

**Dike, Darlene**

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**From:** Matthew Vaughan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 June 2015 21:19  
**To:** Tulloch, Rob  
**Subject:** Air Studios

Dear Mr. Tulloch,

I would like to register my objection to the proposed building work next to AIR Recording Studios in Hampstead. I have worked there in the past and it is a splendid facility, and sadly it is one of the few that London still has to offer after the last 10 years' seismic changes in the music industry....which makes it all the more valuable.

The word "seismic" is all too appropriate in this case. The underground excavations needed for the neighbours' proposed home improvement will create vibrations of extremely low frequency; and the lower the frequency of a sound, the further it travels and the more difficult it is to insulate a recording space from its intrusion.

AIR is one of the few facilities left in London that can host a full (if not completely overblown) orchestra, and to record an orchestra you need an absolutely silent room. Heavy metal bands can rehearse, even record in railway arches and it won't make any difference. But a full orchestra....forget it. Imagine going to the Royal Albert Hall, and just in the middle of the quietest passage, someone starts a drill going. No-one would buy THAT album.

AIR gets an awful lot of high-profile, lucrative work in terms of film soundtracks and other sessions (particularly orchestral sessions), where large and sonically "pure" environments are ABSOLUTELY necessary. Over the past two decades, more and more of this sort of work has been done overseas where the facilities and musicians are cheaper, leading to the closure of most of the large studios in London. The list of casualties is very, very long.

So, given the amount of people who will be adversely affected by this proposed work, who will benefit?

I suppose the developers will make a few quid, and the workers will have to get their lunch somewhere....and the owners of the house will benefit from having an underground swimming pool, gym, and private cinema.

Personally, I've managed to cope with, and even enjoy life without those.

Why can't you just say "No, you can't have the permission. We won't grant it."