



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-
INVESTIGATION REPORT (DPS-302-E) (REVISED 2/3/06)**

Report #: 1200704559 - 00023365

Report Type: Initial Report: Prosecutors Report: Supplement: Re-open: Assist: Closing:

Attachments: Statements: Teletype: Photos: Sketchmap: Evidence: Other:

CFS NO 1200704559	INCIDENT DATE 12/14/2012	TIME 09:41	INCIDENT DATE 12/14/2012	TIME	PRIMARY OFFICER JEWISS, DANIEL E.	BADGE NO 0336	INVESTIGATING OFFICER DOWNS, MICHAEL A.	BADGE NO 0502
INCIDENT ADDRESS 00012 Dickinson Dr/ Newtown 06482					APARTMENT NO	TOWN CD	TYPE OF EXCEPTIONAL CLEARANCE Not Applicable	CASE STATUS Active

STATUS CODE C=COMPLAINANT V=VICTIM A=ARRESTEE J=JUVENILE H=OTHER M=MISSING W=WITNESS O=OFFENDER D=DRIVER S=SUSPECT P=POLICE OFFICER T=TOT

STATUS	NAME	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	OP STATE & NO.
H	Kohlhase, Stephen	M	W				03

PHONE INTERVIEW--STEPHEN KOHLHASE

SUBJECT: Stephen Kohlhase (d.o.b. **03**)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DATE AND TIME: On January 28, 2013 from approximately 1605 hours to 1620 hours.

ACTION TAKEN:

On 01/28/13 at approximately 1157 hours, I was assigned to contact Kohlhase regarding any possible information related to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. At approximately 1605 hours, I contacted Kohlhase via telephone (**03**). Kohlhase stated that approximately three years ago in September of 2009, he began doing some research on a low frequency noise known as "the hum." He stated that the noise is coming from the natural gas lines which were repaired or renovated in 2007-2008. He stated that the hum has been known to cause nausea, vomiting and migraines. Kohlhase stated that there have been some instances where the hum has been linked to suicides. Kohlhase stated that he began his research in 2009 after experiencing the effects of the hum near his house in Brookfield, CT. Kohlhase stated that he believed that the hum may have affected Adam Lanza. After the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary, Kohlhase reviewed his research on the

THE UNDERSIGNED, AN INVESTIGATOR HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: I AM THE WRITER OF THE ATTACHED POLICE REPORT PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT NUMBER. THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN WAS SECURED AS A RESULT OF (1) MY PERSONAL OBSERVATION AND KNOWLEDGE; OR (2) INFORMATION RELAYED TO ME BY OTHER MEMBERS OF MY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR OF ANOTHER POLICE DEPARTMENT; OR (3) INFORMATION SECURED BY MYSELF OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF A POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE PERSON OR PERSONS NAMED OR IDENTIFIED THEREIN, AS INDICATED IN THE ATTACHED REPORT. THAT THE REPORT IS AN ACCURATE STATEMENT OF THE INFORMATION SO RECEIVED BY ME.				
INVESTIGATOR SIGNATURE: <i>TFC MICHAEL A DOWNS/ Det. M Downs #502</i>	INVESTIGATOR I.D.#: 0502	REPORT DATE: 01/30/2013 09:35 am 04424	SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: <i>Sgt. [Signature]</i>	SUPERVISOR I.D.#: 130



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Iroquois Natural Gas Line and found that he had actually taken readings in September 2010 in the area of Lanza's house. Kohlhasse stated that he took readings on Osborne Hill Rd. in Newtown. Kohlhasse indicated that Yogananda Dr. intersects with Osborne Hill Rd.

Kohlhasse stated that he had measured extreme hum levels near his house from December 6-12, 2012. Kohlhasse stated that he reported the high levels of hum to the Federal Energy Regulation Commission. Due to the timing of the extreme humming noise in relation to the date of the shooting, Kohlhasse wanted to make us aware of the possible correlation.

CASE STATUS:

This case remains ACTIVE pending further investigation.

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INVESTIGATOR SIGNATURE: /TFC MICHAEL A DOWNS/ <i>Det. M. Downs #502</i>	INVESTIGATOR I.D.#: 0502	REPORT DATE: 01/30/2013 09:35 am 04425	SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE <i>Sgt. John Ratty</i>	SUPERVISOR I.D.#: 130

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News

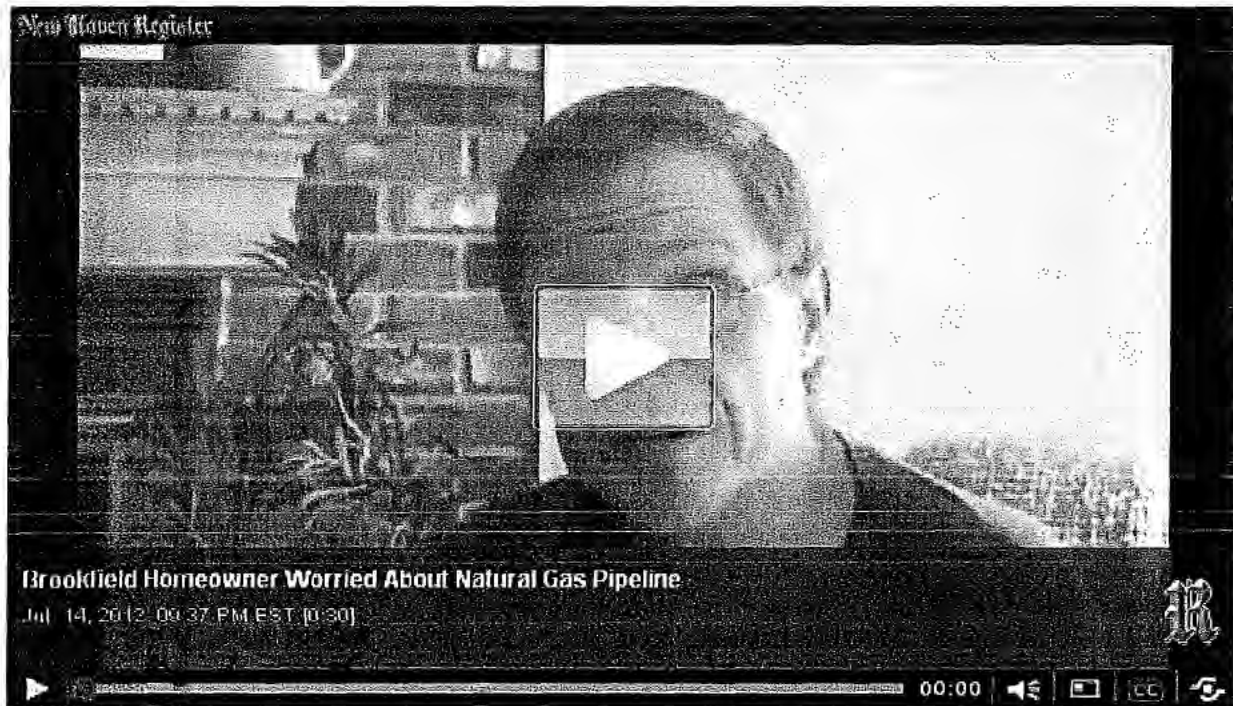
Brookfield homeowner fears sound waves may harm natural gas pipelines (video)

Saturday, July 14, 2012

By Luther Turmelle, North Bureau Chief
lturmelle@nhregister.com / Twitter: @lutherturmelle

BROOKFIELD — Step into Steve Kohlhase’s back yard on Dairy Farm Drive in Brookfield and the first thing you will notice is buzzing or humming sound that fills the air.

At first, a visitor might mistake the sound for an airplane flying overhead. But the sound remains constant, day and night, Kohlhase said.



"I used to have trouble sleeping from it, until I figured a way to mask the sound," he said.

When he bought the house in 1994, Kohlhase didn't hear the noise. It wasn't until 2008 that the noise first surfaced, he said.

That's when the Shelton-based Iroquois Gas Transmission System built a compressor station on a sprawling, 80-acre site off High Meadow Road. The station, which houses two units that regulate the pressure of the natural gas flowing through the pipeline, is located less than a mile from Kohlhase's house across wooded wetland.

Since then, Kohlhase has spent much of his time trying to convince anyone who will listen at the state and federal levels of the need to investigate the noise and how to resolve it.

A mechanical engineer by trade, Kohlhase believes the sound he and others hear is not from the operation of the compressor station, but from ground born sound waves emanating from transmission line pipes. He has recorded videos that show small waves in his above-ground pool, which he believes were caused by sound waves from the pipeline.



Kohlhase said he's concerned that if the noise isn't thoroughly investigated, the sound waves "can contribute to an acceleration in any flaws in welds on these pipelines."

The concept Kohlhase describes is known as acoustic fatigue, and it is enough of a concern that it was addressed in a 2009 study done for the International Gas Union, a nonprofit trade group based in Oslo, Norway.

"Gas pipeline systems incorporate numerous welded small bore connections such as instrument connections or stabbings, vent and drain points and bypasses around full bore valves," the study said in part. "These are susceptible to fatigue failure due to vibration excited both through the structure and by pressure fluctuations in the gas. These fatigue failures can result in the release of gas and therefore have significant safety implications."

Through persistence, Kohlhase was able to get representatives from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to his home last November to check out the noise problem. But agency spokeswoman Mary O'Driscoll said Friday she was unable to comment on what, if any, determinations FERC officials made as a result of their visit.

Dennis Schain, spokesman for the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, said that while the agency has no record of any complaint by Kohlhase concerning the problem, "we take very seriously our obligation to pursue any complaints or concerns from the public."

"If such a complaint concerning noise from these pipelines is directed to us, we will look into it and refer it to appropriate officials if we do not have jurisdiction," Schain said. But because the pipelines are used for the interstate transmission of natural gas, this may be an issue that can only be addressed by FERC, he said.

Officials with Iroquois Gas Transmission System acknowledge that some noise can be heard in Kohlhase's neighborhood. But Jeff Bruner, the company's vice president and general counsel, said the noise is from the operation of the compressor units and is within "strict limits set by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission."

Furthermore, Bruner said company officials have tested the Iroquois transmission lines that run underground through Brookfield, three to four feet below the surface, and found no evidence of any noise coming from the natural gas pipelines.

But Kohlhase's home is located at a veritable ground zero for energy infrastructure.

In addition to the Iroquois compressor station and a 115-kilovolt Connecticut Light & Power transmission line located behind his house, a portion of the 1,120-mile Algonquin Gas transmission pipeline is buried about 40 yards away from the southern side of the house. And the Algonquin and Iroquois pipelines interconnect in Brookfield.

Kohlhase's concerns about the pipeline come at a time when state officials and utility company executives are trying to encourage increased use of natural gas to heat homes.

Dan Esty, DEEP commissioner, told attendees of a Connecticut Business & Industry Association conference in June that he favors increased use of natural gas to heat the state's homes and businesses.

"Increased availability of natural gas, particularly from shale fields, is a game changer," Esty said. But only 29 percent of state homes use natural gas for heat, while 52 percent use heating oil, he said.

The state's natural gas companies — Yankee Gas, Connecticut Natural Gas and Southern Connecticut Gas — are looking to spend \$2.5 billion to expand natural gas infrastructure. Two of those companies — CNG and SCG — are owned by New Haven-based UIL Holdings.

UIL Holdings executives told the New Haven Register in March that the company is looking to expand gas mains into areas that aren't currently served by natural gas, and are seeking to add customers in areas that already have service lines. Between the two of them, UIL Holdings' natural gas utilities already have 340,000 customers.

Kohlhase said he's worried that those kinds of economic and political pressures will result in his concerns being swept aside.

"The problem is there are no good regulations that protect the public from what may be happening here," he said.

Call Luther Tumelle at 203-789-5706 or follow him on Twitter @LutherTumelle.

URL: <http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2012/07/14/news/doc50021fed03f2a324192118.prt>

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The Hum

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Hum is a phenomenon, or collection of phenomena, involving a persistent and invasive low-frequency humming, rumbling, or droning noise not audible to all people. Hums have been reported around the planet. The classic description of the Hum is that of a distant idling diesel engine. Typically, the Hum is very difficult to detect with microphones, and its source and nature are hard, if not impossible, to localize^[*citation needed*]. In some cases, a specific source has been located or suggested. A Hum on the Big Island of Hawaii, for example, typically related to volcanic action, is heard in locations dozens of miles apart^[*citation needed*].

The Hum is sometimes prefixed with the name of a locality where the problem has been particularly publicized; e.g., the "Bristol Hum", the "Taos Hum", or the "Bondi Hum".^[1]

Those who can detect the Hum have been referred to as "hearers", "sensors", "hummers", and "humblings". The term "hearer" appears most frequently in the literature.^[*citation needed*] Data from the Taos Hum study suggests that 2% to 5% of the general population can detect the Hum, with individuals 50 years of age or older being particularly prone to sensing it.^[*citation needed*]

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Description

The essential element that defines the Hum is what is perceived as a persistent low-frequency sound, often described as being comparable to that of a distant diesel engine idling, or to some similar low-pitched sound for which obvious sources (e.g., household appliances, traffic noise, etc.) have been ruled out^[*citation needed*]. There are a number of audio reproductions of the Hum available on the web.^[*citation needed*]

Other elements seem to be significantly associated with the Hum, being reported by an important proportion of hearers, but not by all of them. Many people hear the Hum only, or much more, inside buildings as compared with outdoors. Many also perceive vibrations that can be felt through the body. Earplugs are reported as not decreasing the Hum.^[2]

On November 15, 2006, Dr. Tom Moir of the Massey University in Auckland, New Zealand made a recording of the Auckland Hum and has published it on the university's website.^{[3][4]} The captured Hum's power spectral density peaks at a frequency of 56 hertz.^[5] In 2009, the head of audiology at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, Dr David Baguley, said that he believed people's problems with hum were based on the physical world about one-third of the time and the other two-thirds stemmed from people focusing too keenly on innocuous background sounds.^[6]

History

In Britain, the most famous example was the Bristol hum that made headlines in the late 1970s.^[6] It was during the 1990s that the Hum phenomenon began to be reported in North America and to be known to the American public, when a study^[citation needed] by the University of New Mexico and the complaints from many citizens living near the town of Taos, New Mexico, caught the attention of the media.

On June 9, 2011, it was reported that residents of the village of Woodland, England were experiencing a hum that had already lasted for over two months.^[7]

This phenomenon has also been reported since 2010 throughout Windsor and Essex County in Ontario, Canada,^[8] where some residents claim it to be correlated with the time of day, or week, while others seem unaffected or unable to hear it.^[9] On April 20, 2012 the Canadian Government decided to officially investigate, and the launch of a study was announced on January 21, 2013.^[10] Current suspicions are that the noise originates on Zug Island.^[11]

The Hum has also been heard since at least 2004 by residents on Canada's southwest Coast in the region around the city of Vancouver.^[12]

The Hum has also frustrated residents in County Kerry, Ireland.^[13] This led to it being raised in the Dáil by Michael Healy-Rae, who personally heard the Hum.^[14] The phenomenon was also recorded in 2012 in Seattle,^[15] and Wellington, New Zealand.^[16]

The World Hum Database and Mapping Project was launched in December, 2012, in order to build detailed mappings of hum locations and to provide a database of Hum-related data for professional and independent researchers.^[17]

Possible explanations

Some explanations of hums for which no definitive source has been found have been put forth. These include:

Tinnitus

A suggested diagnosis of tinnitus, a disturbance of the auditory system, is used by some physicians in response to complaints about The Hum. Tinnitus is generated internally by the auditory and nervous systems, with no external stimulus. However, the theory that the Hum is actually tinnitus fails to explain why the Hum can be heard only at certain geographical locations, to the degree those reports are accurate. There may exist individual differences as to the threshold of perception of acoustic or non-acoustic stimuli, or other normal individual variations that could contribute to the perception of the Hum by some people in the population and not by others.

While the Hum is hypothesized by some to be a form of low frequency tinnitus^[18] such as the venous hum, some sufferers claim it is not internal, being worse inside their homes than outside. However, others insist that it is equally bad indoors and outdoors. Some people notice the Hum only at home, while others hear it everywhere they go. It is commonly reported that it is made worse by soundproofing (e.g., double glazing), which serves only to decrease other environmental noise, thus making the Hum more apparent. Tinnitus, as well, is generally worse in places with less exterior sound.

People who both suffer from tinnitus and hear the Hum describe them as qualitatively different, and many hum sufferers can find locations where they do not hear the hum at all. An investigation by a team of scientists in Taos dismissed the possibility that the Hum was tinnitus as highly unlikely.^[19]

Spontaneous otoacoustic emissions

Human ears generate their own noises, called spontaneous otoacoustic emissions, which about 30% of people hear.^[citation needed] The people that hear these sounds typically hear a faint buzzing or ringing, especially if they are otherwise in complete silence, but most people don't notice them at all.^[20] However, these emissions occur with equal frequency across age groups within the population, and the Hum typically occurs in regional clusters, and rarely within large metropolitan areas.

Colliding ocean waves

Researchers from the USArray Earthscope have tracked down a series of infrasonic humming noises produced by waves crashing together and thence into the ocean floor, off the North-West coast of the USA. Potentially, sound from these collisions could travel to many parts of the globe.^{[21][22][23]} No mechanism has been suggested to explain how the Hum is heard in the middle of remote land masses, hundreds of miles away from any ocean.^[citation needed]

Mechanical devices

In the case of Kokomo, Indiana, a city with heavy industries, the origin of the hum was thought to have been traced to two sources. The first was a pair of fans in a cooling tower at the local DaimlerChrysler casting plant emitting a 36 Hz tone. The second was an air compressor intake at the Haynes International plant emitting a 10 Hz tone. After those devices were corrected, however, the Hum persisted.^{[24][25]}

Media coverage

The Taos Hum was featured on the TV show *Unsolved Mysteries*.^[26] It was also featured in LiveScience's "Top Ten Unexplained Phenomena", where it took tenth place.^[27]

In popular culture

In a 1998 episode of *The X-Files* titled "Drive", Agent Mulder speculates that extremely low frequency (ELF) radio waves "may be behind the so-called Taos Hum".^[28]

See also

- List of unexplained sounds

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Categories: Mysteries | Noise | Noise pollution | New Mexico culture | Unidentified sounds

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