

Committee Chairman
US Congressman Jamie Raskin

Committee on Oversight and Reform
Infringement of Civil Rights and Liberties
Low Frequency Noise and Vibration in Dwellings from Natural Gas Pipelines

re: Low Frequency Sound and Vibrations inside Buildings caused by Natural Gas Pipeline Systems

Congratulations on your recent midterm election successes.

Speaking on behalf for myself, my loved ones and an increasingly supportive “like thinking” sufferers throughout the United States and elsewhere whose lives are being ruined and literally many driven crazy by an incessant Infrasound/ Low Frequency “mystery hum” and vibration in our homes, I am contacting the Committee to inform it about this problem and ask it to investigate it as a **Trespass and Infringement of our Constitutional Civil Rights and Liberties**. After much effort campaigning for help from deaf ears at many agencies at the State and Federal levels there seems to be no other way to address this harm.

The reason for contacting the Committee is because the source of this problem has been investigated (**the work**) and found to be associated with Natural Gas Pipeline Transmission System operations. The appropriate agencies, FERC, PHMSA and the CDC, have been made aware of this. They know about the concerns and have taken no interest or effort to investigate this environmental problem. This resolution has laid dormant with these agencies since at least the early 1990's. As this problem isn't getting any better, the time has come to raise attention to this again.

In the late 1980's the first reporting of this problem in the United States was in Taos, New Mexico. Since then it has spread throughout the US. Almost every description of the manifestation of the conditions and the health symptoms are the same. The effects of chronic exposure to these types of infrasound/ low frequency sonic conditions are occurring throughout the population and nature.

I ask the Committee to provide its support to get the necessary funding and cooperation from Congress to conduct an unbiased investigation. Please consider the findings and conclusions discussed herein. Consider how so many are suffering. Why should they continue to be ignored? There are tremendous consequences for continuing to not address this problem for what it is.

This is not a vendetta against energy development or any one company, it is also not about some outlandish conspiracy the US government is involved with. It is about lack of accountability and concern of Agencies of the United States Government that are diverting attention away from a major environmental stressor and defending this as an unregulated problem not in their “sandbox”.

The Facts and Findings are based on personal experience, the experiences and interview of thousands, consultant reports, field data and desktop research.

The Need is to peer review this work and continue where this work left off. At a minimum, the public needs to be made aware of this problem.

The Reason to raise this into committee is because the Federal Government refuses to address this “mystery”.

The Goal is to identify and implement mitigation measures to eliminate this problem.

This letter is a synopsis of the problem and the process of discovery. I hope it adequately conveys why there must be a sense of urgency given to this matter.

In late 2009 and throughout 2010, there was a massive amount of petitioning and contacting State and Local Leaders to pressure FERC to address the 3 problems (Hum, Flutter and Hiss) occurring from the Gas Systems. The neighborhood petitioned Connecticut’s Attorney General Richard Blumenthal and received Representative Chris Murphy and others support to ask FERC to identify and correct the problems. In May 2010 I came in front of multiple Attorney General associates and a team of lawyers from Iroquois Gas in Hartford to discuss this problem. From this meeting, FERC gave attention to these problems. To this date, the only problem that has been addressed and corrected is the Hiss.

Other affected people that I am aware of have contacted their representatives, such as Senators Markey and Warren of Massachusetts and Senator Trey Gowdy of South Carolina. A letter has even been sent to President Biden. Although any help or support has been fleeting.

This information was also provided to Senator Mark Warner’s office for the Senate Intelligence Committee to consider in the Havana Syndrome investigation. Havana Syndrome bears a solid fingerprint of these same conditions.

My investigation mainly focused on the Iroquois and Algonquin systems in western CT. However, the findings and conclusions apply industry-wide, where these systems are “behaving badly”.

This may sound like trying to “solve world hunger”. It is not. This is not about every noise complaint people associate with a Hum. This letter is a fact-based summary of the situation. This information has never been compiled in this manner before.

Please use this information to help steer us down a better path. More and more people continue to become sensitized to this problem that people started experiencing decades ago.

Gas Pipeline Syndrome hum (GPSH)

The Committee is likely to be unfamiliar with “Gas Pipeline Syndrome hum” (GPSH). May I suggest watching a short introductory documentary about this work called “The Unexplained Noise that 2% of People Can Hear”: <https://www.theatlantic.com/video/index/593992/doom-vibrations/>.

The first Hum reports began in the United Kingdom In the late 1970's. These reports were at the same time the country began converting from the use of Manufactured Town Gas to North Sea Natural Gas. With this new fuel came the development of high-pressure pipeline grids. This hum was unlike any other hums before or at the time. They were a total mystery. In the US the first Hum reports surfaced in Taos NM, where EIA records show interstate gas flows increased dramatically at the time. As existing systems were being pushed to their limits new systems were built throughout the US. Even more Hums began to be reported and at an ever-increasing rate. People started reaching out for help on internet forums and telling their stories to the media. Many outlandish theories for the source have been dreamt up.

The **GPSH model** is based on the findings and conclusions from the work that I began in 2010. It shows the start of the hum for me coincided with the operational changes made to the Iroquois and Algonquin Gas Transmission Systems in CT. These changes occurred after major system upgrades were completed. This includes Iroquois putting their 2nd compressor in Brookfield on-line in the mid to late 2000's. That work confirmed that long lengths of these pipelines are epicenters of elevated infrasound/ low frequency (extra low frequency ELF) sound emissions that likely began when these changes were integrated into operations. After trying to get FERC to investigate this matter and failing, I decided to take matters into my own hands and start my own investigation.

My Investigation protocol was straight forward. First to evaluate if the Hum was occurring in other parts of the county along these lines, and it was. And then to measure and plot the attenuation pattern of the Rayleigh Type Surface Waves at increasing distance points away from the pipelines to show that the pipelines are the epicenter of the source of the sound. The farther away I went, the lower intensity of the sound pressure level (SPL) was measured. This proved that the pipelines are at the epicenter of the sound emissions. These couple with the resonant frequency of buildings and other structures to cause vibration and low frequency noise. The following sections highlight the key findings and why those findings are so important.

The Conditions

It is generally accepted that only about 2-4% of the population in Hum prone areas hear it. Those that do hear it usually attribute their health symptoms to it, though they have no idea what the source is. There is enough anecdotal evidence to suggest that many of the other 96-98% of the population who don't hear it, have similar symptoms as hearers, such as unexplainable onset of migraines, sleep deprivation, ringing of ears, rage, etc.

GPSH includes a variety of different observable and measurable sonic conditions. The monotone sound of the Hum is just one condition. The issue is not just the sound, it is the amount of energy intensity and pressure that is so impactful. It is typically described as an idling diesel engine just outside someone's home. When most people go outside to locate the source either the sound vanishes or because it is so ubiquitous the source is never found. It is a low frequency, steady or pulsing gravelly tone that analysis of the spectrum shows to be very dysrhythmic, like flowing gas. It is typically accompanied by vibro tactile sensations (sense of touch) of the feet. At times it is sufficiently strong enough for people to feel their bed springs tingle. The best way to explain the experience to a non sufferer is to compare it to the worst part of a helicopter flying overhead. At this point the intense sound penetrates your entire body. At least that condition is over very quickly! Water surfaces in bottles and cups vibrate like in the Jurassic Park movie. Pool water surfaces randomly vibrate looking like water spiders dancing. At times strange standing waves develop on the surface of my 24 ft diameter pool like the seismic effects of an earthquake happening far away.

Most reports say the conditions are the worst at night or in the early morning. This is most likely because many of the pipeline operators "line pack". This is the practice of packing in Btu's and using the pipelines as storage for demand the upcoming day. Using the pipeline for a sort of storage puts a massive amount of acoustic sound power into their systems. This results in tremendous amounts of sound power inside the pipeline that radiates high energy sound pressure waves.

The conditions stand out the most when background anthropogenic noise is low such as when a TV is turned off, the hum fills that would-be silence immediately. The hum and the vibrations are evidenced mostly inside hollow type structures such as houses, buildings as well as parked vehicles. Strange as it seems, when one stands near the pipelines, the low frequency conditions are not noticed. Unless proper sound analyzers are used. There are reports of the Hum in the open, this suggests geology and terrain play a role. This aspect was not studied to any conclusion.

Our pet dog reacted with severe anxiety from the conditions like her fear of thunder, this required months of treatment with Prozac to settle her down.

My situation hasn't changed much other than I understand what the problem is, and it seems to be less intense most of the time. It is constant. People ask if I am so confident it is the pipelines here then why don't I move away. The answer is that there isn't a place that is absent free of these conditions within a reasonable commuting distance to work. So why move? Even though I have come to grips with this, I find it totally unacceptable to walk into my home and be met by these conditions. Unfortunately, many others are not so lucky who have to fight for their sanity, some saying they've had thoughts of ending it all.

Symptoms of Illness

The symptoms of illness caused by these type conditions are well known and published about in medical journals and throughout the scientific research community. Common symptoms of GPSH are anxiety, dizziness, nausea, headaches, imbalance (vertigo) and ear ringing (faux tinnitus). **Sleep disruption and insomnia** are very common symptoms of GPSH. The acoustics of buildings and rooms cause standing sound waves inside rooms that the body feels as barometric pressure swings, like that experienced from approaching weather that affects many. Some compare it to a paranormal presence.

Each human organ has its own natural resonant frequency that reacts to external forces. Some describe their worst sensations as chest cavity vibration, racing of the heart and shortness of breath.

People who do not hear or sense these conditions think hummers are just overly sensitive to noise and have Hyperacusis or Tinnitus. Traditional Tinnitus can be ruled out, this ringing is not internally generated! This is a "faux tinnitus". Regardless of any false explanations, sufferers cannot be ignored and excused away to live like this for the Greater Good of the industry and country.

The lesser appreciated symptoms are probably more sinister than the common symptoms. Considering Insomnia, it is well known that that lack of sleep leads to diabetes, high blood pressure and other ailments. Other symptoms were identified over 30 years ago by Researchers studying the long term exposure to ILFN called Vibroacoustic Disease (VAD). VAD is a host of mental health issues stemming from chronic exposure ILFN conditions found occurring in aviation workers in Portugal and other industrial settings. A decade ago, they began studying the impacts of chronic exposure in residential and non industrial environments. It manifests itself from mood swings to the onset of epilepsy to disruptions in the production of cortisol to the thickening of the heart pericardium. Cortisol regulates the thyroid, which controls blood pressure and breathing. Other Researchers have found that when the brain perceives an attack on the human condition, adrenaline is released that causes the fear/ flight reaction, angst and agitation that we see reported by hummers.

Though nothing has been officially published about GPSH, much work has been done studying the effects of ILFN. I don't know if I accept Wind Turbine Syndrome or not, but the research coming out must be considered applicable to GPSH. The delivery mechanism of pipelines is widespread and should be concerning to all. These systems can bring these conditions into unfathomable numbers of homes and lives.

There are many questions that still need to be answered, but based on what we do know, a grave public injustice is being perpetrated on society. Without a genuine investigation, the government is failing to protect its people. This ever-expanding problem can't continue to be swept under the rug!

Different Levels of Experiences of the Conditions

Of Hearers

- A small percentage have severe reactions and are unable to cope.
- Most experience the common symptoms mentioned above, and a sampling of comments can be seen in Appendix "A". This is from a global database called thehum.info.
- For some it's just there.

Of Non-Hearers

- They experience the common symptoms and lesser common ones.

Brain Development and Well Being

The effects on the brain must be better understood! There are volumes of research about how noise affects brain development and cognitive function. We see a correlation of the increases of mental health issues concurrent to the timing of and the increasing expanse of Hum reports. Is it very plausible that the implications of Mechano Biology of sound and vibration are contributing to the worsening levels of Autism, Alzheimer's, Schizophrenia, etc. that we see in society. We need answers if these conditions are affecting brain development from in the womb to mental health in old age.

Until a nationwide epidemiological study considering GPSH is conducted, we will never know the true extent of the damage.

Coping with the Hum Condition

Until this problem is resolved sufferers have very few options to escape from these conditions. Most just suffer, some use sound masking techniques using "brown" noise. But that is about as far as relief goes. The other external body conditions cannot be reduced or masked using available means. People try moving to nearby towns or even out of state only to find the Hum is as bad as their previous home. The reason is, they only moved to another location near another bad acting pipeline.

GPSH is most certainly a mystery component in "sick building" syndrome. Likely overlooked as HVAC problems making workers ill. Typical sound mitigation using brown noise helps. But the usual techniques to make things quieter like walls, insulated windows, doors and insulation with high value sound reduction have no effect other than to accentuate the conditions.

Hummers are like "mine canaries" and yet no one is listening to them!

Possible Effects on Nature

There is enough evidence and correlation to suggest that this is disrupting the sonic environment of nature. Though not the primary reason we are asking for help, this common and obscure environmental condition is worth biologists' consideration. This acoustic nightmare may be a key missing piece of the puzzle. It provides an understudied rationale behind honeybee CCD, bat WNS, and lobster habitat depletion in the Long Island Sound. It may even explain why sharks are being called to our shorelines while whales can't seem to avoid the shorelines.

There is compelling evidence to suggest the sonic power of GPSH causes earth tremors in places where they had never been before or increase the frequency where historically they have occurred. Unlike fracking, pipelines are across the US. Recently, a colleague did a study of this in Northern IL that provides solid evidence to warrant an investigation.

Again, without an investigation, all these questions will never be raised or answered.

GPSH in Connecticut- The Process to Discovery

We moved into our home in 1994 and other than typical community noise there were no low frequency disturbances inside our home. Then once the operational changes were implemented, I began sensing the conditions of it late at night in September 2009, it progressively worsened. I would be anxious coming home from work not knowing how bad the conditions would be inside my home. I could not sit in certain rooms because the conditions would bring on ill feelings. Our dog Madaket became severely affected by the conditions in September 2009 and suffered from it for the rest of her life. My wife began having vertigo and ear ringing that she's never had before.

In 2008 and 2009, Iroquois and Algonquin Gas Transmission Systems upgraded their systems that pass through my area to increase gas transmission capacity. This culminated just prior to the onset of the Hum and vibrations in Brookfield CT. Those upgrades in this area included a new Iroquois inter system transfer compressor station with 2 compressors in Brookfield (Market Access and 08/09 Expansion projects). Additionally, compression capacity was expanded in Dover NY, Milford CT, and Newtown CT. In Newtown CT, a pipeline packing loop was added. Algonquin built a new multi compressor station in Oxford CT and added compression capacity in Southeast NY. Tens of thousands of compression horsepower was added to existing pipelines!

Quite frankly, all of this expansion was the inevitable reason that forced me to undertake this work. It also is the reason I was able to find the "needle in the haystack". Finally, we can answer the question, what is the Hum!

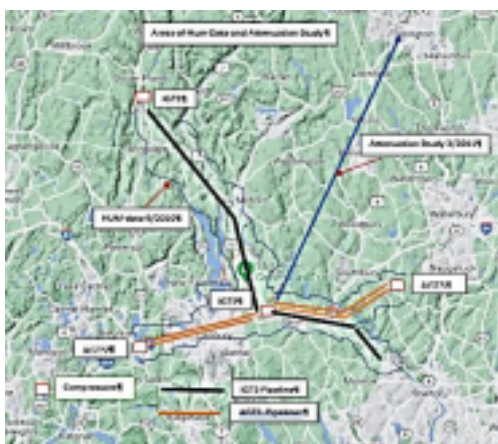
In Sept 2009, when I approached Iroquois Gas, they were very open minded. They assisted in investigating if the new compressor station in Brookfield CT was the source of my Hum. When we realized that the Hum was occurring at times when neither compressor was running, that source was dismissed. They were no longer willing to cooperate. At that point the Iroquois managers suggested I consider other sources such as the high-tension power lines and other local sources. To which I did.

In January 2010, CL&P agreed to do an electric power study. They used TRC Environmental to do this work. It concluded that there is an unusual ILFN in my home. As the spectral profile of my type of Hum did not match the spectral profile of high-tension electric power line noise these were eliminated. Though it did not identify a source, the data from the TRC investigation was important in formulating the GPSH theory.

In March 2010, I brought this problem to FERC hoping they would help, which they really did not. Realizing this I decided to do my own investigation (the work). Everything I uncovered was shared with FERC and Iroquois Gas at that time. Pipelines were not even considered yet and the Algonquin pipeline was not suspected as a potential source.

In April 2020, I noticed the Hum inside my car and in my office in Middlebury CT which is 15 miles from Brookfield. The building is a cavernous 330,000 ft structure that is less than 0.7 miles from the 2 Algonquin lines in Oxford and 1.7 miles from the new Oxford compressor station.

In May 2010, it was beginning to appear the problem was far more expansive than I initially had thought. This began to solidify when at FERC's urging, Iroquois did LF noise testing around the Brookfield station when it was offline. LS Goodfriend found relatively higher SPL away from my neighborhood and the Brookfield compressor station. Those were near the Algonquin Gas (now Spectra Enbridge) system closer to Danbury CT.



In Sept 2010, I took to the road and began studying Hum intensities along the Right of Ways (ROW) of the Iroquois and Algonquin pipeline systems in Northern Fairfield, Southern Litchfield and Western New Haven Counties in Connecticut (black and orange lines) to understand how expansive the problem was. Using my car as a mobile test lab, I did observations of intensity, analyzed the spectrum and documented the results. The testing routes are shown on the map in black and orange. The Hum was occurring all along these routes! I sent these results to FERC.

In October 2010, Iroquois agreed to do a Post Survey for LF sound. This became further confirmation that the root cause of the Hum was not the Brookfield compressors, but rather from the main pipelines that operate 24/7.

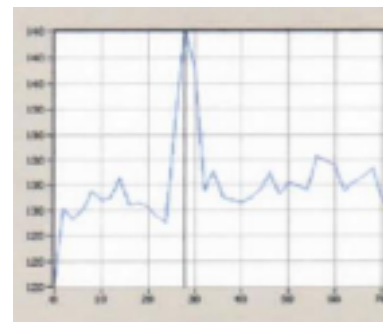
In November 2010, after conversations with another irate neighbor, FERC engineers decided to visit the area. They came to both my home and my neighbor Jun’s home. They confirmed the vibration conditions and said they would contact the company.

In March 2011, I took another road trip to understand if the pipelines are the epicenter of the sound waves. Being that ILFN is ubiquitous, the source cannot be identified using simple techniques. So, I decided to use a field-testing protocol to analyze the sound attenuation pattern over a long distance from the pipelines. I followed a route approximately equidistant between the pipelines, shown as a blue line above. Along the way, I stopped and observed, measured, and compared the SPL levels and spectral profile relative to each location. The intensity levels changed, the spectral profile did not. This information was plotted and logged and again provided to FERC.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Distance North of AGTAGYS</i>	<i>Distance East of IGIS</i>	<i>FFT</i>	<i>1/3 Octave</i>	<i>Hum Level in car</i>
Dairy Farm	0	0	133.1	52.5	6
Obtuse Rocks Rd Brookfield	2.6	2.8	119	42.7	5-6
133 Landing Lake Lilly Bridgewater	2.7	2.9	118	41.8	8
Hut Hill Bridgewater	5	3.4	117.65	43.5	8
Squire Rd Roxbury	5.3	6.9	119	43.25	6
Peter Road Woodbury	7.3	10	120	36.79	4-5
Arch- Carmel Hill Washington	13	7.4	120	43.15	5-6
Town of Litchfield	14	22	120	43.57	6
Dairy Farm	0	0	134.37	53.71	6

The route ended at the Town of Litchfield about 21 miles from my home. The test results further supported the theory.

In Sept 2011 our Middlebury building had a full building utilities shutdown, so I took the opportunity to do acoustic testing inside and outside of the building. This approach was suggested by Dr Geoff Leventhal (renown expert) from the UK. In one corner of the basement facing the Algonquin lines in Oxford CT the conditions were the worst. This is the spot where some office colleagues became ill feeling a few weeks earlier and had to leave the space. The spectral profile of the tone and intensity are shown, with an extreme tonal component.



In October 2011, I was advised that the only way FERC might address the problem was to raise the matter to FERC’s Dispute Resolution Service (DRS). Initially, they were able to provide a lot of assistance. Ultimately, with the positions taken by the FERC Commissioners, DRS was unable to make any progress in investigating.

My hypothesis in 2009 was that changes made to the gas systems triggered the Hum. The conclusion is that my hypothesis was correct and in a far more expansive way than I ever could have imagined.

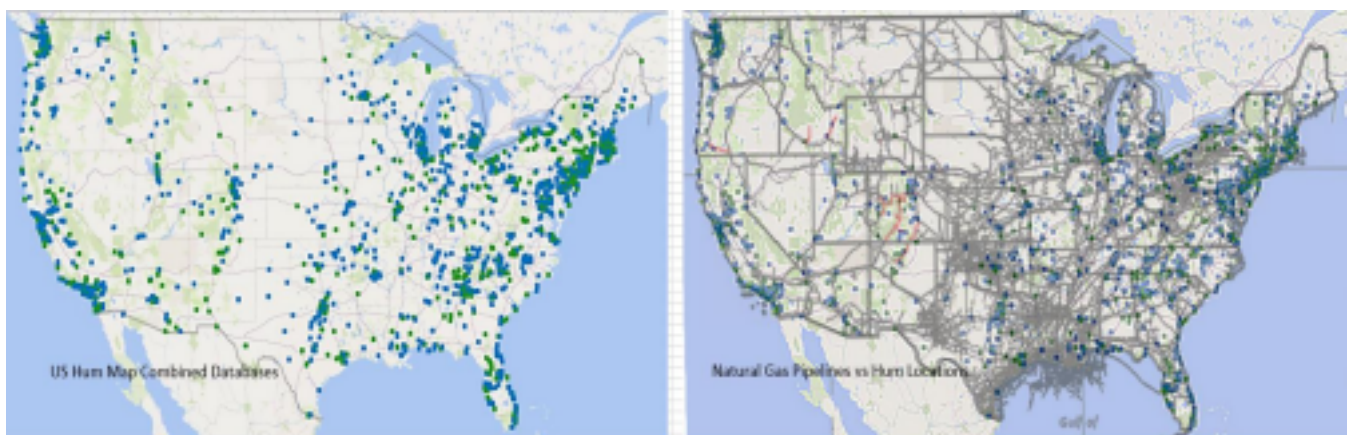
Things learned:

1. The attenuation of the sound pressure level (SPL) showed an obvious attenuation within a mile or two from the ROW's, with a slower attenuation rate with distance.
2. The observed and measured field conditions persisted for up to at least 20 miles from the ROW's.
3. High intensity anomalies were observed along the route that didn't follow the expected attenuation pattern. This may be explained by geological and terrain features acting as sound wave guides.
4. Most investigators don't hear or sense the conditions, which makes them at a disadvantage studying the problem.

A Nationwide Crisis

In 2012, I did my first scatter diagram correlation of Hum reports vs US Inter/ Intrastate Natural Gas Pipeline Systems. I wanted to determine how extensive the problem was and to see if the data replicated the findings in CT. I used 850 Hum report locations I had collected at the time. From this I was able to determine that most of the hum report locations are within the proximity of these pipeline systems. The same proximity that my measurements from the field trip in September 2010 demonstrated LF conditions.

The figure below is a recent update from 2021 having 2,200 reports. These reports were collected by myself and other databases. Many of the points represent multiple reports that fall into cluster points. All reports collected fit the description to this type of Hum and were used without prejudice to their fit of the GPSH model or not. If anything can be said about these databases, they are severely under-stated.



The image on the left shows the locations of those 2,200 reports. The image on the right has the same 2,200 reports and is overlaid with the 2009 EIA US natural gas transmission pipelines map. The red lines are the addition of material updates from PHMSA.

Most points conform to the GPSH model based on the EIA and PHMSA maps. Those that do not, require further study for other contributors such as Gas Field Collection Systems, CO2 systems, local low pressure gas distribution systems or totally unrelated sources. Of which, none of these are in this part of CT where my field study work was done.

If one considers how many people in the US could statistically be impacted, it is mind boggling. Taking the opinion that only 2-4% of people hear the hum where it's occurring and averaging the density of these understated reports on the map, it is conceivable that approximately 50% of the US population live in areas with the Hum. This suggests that out of the 2021 US census of 332 million, about 5 million people hear it.

Regulations must be Updated

Current Federal regulations on noise and vibration regarding this industry are antiquated and inappropriate for this ILFN environmental pollution. The regulations were developed over 40 years ago and did not consider this still underappreciated problem. Community noise issues are managed using "dba" weighted based standards. Noise regulations for the industry are also "dba" weighted. "dba" weighing essentially discounts all low frequency noise contributions. This is problematic because the Hum is low frequency noise. Therefore, if one is trying to address ILFN issues based on convention "dba" standards, it's a waste of time. Regulations must be changed to account for this already unleashed menace. Hessler pointed out years ago that "dba" based standards are inappropriate in these matters. Other weightings such as "dbc", "dbg" or simply no weighting at all should be considered. Infrasound and Low Frequency Noise is not a typical community noise issue that is covered by current regulations.

There is one Federal noise and vibration standard that does not seem to have been enforced by FERC that applies to these conditions. It is in the Federal Register Standard 18CFR 380.12k.4. (v) b Resource Report 9. It requires that gas transmission company's planning to add new compressor facilities at new or existing stations and for all new LNG facilities to address noise and vibration from the facilities on sensitive receptors assess this in their applications to FERC. This does not appear to have been done properly for the facilities in Connecticut regarding low frequency noise and vibration

Dismissal of the Complaint and Request for Relief

Since FERC has chosen not to address this problem and FERC's Dispute Resolution Service was unable to make any progress in 2015, I decided to get private counsel involved. Water and Power Law from Berkeley CA advised me of two approaches. One was litigation, the other was to file a "Complaint and Request for Relief" that FERC is compelled to respond to. The Complaint was submitted on February 12, 2016 regarding the "Flutter" and "Hum";

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/03/07/2016-04952/stephen-kohlhase-v-iroquois-gas-transmission-system-lp-algonquin-gas-transmission-llc-notice-of>

Flutter is another local problem in the complaint that is a low frequency pulsing atmospheric pressure wave. It is caused by instabilities of the turbine exhaust and the vortices that set up from large fin fan coolers at most compressor stations.

The Commissioners dismissed the complaint. They took the position that the companies were meeting the noise requirements in their operating certificate, which was true. They did not dispute the possibility that this problem is occurring. The response essentially overlooked the spirit of the Federal Standard. They did not even consider the experiences of their own FERC engineers visit in November 2010. FERC clearly chooses not to consider the Pipelines as covered facilities!

The Key Questions the Investigation does not have answers for:

- What is the physical root cause inside the pipe to create and radiate pipeline ILFN radiated sound?
- What is the full extent of the free field conditions on humans and nature?
- What can be done to mitigate these conditions?
- What will be done to help affected people and nature, now?

How the Media Continues to Get it Wrong

There have been numerous articles about the Hum. Some are in local papers and others are in high profile outlets. Without GPSH being scientifically recognized, it has gained little attention. Only a handful of stories about the Hum even mention high-pressure gas pipelines as one of many proposed sources of ILFN. People like a good mystery and the Hum is as good as it gets. However, this leaves a vacuum where information should be provided.

When someone becomes sensitized, they search for answers. What they find is a community of people who experience what they experience, but with no answers. If they look to news articles, they may find local stories all over the country and world. These stories follow a similar trajectory. A few people realize that others in their community are also affected, and they collectively reach out to local leadership. Local leadership is unable to comprehend the scope of the problem. In some cases, a consultant is hired to investigate. The findings of these investigations are generally inconclusive or multiple sources are speculated. The mystery remains, and people continue to suffer. Over and over, the cycle repeats.

There have been several articles that have attempted to tackle the Hum as a general condition of the modern world. These articles also fuel speculation and leave the element of mystery intact. They discuss how there are numerous theories and experts don't know of any singular common source that could be causing the widespread expansion of reports.

Social media has attempted to fill this gap. People who experience this problem daily and suffer dearly might latch on to any number of theories of possible sources. With something causing such a devastating impact, an explanation is needed. People conclude that it is some local power plant, industrial facility, or a near-by commercial building's HVAC system that is at fault. Every week new social media posts spring up. They receive a lot of attention for a short period of time, then quickly fade away. The best people can do is speculate.

One thing is clear, when new social media posts spring up, no matter how small the group, someone comments that they are experiencing the same problem. They often say they thought they were the only ones. People are suffering in isolation but are slowly realizing others are in the same situation.

Regardless of the media's perception and public awareness, which is slowly growing, my findings are concrete.

In Closing

We are asking for the Committee to bring this issue into Congress to fund and insist on the cooperation needed to begin an unbiased investigation into the Hum that includes GPSH.

We ask that once the investigation concludes assuming support of GPHs, that mitigation measures be put into place. This applies both retroactively and to newly developed projects. Even if this means reopening Operating Certificates! I am confident that with the right research, we can understand this problem in full. We can understand the root-cause and what needs to be done to mitigate it.

We ask this matter to be addressed as a trespass and infringement on our Civil Rights and Liberties under the Constitution.

Each Committee member should consider that reports of this are coming in from almost every state. An example of such is provided from the Chairman's own state of Maryland in [Appendix "B"](#).

[Appendix "C"](#) is provided to share the comments of the type of outreach emails, letters and text messages from people experiencing the conditions

It is inconceivable that our government takes great efforts for their own regarding a handful of Havana Syndrome cases (incidentally, most likely GPSH). So many suffer the same consequence from the Hum and GPSH and nothing is done, we need your help!

Though this is a nationwide problem, I am copying both Connecticut's US Senators who have been providing support since 2010 and the Offices of the Governor and Connecticut's 5th District who are aware of this issue in the State of Connecticut. No investigation has been done yet.

Thank You

Stephen Kohlhase

CC:

Released for distribution

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Appendix A: Sampling of experiences

The following table shows examples of hum reports from the Database of thehum.info project. The list is randomly picked from 1,280 reports during this period.

Location	Year First Sensed	Symptoms of Exposure
Aisu school of Utah and 84107	1990	Sense of vibration
Descanso, CA,	1990	No discomfort, jt a very curio phenomenon.
Irvine California 92620	1990	Not knowing
Santa Fe, Tennessee 38482	1991	Headache, Insomnia, nausea, Sense of vibration
Green Cove springs 32043	1991	Anxiety
Catawba, NC 28609	1992	None.
Des Moines, Iowa	1993	Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Santa Claus IN 47579	1993	Headache, Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Pride, Louisiana, 70770	1994	Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Pasco, WA 99301	1994	Anxiety, Able to what range of time it is.
Crystal River, FL, 34428	1994	Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Alliance OH 44601	1994	Anxiety; When its loud some days, I call it the "anxiety in the wind" I can literally feel anxiety
Lancaster, pa A 17563	1995	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing); Insomnia; Anxiety
Benicia, 94510	1995	Sense of vibration
Oakland 94612	2002	Insomnia, Anxiety
Bethlehem, 18015	2002	Insomnia, confine trying to find out its source
Modesto, 95355 and 95350	2002	Headache; Insomnia; Anxiety
Squaw Valley 93675	2002	Sense of vibration, it is not bad, unless I'm trying to sleep
Moorefield 26836	2002	Sense of vibration
Marietta Ga 30062	2003	Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Terryville CT 06786	2003	Headache, Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Loveland, CO 80533	2004	Insomnia
Lubbock, TX 79415	2004	Sense of vibration
St. Paul A 55125	2004	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), nausea, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Sterling Heights, Michigan, 48310	2004	Headache, Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688	2004	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety

Fairmont MN 56031 Houston MN 55943	2004	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing); Headache; Insomnia; Sense of vibration; Anxiety
Gurnee 60031	2004	Insomnia, Nausea, Anxiety
Fort Worth 76102	2010	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Oswego 60543	2010	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Sense of vibration
Racine - 53402	2010	unable to sleep without covering it up with even more noise
Beloit53511	2010	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety, irritable
Wheaton, Minnesota 56296	2010	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing); Headache; Insomnia; Nausea; Sense of vibration; Anxiety
Hansville, WA 98340 A	2011	Sense of vibration
Rockaway Beach, 97136	2011	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Sense of vibration, it got louder
Monroe, 98272	2011	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Headache, Anxiety
Phoenix, 85006	2011	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Insomnia, Anxiety
dayton,89403	2011	Anxiety
Endicott NY 13760	2011	Headache; Nausea; Sense of vibration; dizziness, lightheadedness
Broadmoor 94015	2011	Annoying
Fairport NY, 14450	2013	Insomnia, Anxiety, Irritable
Flagstaff, AZ 86004 A	2013	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Headache, Insomnia, Anxiety
Columbia, Tennessee 38401	2013	Headache, Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety, Sense of fullness and discomfort in my head.
Jacksonville, Florida, 32210	2013	Headache; Sense of vibration; Anxiety
Manchester, MD	2013	Insomnia, Sense of vibration, irritability
Ashley, PA 18706	2013	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Headache, Insomnia, nausea

Gordo, 35466	2013	Annoying
Streamwood 60107	2013	Anxiety
Tell city, Indiana	2017	Insomnia
Union County 30514	2017	Insomnia; Anxiety
flatwoods Ky 41139	2017	Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
NY Webster 14580	2017	Sense of vibration; Anxiety; Annoying
Allendale, Michigan, 49401	2017	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Headache, Insomnia, nausea, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Attleboro, 02703	2017	Headache, Sense of vibration, Anxiety

CA, Riverside, 92504	2017	Headache, Insomnia, nausea, Sense of vibration, Anxiety, Vibrating on back of neck and head
Orono, 04469-5783	2017	Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Overland Park, 66212	2017	Insomnia; Nausea; Sense of vibration; Anxiety
Provo 84601	2017	Insomnia, Sense of vibration
Plano 75023	2018	Sense of vibration, Curiosity
Red Lion 17356	2018	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), trouble falling asleep, ear throbs if I don't create other environmental noises.
Reidsville NC 27320	2018	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing); Sense of vibration
Rochester 55901	2018	Insomnia, Anxiety
San Diego 92104	2018	Insomnia
San Diego 92110	2018	Insomnia
San Diego 92130	2018	Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Sheldon 05478	2018	Headache, Sense of vibration
Smithfield 23430	2018	Headache, Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety
Snoqualmie WA 98065	2018	Insomnia
Somerville 38068	2018	Headache, Insomnia, Anxiety
St Paul MN 55119	2018	Insomnia, Anxiety
Suwanee GA 30024	2018	Ear discomfort (pain, fullness, throbbing), Insomnia, Sense of vibration, Anxiety

Reports escalated from 2018 and later but thehum.info database is not updated

Appendix B: Maryland reports

There is a current case from the Congressman's own constituency in Williamsport Maryland: County officials try to find source of noise that's reverberating into residential areas:

<https://amp.heraldmillmedia.com/amp/6434282001>

Below is an evaluation in Maryland of approximate Hum report locations (points marked) and the Inter/ Intra State Natural Gas Pipeline Systems. Numerous people in the DC area have been inquired and confirm the same conditions, characteristics and health symptoms of Gas Pipeline Syndrome occurring in the NYC Tri State investigation area. All of the reports of the Hum are included on the map as long as the description of the problem is similar to this type of Hum under investigation. The source of these reports is the current version of thehum.info project.



Maryland Reported Hum Locations- Data from Multiple Sources	
Arnold	Middle River
Baltimore (6)	Montpelier
Bethesda (2)	Potomac
Clarksburg	Prince Frederick
Clarysville	Randallstown
Cockeysville	Saint Leonard
Fort Washington	Salisbury
Germantown (2)	Silver Spring (2)
Ljamsville	Williamsport
Lusby	
Manchester	
Maugansville	

Appendix C: Typical outreach emails, letters and text messages from people experiencing the conditions

Over the years I have received many requests for help. Most of the stories are the same and most suffer by themselves. Most have some benefit in just knowing they are not alone and there is an explanation the conditions sensed are inside their bodies.

> Good afternoon.
>
> Last year you had stopped by to check out a gas hum. We had never heard it before until this fall. Now that is all we hear. Right by our driveway is a powerful hum that is loud and clear. Our neighbor also had heard it and came over to hear where it was coming from. Luckily I had saved your information.
>
> Kind regards,

April 2011 Oxford CT

Steve

I hope that we can identify a correlation between this ILFN and Sean's health issues I know my son and the change that has occurred in his health since November 2010 and now has progress to a level that is unacceptable we have endured a increase in his allergy symptoms that has kept him in the house 24/7 with migranes,nuasa and a peircing noise in his ears he won't leave our side he does not want to be left alone he is 20 . He is a honor roll student who was in his second year at UCONN that is now on a leave of absence becuase he can not concentrate or stay focused . We have been to all the doctors (Ear,nose and throat, allergists,neurologist) He was at the Denist to have his teeth cleaned and they diagnosed him with TMJ so they sent him to an oral sergon who diagnosed him with TMD he is set to have an MRI on Friday and has had a Cat scan and they can not find anything now they have suggested that he sit down with a psychiatrist. We have been asked if we think he is on drugs and that would be impossiable sense he does not leave our side and we have disinfected his room he has turned his phone off and has disconnected from all his friends. I hope this gives you a broad veiw of what has happened to my son. I can not thank you enough for your time and energy you have shown we need some answers this can not continue.

West Hartford CT November 2011

Hi Steve, Remember I said I was going to call the super of the pipeline whenever I heard the noise/vibes? After about 5 messages left with him he showed up at my house yesterday and said they were conducting tests and taking measurements. He'd get back with me when they had info. He didnt have any answers. Said they cant go onto private property to do any testing. I invited him to come on the property and test. Said they may do that if they cant find anything from their data. I told him he could come look at the wine glass of water vibrate on my table but when he came the hum had stopped. He said the pipeline carries fluids and is pigged out regularly. I am wondering if it really is the pipeline causing the noise/vibes or if it is Kinder Morgans' co2 compressor station that is about 15-20 miles from me. I just dont know where to go from here as i dont have any proof on my side. JM

Colorado June 2015

My problem is the base "noise". As I said is most likely within decibel standards, but very persistant. I do not pretend to know the cause of it, but it clearing coming from the pumping station across from my house.

Can someone come to my house and experience it? It is not a normal within standard situation and should not be.

Brookfield CT June 2015

📧 On May 8, 2013, I went to check my email. I scanned the names of those who had sent email. I don't think I'll ever forget my reaction to my email that day. I literally gasped out loud. Then, again out loud, I said, "He wrote back!!!" Data is power!! Like I said I was hoping I'd hear back, but wasn't sure I would. I really wish you could have seen my reaction to seeing email from you that day. I laugh every time I think of it, I guess maybe I was surprised to see the reply. It had been a long, hard year. I was probably just expecting the negative to continue. There definitely was a loud gasp and then the "He wrote back". It really was funny. Yes, data is power and you know I'm willing to send data or help you collect any data that I can.

OK, now I'm feeling kind of worried. I hope that isn't what you need me to do in order for the locations I have given you to be used in your work. In one of my email to you I jokingly referred to myself as having "bionic ears". There is very little that I can do to stop myself from hearing these noises. I don't need to pull over and shut the car off. I hear it in the car, while on the road, and the car is running. I don't have to go into a building. I hear it all the time. One thing I have read either in your email and/or on the papers you have written seems to indicate that you aren't hearing it outside? I was going to ask you about that. I do hear it outside but it's usually far better outside than it is inside. (I read a post on the hum forum where someone else said that it was louder inside than outside, so I guess I'm not alone in that.) As soon as I walk into the house, I feel that the volume doubles or triples. Today it was worse at work than here at home. I was very busy all day at work, so that helped. Thank goodness it's better at home...I need a break. Right now, my husband has the TV on and my son is playing his drums in the room right below me, the doorbell rang, so my dogs are barking very loudly, but I still hear the hum very clearly over all of that noise. The only thing that seems to completely eliminate it for me is being in the car with music on at more than low volume. That's why I'm so discouraged. I can't get away from it. Music playing at around medium volume will block it out in the car, but in the house, the music has to be really blasting to almost block it out. In my house, I cannot find anything at all that will block it out completely. If you can only use locations where I was in a stopped car, or in a building, let me know and I'll tell you what towns would be eliminated. That would just be some of the ones on the Pittsburgh trip...at

Clarks Summit PA September 2013

Today is an anniversary of sorts for me but not a happy one.

On April 29, 2012, at 10:00 A.M., the hum stopped being a distant noise that was there some of the time. At that moment, it invaded my home and has been here ever since. It was a life changing moment for sure. Then I would spend the next year and 8 days trying to figure out what it was, where it was coming from and why I was the only one who heard it and felt its vibrations. What a horrible time that was. I'm surprised the facial tremors were the only health problem I encountered in that time.

April 2014 Clarks Summit PA

JUN 16, 2015, 12:34 AM

Not sure if your still here on FB..but I have been trying to find out how to stop this humming at night..I'm in Florida ...I noticed your last post was 2013...

June 2015 Florida

APR 06, 2022 1:35 PM

Steve I want to cry after watching the youtube video describing your experience with the hum. For the past couple of years I have been battling this same issue myself. I have just started my investigation and was hoping for some tips. I do believe the high pressure gas lines were upgraded in my area within the past couple of years. I am going to request a ~~...~~ I live in Alberta, ju⁺ _rth of ~~...~~

April 2022 Alberta Canada

JUL 20, 2021, 1:27 AM

Hey Steve, I found you through researching The Noise. It drove me absolutely insane while at my Alzheimer's Granny's house. I hired several electricians and contractors. Everyone can hear or feel it there. I'm out and back at my place in downtown Richmond, but it's still here bothering me, though not as much. Went to a safe house in the mountains and did not hear it there. I will gladly pay you for your time; I just need help. Thank you so much!

Richmond VA July 2021

DEC 06, 2020, 7:19 AM

Hi Steve I see you haven't FB Posted for a year now I tried to contact you on LinkedIn but no luck so ill give this a try ? I live in central Alberta Canada and I too am one of the 2% I read your paper on Gas Pipeline syndrome and wanted to get in touch to let you know how much I appreciate your effort to accurately describe and document it. I would like to chat with you and share a few thoughts

December 2020 Alberta Canada

OCT 06, 2020, 11:47 PM

Hello. Im dealing with a very similar problem of compressor station noise at my home. Do you have infor or advise to share. Please.

October 2020 Clementsville KY

SEP 28, 2018, 2:28 AM

hi Steve- I just found your name while searching for information on this nerve-racking noise "the hum" I am going bugg--I am in Terryville, Ct if you could respond that would be great

September 2018 Terryville CT

Hi Steve! I just found you through good old google and watched a documentary on your story on YouTube. Honestly I'm a little relieved that I am not alone. I live in the Bronx, right on the Yonkers border and now that our AC's are off, this 'hum' is all I hear. My husband thinks I'm crazy and says he doesn't know what I'm talking about. Is there any direction you can point me in to figure out what's causing my 'hum'? There are no big power plants ar^o me except a la⁺ water

December 2019 Bronx NY

JUN 20, 2014, 9:58 PM

I hear the hum. I live in Kalamazoo, MI. "Feel the hum" is probably a better description. It's impossible to escape, and I thought I was the only one in the world who heard it. Only at night, usually in winter, seldom if ever in summer. drives me to tears. Imagine my surprise to learn I wasn't alone.

June 2014 Kalamazoo MI

Thank GOD for Stephan Kohlhase!!! How may we contact him? My name is [REDACTED], and we have a severe hum and vibrations in our rural community of Turner, Oregon, OREGON! What a miracle to have found his documentary!!! He is exacting to everything we have been experiencing and doing to try and source the disturbance. Our family has been here since 1915, and NEVER has anything like this happened to us before! Please help us contact Stephan - we need advice. We need him actually to come and help direct us as to what we need to do. [REDACTED] - landline, no text. Our Senators tried to help us but now have directed us to contact the FBI. Attached is a very short and condensed thumbnail of our issue that we are presenting to the FERG this week. Our hum disturbance, vibrations, and attempts to isolate the source is much more complicated than what I have attached. Our work to understand and isolate this has been overwhelming and very frightening. We have had to get tooth guards. We even thought it was a neighbor with a military directional noise device, but there is a gas line right through our community. I did not know this until today.

Very grateful for the courage Stephan has been for us all. We sincerely look forward hearing from him!! Reference [REDACTED] letter attached. She is one of our neighbors who is experiencing this issue. Moreover, her grandson who is living with her is having serious mental issues just this last year - about when the noise began.

Kindest regards,

June 2019 Turner OR

Dear Mr Kohlhase:

I need some help from you concerning your experience with the gas pipeline noise and vibration that you have experienced. I am an elderly person suffering here in Mendon, Ma and am hoping you could help me somewhat.

As you see I live very near the Tennessee Gas pipeline here in Mendon, Ma I have calculated the air miles through Google earth from there location 54 Thayer Road Mendon, Ma to my address less than four miles. There are loud pulsations and awful vibrations. As I type this, I can hear the pulse at a lower level today. I have complained to the FERC through there anonymous web site. I have also called EPA they sent someone out to walk up and down Northbridge St and they visited Tennessee Gas at 54 Thayer Rd they reported there is no noise? They told me that I am the only one

January 2020 Mendon MA (Case I have Investigated)

So, I've been pretty miserable with this situation. Mostly pressure in my head and ears, can't think straight or concentrate and it is throwing my equilibrium off and I cannot sleep on most nights unless the intensity lessens which is maybe once a week. I feel off balance and I have almost fallen a few times and just have an overall sick feeling. Masking the sound does not make my symptoms go away. I hear it everywhere. I've driven to different parts of Cambria again, Morro Bay, etc..I used to live in Santa Barbara and I'm going there on Monday for an appt. so I'll see how it is there. PG&E checked everything in this area including electrical transformers and said they found nothing. Honestly I don't know what to do. I can't live this way. The state rep doesn't return my calls and I've been trying to get through to the news station here. Are you pretty certain it is most likely the gas transmission pipelines? It feels like it's some sort of radiation but maybe low frequency feels like that.

Hope all is well with you.

May 2020 Sab Luis Obepio CA

Greetings to you Mr. Steve Kohlhase, my name is Patsy Pattenwin and I live in the Downriver Michigan area and recently I saw your video on YouTube called "The Hum: The Unexplained Noise 2% of People Can Hear" which was very informative about the noise phenomenon. I have been also experiencing The Hum since April 11 2019 and it sounds just like a diesel engine noise that I seem only to hear and feel of my family for some unknown reason. The low frequency noise is however affecting my appliances and electronics making them work harder or break down where in Feb 2020 I complained to The Michigan's Public Utility Commission about the problem and they ended up giving me a free furnace, refrigerator and water heater but they did not resolved the low frequency infrasound with high frequency ultrasound piggybacking upon it noise and most important of all it is affecting me and my family's health 24/7 both day and night. The Hum is causing only me to feel vibrations and pressure like feelings in my eardrums, chest and abdomen cavity causing me pain and thermal heat like sensations that feels like torture which is complicating my all ready health issues and making me sicker. I have all the physical symptoms of the gas pipeline syndrome. But I was not sure if it could be Smart Grid Syndrome that I am feeling however water can be seen vibrating in water bottles when placed on window ledges, counters, tables, floors etc I have video recordings of it. Even outdoors water puddles can be seen vibrating near my house and I can hear a high ringing noise in the car when the engine is off and I can feel vibrations also when sitting in the car seats. Keeping some kind of noise to mask out the hum helps like turning on the tv, radio, fan, furnace or air conditioner but they don't do much to stop with the dangerous molecular vibrations in the house and outdoors. I contacted my local city hall in my town about the problem but they are taking so long to respond. I don't think they know what to do!!! Nobody seems to know how to handle the problem. But in the meantime I have been trying to deal with it, it makes me want to leave my home but I can't afford to move!!! Mr. Kohlhase did you succeed at stopping the Hum in your home? Do you have any advice how to convince the gas utility company to do a serious investigation of the issue. I also talked to FERC the natural gas line company about the Hum and they told me that I didn't have any natural gas lines near me so they advice me to check with the utility company that is supplying gas to my service line. When I talked to them they sent a technician out to my house and they check the gas utility meter and they told me there was no high gas pressure problem but I can hear the low frequency noise coming through my walls and floors making me sick. This is serious what do I do? You can contact me at [REDACTED] Thank You, Patsy Pattenwin

February 2021 Ecorse MI

Hi Steve,

My name is [REDACTED]. My family recently purchased a house in Woodbridge CT. After moving in I have been noticing this low frequency humming sound 24/7 non-stop. I bumped into your video on YouTube. I really would like to chat and hear about your opinion. I'm so depressed that I'm worried I might lose my job because of this non-stop noise. My cell phone is [REDACTED]. Please let me know a good time if I can call you. Will very much look forward to speaking with you. Thanks!

April 2021 Woodbridge CT

The list is endless and everyday new sufferers reach out!

So, I've been pretty miserable with this situation. Mostly pressure in my head and ears, can't think straight or concentrate and it is throwing my equilibrium off and I cannot sleep on most nights unless the intensity lessens which is maybe once a week. I feel off balance and I have almost fallen a few times and just have an overall sick feeling. Masking the sound does not make my symptoms go away. I hear it everywhere. I've driven to different parts of Cambria again, Morro Bay, etc...I used to live in Santa Barbara and I'm going there on Monday for an appt. so I'll see how it is there. PG&E checked everything in this area including electrical transformers and said they found nothing. Honestly I don't know what to do. I can't live this way. The state rep doesn't return my calls and I've been trying to get through to the news station here. Are you pretty certain it is most likely the gas transmission pipelines? It feels like it's some sort of radiation but maybe low frequency feels like that.

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February 2021 Ecorse MI