



# Victoria Government Gazette

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## Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

### PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (RESIDENTIAL NOISE) REGULATIONS 2018

#### Notice of Decision

I, Lily D’Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, give notice under section 12 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994** that the proposed Environment Protection (Residential Noise) Regulations 2018 have been the subject of a Regulatory Impact Statement. Public comments and submissions were invited. A total of 133 unique submissions were received and have been considered in accordance with section 11 of that Act.

After consideration of the submissions, I give notice of my intention to proceed with the making of the proposed regulations, with the following amendments to improve clarity:

**Table 1: Amendments for Proposed Regulations**

Exposure Draft	Proposed Regulations
Group 3 of the Prescribed Items initially stated: ‘A heat pump, swimming pool pump, spa pump, water pump (other than a pump being used to fill a header tank), domestic heating equipment (including central heating and hot water systems) and a domestic vacuum cleaner.’	Group 3 of the Prescribed Items will now state: ‘Heating equipment (including central heating, a hot water system or a heat pump, air conditioner or split system used for heating), a vacuum cleaner, swimming pool pump, spa pump, and water pump (other than a pump being used to fill a header tank).’
Group 4 of the Prescribed Items initially stated: ‘A domestic air conditioner or evaporative cooler.’	Group 4 of the Prescribed Items will now state: ‘An air conditioner, evaporative cooler or split system used for cooling.’

Note:

- Group 3 items are prohibited before 7 am and after 10 pm on Monday to Friday, and before 9 am and after 10 pm on weekends and public holidays.
- Group 4 items are prohibited before 7 am and after 11 pm on Monday to Friday, and before 9 am and after 11 pm on weekends and public holidays. However, there are no restrictions when a heat health alert is in effect in the weather forecast district.

Some key issues raised by the submissions that have not led to amendments to the proposed regulations include:

- A suggestion that overall sound levels be used as a method of control instead of prohibited times. Environment Protection Authority (‘the Authority’) has advised that this method can be technical and difficult for the public to judge whether they, or their neighbours, are in breach of their obligations.
- Several new items were suggested to be regulated including car stackers, burglar alarms, solar inverters and drones. Some of these are managed by councils. For others, the Authority has advised that it does not have sufficient evidence that these are a widespread issue, but will keep monitoring for the future.
- Several issues raised were beyond the scope of the proposed regulations, such as animals, human voices, enforcement issues, and building design. These issues are managed by other authorities, though Government will continue to look for other opportunities to manage the negative impacts of this noise.

HON. LILY D’AMBROSIO MP  
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change

**SPECIAL**

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