

VENTURA

DEVELOPMENTS LTD

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DUST MANAGEMENT

Introduction

Dust arising from a site may annoy neighbours and can cause air pollution. At very high concentrations, dust may cause health problems. There is also the potential for legal action, which will have cost, programme and reputation implications.

Potential issues for construction projects:

- Annoyance to neighbours and bad publicity for the site.
- Claims from farmers for dust damage to crops (especially cement dust).
- Impact on project programme and budget (e.g. compliance with strict dust levels/abatement notices).
- Impacts on ecology (e.g. plant growth, watercourses).

Relevant Legislation

Under the Clean Air Act 1993 and Part 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, local authorities can impose limits on dust generated from a site

Management Plan

General

- Compile a dust management plan for the site that includes procedures for:
 - Identifying activities and weather conditions that are likely to give rise to dust emissions from the site.
 - Identifying activity specific and weather condition specific dust mitigation measures.
 - Planning activities to ensure that, as far as practical, particularly dusty activities are not carried out in unsuitable weather conditions.
 - Communicating dust management procedures to all relevant personnel and training if required.
 - Identifying any nearby dust sensitive receptors.
 - Informing neighbours in advance particularly dusty activities of any nuisance that is likely to occur despite mitigation measures.
 - Keeping a record of dust related complaints and any remedial action taken.
 - Ensure that a suitable monitoring regime is in place to keep a record of dust conditions, mitigation measures, complaints, weather conditions etc.
 - Monitor locations which could give rise to dust such as:
 - bunds of soil which are not vegetated
 - access tracks in dusty locations or where the stone used has a high dust content
 - locations where access tracks meet public roads
 - Identify mitigation measures for such locations and review their success (see also GEMP No 6).
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- Inspect areas at risk daily, especially during dry weather.
- Vehicles carrying bulk materials to be sheeted if could give rise to dust.
- Keep all public roads well swept and bowse if required.
- Follow-up any complaints immediately and take action to avoid a repeat complaint.

Checks and Actions

Requirement	Check	Action
Compliance with the Clean Air Act 1993	• How the Clean Air Act 1993 and Part 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 applies to the site	• Ensure necessary measures to reduce the risk of nuisance from dust are identified and implemented • Re-evaluate protection measures in periods of prolonged dry weather
To contain dust and materials with the potential to lead to wind-blown pollution	• Whether nearby dust sensitive properties and habitats have been identified • What control measures have been put in place to mitigate any negative impacts • That a suitable monitoring regime is in place to keep a record of dust conditions, mitigation measures, complaints, weather conditions etc • Whether any formal reporting on dust conditions is required • Whether there have been any complaints	• Compile a policy for dust management for the site • Review this plan regularly and particularly if there are any complaints from residents and /or businesses in proximity to the works • Use the guidance BRE (2003) Control of dust from construction and demolition activities when planning works which could cause dust • Ensure that the plan for the site could not lead to sediment rich run-off polluting water
Dust suppression during periods of dry weather, at locations where access tracks meet the public roads	• That all locations where access tracks meet public roads have been identified • That facilities for dust suppression at these locations (e.g. sprayers) are available and can access all locations when necessary	• Ensure site staff are aware of how dust should be mitigated • Have bowsers on site and keep roads swept and clean
To identify all areas where dust could become a nuisance	• Areas where soil is being stripped • Bunds which are not vegetated • Stone used for access tracks for dust content • Dust created at concrete mixing sites and batching plants	• Implement appropriate measures from the site dust management plan in individual locations • Keep brashings and turfs when soils stripped and use on earthworks to reduce the risk of dust • Check with the Landscape Architect for any areas which should be seeded • Check all areas of the site regularly and review dust management plan for effectiveness-update as required with input from the Technical Specialists • Use tent etc to prevent concrete dust spreading if risk identified

Further information available in:

BRE (2003) Control of dust from construction and demolition activities.
 DETR (2000) Environmental handbook for building and civil engineering projects
 CIRIA (2005) Environmental Good Practice – site guide