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## LNG carrier still causing noise 'nuisance'

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A Q-max LNG carrier already tagged as a noise nuisance during an earlier call at the South Hook LNG terminal has caused similar problems on a return visit.

Members of the South Hook LNG Ship Noise pressure group, many of whom live close to the South Wales receiving terminal, say that the 266,000-cbm LNG newbuilding *Shagra* caused "a great deal of distress to 90% of the residents' properties while at berth" during its visit to the terminal last week.

The group says members complained of feeling "vibration in their eardrums" and a "fast-paced thumping" and the ship's visit was

"the worst nuisance we have had from any vessel yet".

This is not the first visit of the *Shagra* to South Hook. It first visited in mid-April and on that occasion the Pembrokeshire County Council Port Health Team registered a statutory nuisance against the ship.

Last week's call was the *Shagra's* third visit to the terminal and residents are at a loss as to why a problem ship continues to return to the facility with cargoes while electronic data shows others that have had upgrading work done on their silencers as idle.

Last month, terminal operator South Hook LNG listed 14 vessels comprising six Q-maxes and eight Q-flexes that have had silencer up-

grading work carried out. When one of those 14 ships, the 216,000-cbm *Tembek* (built 2007), visited in July, residents reported it was so silent they did not even know it had berthed.

Some reports suggest the *Shagra* had additional work done on its silencers at Samsung Heavy Industries prior to its delivery but this has not been confirmed.

The 216,000-cbm *Mesaimmeer* (built 2009) is due at the terminal this week, followed by Qatar's latest Q-max newbuilding, the 266,000-cbm *Aamira*, and 210,100-cbm *Al Safliya* (built 2007) in the subsequent week.

The *Al Safliya* was one of those covered by the upgrade programme.