

Environmental Review of Building Sites: A Tool for Councils

Who is this review for?

This environmental review is designed for environmental officers in local councils that are planning a commercial and industrial environmental review program in which building sites will be one of the business categories to be reviewed. This review is a modified version of one developed and used by Wyong Council in its involvement in the Solutions to Pollution program.

What's the purpose of an environmental review?

It is to gather information about a site to allow its environmental performance to be assessed. The information from the review should be used as a basis for improving the environmental performance of the site.

How can the environmental performance of builders be improved?

Use the environmental review process and findings to involve the **owners, managers, contractors and workers** on building sites and inform them about:

- their environmental responsibilities
- how the various activities on their site could be detrimental to the environment
- how the site could be improved.

Give the other information in this package to builders to help with their environmental improvement.

An environmental checklist is included in this package to allow builders to review their environmental performance regularly. Council could distribute the environmental checklist and the information sheets to builders and development applicants as part of its commitment to encouraging improved environmental performance in the review program.

Building sites environmental review

Part 1

Review number: _____

Inspection date: _____

Officer: _____

Name of owner: _____

Name of builder (trading or registered name): _____

Name of contractors/subcontractors (if known): _____

Contact name of person responsible for this site: _____

Address of site: _____

Attach a site plan or approved plans if available.

Part 2

Environmental management

Does the site have building approval? Yes No

Does the site have a soil and water management plan
(sediment control plan)? Yes No

If yes, is the plan used? Yes No

If yes, who is the responsible person?: _____

Does the site have a waste minimisation and management plan? Yes No

If yes, is it used? Yes No

If yes, who is the responsible person?: _____

Are all people on the site aware of their environmental responsibilities? Yes No

Are training or briefings given? Yes No

Notes _____

Soil and water management

- Does the site have sediment and erosion controls in place? Yes No
- Is there a single access point that is stabilised to prevent tracking of sediment onto the road, footpath and gutters? Yes No
- Are the stormwater drains around the site free of pollution? Yes No
- Has the site retained a kerbside turf strip to slow the speed of water and trap sediment? Yes No
- Does the site have all stockpiles behind sediment fences? Yes No
- Is there a designated washout area on-site? Yes No
- Is there a person (builder's rep) on-site who is responsible for checking and maintaining the sediment and erosion controls regularly? Yes No
- Have trees and other vegetation been retained on-site where possible? Yes No
- Are the downpipes connected as soon as the roof goes on? Yes No
- Is there evidence that anything other than water is flowing into stormwater drains? Yes No
- Are there any specific soil and water problems associated with the site? Yes No

Details: _____

Waste management

Who are the waste contractors?: _____

- Is there any evidence of inappropriate waste management? Yes No

Are there any measures in place to:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
<i>Separate wastes on site?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Reuse wastes on site?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Reduce wastes on site?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Recycle wastes?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Are wastes that are awaiting collection contained and stored to prevent pollution? Yes No

Specific waste problems associated with the site: _____

Hazardous materials

- Are any materials stored in a manner that may lead to stormwater contamination? Yes No

What spill controls are in place?: _____

Specific hazardous material problems associated with the site: _____

Air quality management

Is there any evidence of actions to suppress dust? Yes No

Specific air pollution problems associated with the site: _____

Noise management

When does work begin and end on the site?: _____

Have there been any noise complaints for the site? Yes No

Specific noise problems associated with the site: _____

Part 3 – summary

General comments: _____

Activities of specific concern

<i>Activity of concern</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Timetable</i>

Overall assessment:

Poor Generally good Excellent

Follow-up by _____ (date)

Person conducting review _____ (signature)

Seen by Site Manager _____ (signature)