

**Environmental Pollution Prevention Policy**

The Company is committed to minimizing the risk of pollution in its operations through the following measures:

* **Implementation of an Environmental Management System**, including effective waste management practices.
* **Ongoing monitoring and evaluation** of environmental impacts associated with work activities.
* **Risk identification and control measures** to mitigate pollution hazards.
* **Assessment of site-specific environmental sensitivities**, such as mains water pipes.
* **Substituting hazardous materials** with less toxic and environmentally friendly alternatives.
* **Comprehensive training** for employees and management on best environmental practices.
* **Exploring product redesign and process optimization** to reduce toxicity levels and conserve energy.
* **Ensuring responsible waste management**, including proper disposal of generated waste.
* **Timely reporting of environmental incidents** to relevant agencies and prompt deployment of mitigation tools like spill kits.

**Understanding Pollution Risks**

Pollution is not limited to obviously hazardous substances such as pesticides or strong acids. Any material introduced into an environment unnaturally can cause pollution—examples include detergents, concrete slurry, or paper sludge. Even naturally occurring substances like milk can be pollutants if improperly disposed of.

Pollutants affect ecosystems in different ways. Some, like pesticides, are immediately toxic, while others deplete oxygen levels in water bodies, harming aquatic life. Certain pollutants disrupt reproduction in wildlife, causing long-term ecological damage.

**Surface Water Drainage Considerations**

Surface water drains discharge directly into the environment. Employees must ensure that contaminated water from operational activities:

* Is directed into the foul drainage system.
* Is treated or recycled where possible.
* Is disposed of by authorized waste carriers.
* Does not contribute to the pollution of local water supplies and ecosystems.

**Employee Responsibilities in Pollution Prevention**

Drainage systems can transport pollutants rapidly off-site, amplifying environmental risks. Employees should develop and maintain a **drainage plan**, detailing:

* Locations of all drains on-site.
* The types of drainage systems (surface water, foul water, or combined).
* The direction of flow.
* Exit points from the property.
* Final discharge locations, such as watercourses, soakaways, or sewage treatment plants.

All personnel should be able to access and understand this plan.

Additionally, employees must:

* **Prevent water ingress** into excavations by using cut-off ditches or covering exposed areas.
* **Collect and treat contaminated water**, such as runoff or pumped-out excavation water, via recycling or settlement tanks.
* **Conduct activities involving potential pollutants** (e.g., concrete mixing or fuel storage) in designated containment areas designed for spill control.
* **Secure stockpiled materials** to prevent wind or water dispersal.

**Relevant Legislation**

Environmental pollution encompasses air, water, and land contamination that may result in harm. It includes pollutants such as noise, heat, vibrations, and any other forms of energy release. Air pollution within buildings and natural or man-made structures is also included.

"Harm" in the context of environmental pollution refers to:

1. Risks to human health and other living organisms.
2. Degradation of environmental quality, including:
	* Air, water, and land pollution.
	* Disruption of ecological systems.
3. Sensory discomfort experienced by individuals.
4. Damage to property.
5. Impairment or disruption of environmental amenities and legitimate uses.

**Environmental Agency Contact Information**

For environmental concerns or incident reporting, contact:

**Environment Agency – General Enquiries** National Customer Contact Centre PO Box 544, Rotherham, S60 1BY **Email:** enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk **Phone:** 03708 506 506 (UK) **International:** +44 (0)114 282 5312 (Monday–Friday, 8 AM–6 PM GMT)

This Policy has been reviewed and approved by:

Chris Stevenson

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CS Utility Contractors Ltd

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