



Pollution Control Policy (Air)

Higgins Construction PLC is one of the leading names in community regeneration and affordable housing for London and the South East. In addition to providing sustainable solutions to the region's housing shortages, we are acknowledged as one of the leading names for quality and value in education and healthcare construction.

Higgins Construction PLC recognises that Climate change, smog, acid rain and ozone depletion are all created by air pollution and pose a serious threat to the environment and our health. Air pollution on site can have a detrimental impact on the environment in which we live and work and on the health of local residents. It is therefore our responsibility to take control measures to minimise the pollution our sites produce. The Local Authority has a responsibility under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and the UK Air Quality Strategy to work towards achieving national air quality objectives¹, we must therefore demonstrate that our policies are in place to reduce any nuisance dust and fine particle emissions arising from our works without the need for legal intervention from the Local Authority.

With this in mind, our environmental policies reflect how we will identify and address the main causes of air pollution such as carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)s, ozone, nitrogen oxide, sulphur dioxide, benzene, lead, volatile organic compounds..

Implementation of Water Pollution Control Measures

All operatives must be aware of our policy to control and prevent dust and air pollution on site to ensure the procedures that we have set in place are followed. The below measures must be explained to all operatives on site during their initial site induction and a copy of our Pollution Control Policy presented to them for their records.

All sub-contractors are provided with our Pollution Control Policy along with our Environmental Policy, both of which must be adhered to as part of our contract conditions.

It is the responsibility of our Contract Management to ensure these measures are being followed wherever practicable. If procedures are not being followed tool box talks should be held to re-emphasise the importance these procedures have on not only reducing the impact our construction works have on the environment, but also the legal obligations we have under the Environment Protection Act. Consistent failure or refusal to follow these measures will result in the operative or sub-contractor being asked to leave site

Site Procedures to reduce Dust

Demolition

- A check meter, stand pipe and hose is to be made available at all times on site to damp down arising dust from the demolition process. Particular attention must be paid to damping down procedures during periods of dry and hot weather.
- All skips must be covered with a suitable cover i.e. tarpaulin or plastic dust sheets.

¹ BRE Controlling Dust Strategy

- During internal strip any waste arising must be placed in the skip or a chute used from first floor and above. A suitable sheeting must be placed on the skip and around the chute to reduce dust arising from impact.
- Any lorries removing waste from site must be suitably covered prior to leaving site.
- A wheel wash will be provided where practical.
- Generally housekeeping on site should be in good order with changing facilities provided to reduce the travel of dust from operatives' clothes.
- In addition to the above site specific Method Statements must be provided demonstrating sub-contractors' own measures for dust reduction during each demolition process.

Construction

- A water point must be provided for dampening down the site during periods of dry weather.
- All skips must be covered with a suitable cover i.e. tarpaulin or plastic dust sheets
- Dust sheets must be laid prior to commencement of works and removed at the end of each day. Plastic dust sheets that can be wrapped up and disposed of after use would be ideal. Cloth dust sheets must be washed down over the skip and **not** shaken to remove dust.
- Cutting tools for timber should ideally be equipped with an extractor for safe removal of arisings.
- Any materials such as cement, lime and sand should be covered using a suitable plastic covering at the end of use each day or in periods of high winds.
- Bulk materials should be delivered and stored in bulk bags and covered using a suitable plastic covering at the end of use each day or in periods of high winds.
- In addition to the above site specific Method Statements must be provided demonstrating sub-contractors own measures for dust reduction during each construction process.



For and on behalf of the Board of Directors
Steve Leakey
 Managing Director
 August 2011