

Guideline for the calculation of the number of porpoises potentially disturbed by offshore vibropiling noise

This document presents a methodology for calculating the number of harbor porpoise disturbance days due to the underwater sound produced by alternative installation, such as vibropiling, techniques for wind turbine foundation, specifically within the framework of the site decision for the wind energy areas Alpha and Beta in IJmuiden Ver. The necessity for these calculations is driven by the provisions outlined in the site decision concerning underwater noise.

While this document primarily focuses on vibropiling as a foundational technique, it's essential to note that other foundation methods may also generate continuous underwater noise. If one intends to evaluate the continuous underwater noise from a different foundational approach, the methodology outlined in this memo can serve as a foundational guide. For such an application, a similar scaling approach, as detailed in this document for vibropiling, can be employed. However, it's crucial to emphasize that any scaling should be specific and tailored to the unique characteristics of the particular foundational method under consideration. This includes standard procedures such as calculating SPL at a distance of 750 m and adjusting other relevant parameters accordingly.

This document represents the initial version of a methodology tailored for assessing the cumulative impacts of underwater noise stemming from offshore vibropiling. Given the current data landscape, it stands as the 'best available' precautionary approach. As further information becomes accessible or methodologies evolve, this document may undergo revisions.