

Power and the use of Generators in Public Spaces

Meeting Notes :

7th Feb

5 Pancras Square

Camden Council

Hosted by FILMFIXER and CAMDEN EVENTS
SERVICE



This invitation was sent to London borough film officers, event officers, Film and Event industry professionals and Film London.

POWER IN THE PUBLIC REALM

'replacing generators in filming and events'

Practical solutions

Camden Events and FilmFixer invites you to an informal gathering to discuss and resolve the on-going concerns and conversations in the area of clean-air thinking.

The Agenda will include discussion on the planned Generator levy; static and moving power sources; recommendations and solutions

Date : 7/2/20

Place : 5 Pancras Square, 11th floor, N1C 4AG

Arrival 2.15

End 17.30

Refreshments will be served

RSVP to events@camden.gov.uk

Meeting Context

- Complaints from residents and communities about the use of diesel generators on streets and green spaces has dramatically increased since the introduction of ULEZ in Central London.
- Residents are understandably concerned about the impact on air quality and public health. Calls have been received asking for a ban on polluting generators in certain popular locations.
- Film and Event Producers are risk averse; Often more generators are hired than are strictly needed. These often run with little or no “loading” which increases particulate pollution.
- The film and event industry often use old diesel generators which do not comply with current regulatory standards (EU Stage 5).

Meeting Summary

Though the film and events industries are beginning to use low emission power, the transition cannot come quickly enough for London's residents. Complaints about air quality and pollution caused by mobile generators have significantly increased since the ULEZ became operational. Camden Council's aim is to speed up the adoption of cleaner alternatives.

At the meeting, we heard from several contributors who were promoting clean alternatives to diesel generators (details attached). Attendees also heard about FilmFixer's proposal to introduce a generator levy (details attached). Discussion took place about the need for more plug-in electric power resources in parks and streets as an alternative to using generators.

Some concerns were raised about the legal framework that would be used to implement the generator levy. Further concerns we raised about the limited availability of clean alternatives. We aim to address these concerns and report back to the group.

Alternatives



OnBio is committed to improving air quality, reducing fossil fuel reliance and lowering carbon emissions by supplying film productions & event companies with ultra low carbon heaters, cooling systems, and Renewable Diesel to run the generators & site machinery.

Tom Crooke - OnBio

Provides renewable diesel or Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). Tom is waiting for results from research and testing regarding the actual reductions in particulates that can be gained by using HVO compared to Diesel. Current data available states that HVO has significantly lower NOX emissions. Available now. Can be used in existing machinery.

www.onbio.co.uk Mobile: 07787 113 682 Email: sales@onbio.co.uk

Alternatives



Paul Day - AquaFuel

Deals with Glycerine engined generators. Stage V compliant and has no particulates. Generators are still in development and not currently able to be hired but could be bought by logistics companies willing to hire them out or productions directly.

www.aquafuelresearch.com

Phone: 01233 754 901

Email: paulday@aquafuel.co.uk

Alternatives



David Noble - Midas

Recently launched a range of Stage 5 Compliant Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) generators suitable for film and events. Currently available for hire. Can get 40 hours of performance at full load from one tank of fuel. Has no particulate emissions with a reduction of 49% of CO2 compared to diesel and 99% less NOX. The machines are super silent measured at 63 - 65db at 1m.

www.midas-uk.co.uk

Phone: 0333 772 0772

Email: info@midas-uk.co.uk

Alternatives



Adam Baker - Green Voltage

Have battery packs (VOLTstack) which can be used as a replacement for smaller generators. These products are specifically designed for the Film Industry. Available for hire and already in use in many productions . Currently have 2k, 5k and 20k packs. 200k array in development.

www.getgreenvoltage.com

Phone: 0800 292 2251

Email: info@greenvoltage.co.uk

Alternatives



Zenobe – Robert Long

Owner and operators of large scale battery storage, utilising flexible technology to in order to overcome grid constraints and reduce energy costs for end users, Zenobe are interested in permanent and short term installations. The batteries can be charged overnight at low energy prices from renewable sources, providing clean, cheap energy to meet demand during the day. Zenobe are hoping to parent with councils to help boost grid connections at frequently used filming locations as well provide smaller scale units which can be delivered to film sets and events.

www.zenobe.com

Phone: 020 3911 7853



act@zenobe.com



A Generator Levy

FilmFixer and Camden Council are currently examining a proposal to implement a daily charge for users of mobile diesel generators.

We plan to consult with the film and events industry, residents and council officers over the next few months.

Clean alternatives will be exempt from the levy. We expect the charges to be in the region of the amounts in the table below.

We will use questions in FilmApp and EventApp (online application processes) to determine the number and type of generators and amount of days to be charged. Income will be ringfenced to pay for clean air initiatives, installation of alternative power sources and enforcement.

<20KW	21KW – 79KW	>80KW
£25 per day	£50 per day	£100 per day

A Generator Levy

FAQ's

There is a lack of alternatives to generators, why introduce a levy when we cannot hire alternatives? – We are trying to increase the price of polluting generators so that there is more demand for clean alternatives.

Who will monitor the emissions and potential reduction? The levy will pay for monitoring to take place. This will probably be conducted by the Environmental health departments.

Is the levy for on street generators or would off street generators be included? We hope so, we are looking at ways we can introduce a levy for all generators, not just film and events industry.

What is the legal status of the levy? We are examining various options; we will report back via the mailing list. The council already has discretion about parking and can refuse to suspend parking bays if they choose.

What penalties would the council impose should a user not register a generator and not pay the levy? We need to get advice from the legal department of the councils taking part.

Next Steps



FilmFixer will be collecting and sharing data about clean alternatives to generators and progress on the generator levy initiative. This information will be circulated using a "Generators in Public Spaces" mailing list - if you wish to be added to the mailing list please sign up on the mailing list - www.filmfixer.co.uk/cleanair

Those that attended or responded to the invitation to the meeting on 7th Feb will need to sign up to be included in the mailing list.