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DUST Management Method Statement

Coop Coedpoeth

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Dust

The purpose of this method statement is to ensure that the emission and adverse effects of dust are minimised without recourse to formal legislative control (unless appropriate).

It is recognised that the emission of dust from any Construction and demolition operations is largely inevitable, particularly when dry and windy weather conditions prevail.

In assessing the need for dust control measures regard shall be paid to: -

- The nature of the works
- Weather conditions likely to prevail during dust generating operations.
- Proximity of dust sensitive properties (residential, commercial and industrial).
- Effects on the general public and road users. Dust control equipment should be readily available on site from the commencement of works.

The choice of plant and equipment and the method of work should reflect the necessity to employ best practicable means in the control of dust. Generally, where alternative methods exist, intrinsically dusty operations such as dry sweeping or dry sandblasting are not acceptable.

Dust emissions are most commonly caused by the following activities: -

- Open storage of finely divided materials such as sand, cementitious products, saw dust, stock piled soils & waste.
- Vehicular movements across the site , particularly disturbed ground.
- Demolition.
- Cleaning operations such as sand blasting and sweeping.
- Cutting of stone, concrete, etc.
- Site stripping and excavation of soil.

Dust Control Measures

Pre commencement

Prior to starting on site, a review of planned works will take place and a suitable programme produced to allow enough time for each task to enable correct methods and room to complete safely.

Areas of existing ground will remain intact where possible to minimise traffic from driving over disturbed ground and reduce dust.

Phased works should help control access routes and give time to prepare ground for traffic.

Track machinery will be cleaned regularly and the operator minimise movement away from watered areas.

Where adequate dust control cannot be achieved by the choice of appropriate plant, equipment and work method common means of dust suppression involve the use of water and/or containment by screening and enclosure.

Water Suppression

Water suppression of dust may be employed to good effect for operations such as cutting or sandblasting of stone or concrete as well as in more general applications where dampening can prevent excessive wind whipping of dust from stockpiles and operational areas of the site, or from demolition.

Where dust is likely to be a persistent problem a water spray system should be available from the commencement of the works. The use of such systems can be particularly effective in operations such as the removal of soil during construction.

The need to ensure that adequate water supplies are available, either from the mains, bowsers or other sources is a prime consideration at the planning stage. A dedicated operative will be allocated by the site management team to supervise the need to wet down areas of concern and set up suitable water lines to allow full access across site without causing line damage and risk to Health (trips and slips).

Screening and Enclosure

Finely divided materials such as sand and cementitious products should be stored where practicable under cover or in sealed containers. In some circumstances screening or enclosure may be required in addition to water suppression, and if correctly designed can have added advantages noise reduction and preventing visual access to unauthorised personnel.

Site boundaries will have solid hoardings where safe to install or debri netting to minimise local movement of dust from site onto neighbouring land. Open heras fencing will be available due to safety issues.

Other Methods

Although most dust problems will be controlled in practice by water suppression and/or screening, other techniques such as local extraction to a filter unit may be an appropriate option in some circumstances.

General Site House Keeping.

Both water suppression and screening have practical limitations.

In warm weather, for example, water will evaporate quickly from dusty materials leaving the site in a condition likely to result in dust emissions due to wind whipping or vehicle movements.

As far as practical constraints will allow sources of dust such as spillage of finely divided materials should be removed promptly using a wet cleaning technique. The importance of cleaning also applies to internal roadways and the highway, which may become coated with dust from other operations and can become a secondary source of dust emissions.

