Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries			Show <input type="text" value="10"/> entries			Search: <input type="text"/>					
First <input type="button" value="Previous"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="1"/> <input type="button" value="Next"/> Last											
FACILITY INFORMATION		AFS	ACRES	BR	SEMS	GHG	PCS/ICIS	RADInfo	RCRAInfo	TRI	TSCA
ASHLAND BRANDED MARKETING, 508 28 NORTH SECOND STREET RIPLEY, OH 45167 Latitude: 38.74641 Longitude: -83.84578 <input type="button" value="Summary Report"/> <input type="button" value="Facility Report"/> <input type="button" value="Compliance Report"/>											
									<a href="#">View Report</a>		



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2 Main St, Ripley, Ohio, 45167

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[SEMS](#)
[GHG](#)
[PCS/ICIS](#)
[RADInfo](#)
[RCRAInfo](#)
[TRI](#)
[TSCA](#)

<p>BRANDED MARKETING ASHLAND OIL INC                  24 NORTH 2ND STREET RIPLEY, OH 45167-1101                  Latitude: 38.74639 Longitude: -83.84577  <a href="#">Summary Report</a> <a href="#">Facility Report</a> <a href="#">Compliance Report</a></p>								<p><a href="#">View Report</a></p>		
<p>CLINTON FILM &amp; SILVER CO                  122 FRONT ST RIPLEY, OH 45167-1110                  Latitude: 38.743574 Longitude: -83.845955  <a href="#">Summary Report</a> <a href="#">Facility Report</a> <a href="#">Compliance Report</a></p>								<p><a href="#">View Report</a></p>		

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28 N. MAIN





24 N. MAIN





# Ripley Proximity Map

## 2 & 4 Main vs 28 N. Second



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# Site Contamination

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