

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 2023
FROM: John Foulkes, Cavanaugh Tocci
TO: Topsfield Zoning Board of Appeals
SUBJECT: Conference & Event Facility Special Permit
Connemara House Farm
252 Rowley Bridge Road
Topsfield, MA

Question Presented:

“What is the maximum decibel level within the tent that will not generate an increase of 10 decibels over the ambient level at the property line for all abutters?”

Response:

In response to the Zoning Board of Appeal’s question, I reviewed the data previously collected and evaluated by me in 2022 and from the Connemara Farm events on Saturday May 27, 2023 and Saturday June 3, 2023. In my opinion, the data suggests the appropriate tent sound limit is as follows:

- 85 dBA Leq, measured in 1-minute intervals
- Measurement microphone located in the tent just above and to the right of the East entrance

The data suggests that if sound is at or below this level, the event tent will comply with the Massachusetts DEP noise policy.



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