



WZI INC.

January 17, 2017

Steven Esselman
Principal Planner
Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
2700 'M' Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Re: Acoustical Analysis for a Zone Change (APN 532-050-02,-03 and -05) – City of Bakersfield, California

Dear Mr. Esselman,

WZI Inc. performed a perfunctory noise review for the proposed project.

According to the project description, the property totaling 6.48 acres located on the Northeast corner of Taft Hwy. and Ashe Road is in the process of filing a Zone Change with the City of Bakersfield to change the current zoning to General Commercial/Planned Commercial Development.

While a noise study may be required at your discretion, a perfunctory review of the area and the project (as described) indicates that the project will have no potential impacts, and suggests that a full noise study is not warranted.

Typical commercial sites of the size and type being proposed have been studied in detail by WZI and found to consistently have little or no impacts on the surrounding residences that the commercial development is intended to serve.

Common security walls and design setbacks attenuate the noise from the structures and the related parking; and existing noise ordinances regulate the construction noise (from equipment whose exhaust systems meet local air district emissions control criteria) to sufficient levels that the pose no potential impacts that cannot be managed by nuisance-related enforcement due to noise exceeding the increment of perceptibility (i.e., and abrupt 3 dB increase).¹

¹ Point sources attenuate according to the inverse square law; when applied to decibels the resultant calculation reveals a “rule-of-thumb” of a 6dB reduction per doubling of distance, Line sources are similar except the first near field noise (defined as falling within the length of the noise source (in meters) divided by pi is 3 dB reduction per doubling of distance beyond this the noise attenuation is again 6 dB per doubling of distance.

The effect of the proposed project structures (when in place) can provide some noise relief to the nearby residences from the existing far-field noise emitted by trucks and automobiles on both Ashe Road and Taft Hwy.²

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Very truly yours,



Jesse Frederick
Vice President

cc: Ankush Kamboj

² Appendix G of the Kern County General Plan shows that the noise contour for SR 119 (Taft Hwy.) segment between nearby Stine Rd. and Union Ave. indicates a current estimated Ldn = 55dBA at 600 feet from the road's centerline, placing the same estimated noise contour (extended to Ashe Rd.) in the existing residential area. The new commercial structures are reasonably expected to provide attenuation on the order of 10 to 20 dBA for noise generated on Taft Hwy.