

Environment Information

Operator Environment Management Responsibilities

Issue: Environmental Management

<i>Regulation</i>	<i>Responsibility and Process</i>
<p><i>Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997 (the Regulations)</i></p> <p><i>The Airports Act 1996 (the Act)</i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)</i></p> <p><i>Airport-lessee Company (ALC)</i></p> <p><i>Airport Environment Officer (AEO)</i></p>	<p>The Airport Environment Strategy (AES)</p> <p>Sydney Metro Airports (SMA)</p>
<p><i>The Regulations requires operators on airport to avoid generating pollution including excessive noise</i></p> <p><i>(Regulations 4.01 & 4.06)</i></p>	<p>Tenants are required to assess the environmental risks associated with their operations on airport and to put in place processes to mitigate or manage any activities that may cause pollution.</p> <p>The AES addresses this matter by requiring tenants to prepare and implement Environment Management Plans for their operations (see section below).</p>
<p><i>The Regulations requires operators to ensure their activities have no adverse consequences for local biota / ecosystems / cultural heritage and also to give notice to the ALC & AEO in the event they identify a site of previously unrecognised environmental or cultural significance in the course of their operations on airport</i></p> <p><i>(Regulations 4.04 & 4.05)</i></p>	<p>This Regulation requires tenants to identify any vegetation or wildlife that has significant environmental value, or any areas / items that have cultural heritage significance in the vicinity of their operations.</p> <p>Where such issues are identified a tenant must put in place processes to avoid adversely impacting these.</p> <p>The AES addresses this matter by requiring tenants to prepare and implement an Environment Management Plan for their operations (see section below).</p>
<p><i>The Regulations requires tenants to assist the ALC by monitoring the environmental consequences of any activities on their site and reporting the results to the ALC</i></p> <p><i>(Regulation 6.05).</i></p>	<p>Tenants are required to undertake monitoring as is necessary to establish whether or not activities on their site are causing pollution or adversely impacting upon vegetation or wildlife with significant environmental value, or any areas / items with cultural heritage significance in the vicinity of their operations and to provide the results of the monitoring to the ALC.</p> <p>The AES addresses this matter by requiring environmental audits.</p>
<p><i>The Act specifies a person may not carry out a building activity on airport unless the activity is in accordance with an approval issued for the activity</i></p> <p><i>(Section 99(3)).</i></p>	<p>Tenants must seek Building Approval from the Airport Building Controller and ALC consent before commencing a building activity.</p> <p>A building activity includes amongst other things any alteration to a building and land clearing or vegetation removal.</p> <p>Exemptions may apply however these need to be established with the ALC and the ABC.</p>
<p><i>The AES requires all Tier 1 & 2 tenants to prepare and implement an</i></p>	<p>Tier 1 & 2 Tenants must prepare an OEMP that identifies the environmental risks, and legal obligations, associated with the day to day</p>

Operational Environment Management Plan (OEMP) for their operations.

See Environment Information Sheet 1 : Environmental Audits for details on the definition of tiers for tenants

operation of a business and specifies the management measures, including environmental monitoring, that will be implemented in order to prevent or minimise the environmental impacts associated with the operations.

SMA has prepared guidance material to assist tenants and operators to prepare an OEMP. This material has been placed on the Airports websites and is also available from the Bankstown and Camden Airports Environment Manager.

An OEMP that is implemented and regularly maintained will help an organisation to manage their environmental risks and meet their legal obligations.

The AES requires preparation and implementation of Construction EMP (CEMP) for building works on the airport.

Note: Construction includes any demolition work even if the site is left clear.

Development applicants are required to prepare a CEMP that identifies the environmental risks, and legal obligations, associated with construction works and specifies the management measures that will be implemented in order to prevent or minimise the environmental impact associated with the works.

SMA has prepared guidance material to assist proponents to prepare a CEMP. This material has been placed on the airport's website and is also available from the Bankstown and Camden Airports Environment Manager.

The AES requires Tier 1 & 2 tenants to conduct annual environmental audits.

Tier 1 & 2 tenants must undertake an environmental audit in accordance with the schedule outlined in the AES

More information is available in Environment Information– Environmental Audits

The EPBC Act requires persons operating on Commonwealth land to refer a matter to the Commonwealth if it has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment.

Tenants and Development applicants must give consideration to any action that has or will have a significant impact on the environment.

Bankstown and Camden Airports operate on commonwealth land and are subject to Commonwealth legislation including the EPBC Act.

Significant impact requires referral to the Environment Minister for consideration if formal assessment and approval is required under the EPBC Act.

If such an action is also considered a Major Airport Development Major Development Plan is required under the Act.

Issue: Fuel, Oil and Dangerous Goods Management

NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act) and NSW Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (WHS Regulation)

The WHS Act and WHS Regulation establish a number of actions that persons storing, using or disposing chemicals must take.

Tenants must:

Maintain a register of the chemicals used in the workplace and to obtain, and maintain up-to-date, a Safety Data Sheet (**SDS**) for each chemical in the workplace.

SDS can be obtained from the place of purchase, or the manufacturer, of the chemical product. They can also be obtained from the internet. Staff must be trained in the use of SDS and know where to obtain a copy for reference.

WorkCover must be notified if specified quantities of dangerous goods are stored or used on site. The trigger levels for notification are specified in Regulation 348 of the WHS Regulation.

The Regulations specify that dangerous goods and chemicals must be stored appropriately and those which may react with each other must be stored separately.

Further, provision must be made to contain potential spillages and in the event of a spill, immediate action must be taken to clean up and dispose the spilled product. This means that chemicals must be stored in such a way that accidental spills are contained.

The organisation must also have procedures in place, and appropriate equipment, to deal with accidental spills and staff must be trained in how to manage such incidents safely.

Further information is available in Information Sheet - Spill response

Issue: Water Pollution

The Regulations establish:

- *Reg 4.01 operators at the airport take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent pollution.*
- *Reg 2.02 defines water pollution as something that causes or is reasonably likely to cause the physical, chemical or biological condition of waters to be adversely affected*
- *Schedule 2 Water Pollution – accepted limits establishes limits for the level of a variety of contaminants in stormwater.*

Tenants must put in place measures to prevent stormwater and groundwater pollution.

This means tenants need to assess the likelihood that the following activities will cause stormwater or groundwater pollution and put in place measures, including monitoring, to control the risk of pollution associated with these activities:

- aircraft / vehicle refuelling;
- aircraft / vehicle maintenance^{1&2} (including wash down);
- product storage and disposal; and
- failure to maintain stormwater protection equipment.

Issue: Soil & Groundwater Pollution

The Regulations establish:

- *Reg 4.01 operators at the airport take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent pollution.*
- *Reg 2.03 establish soil pollution has occurred when, amongst other things, land / groundwater is contaminated by a substance that causes or is reasonably likely to cause the chemical or biological condition of the soil to be adversely affected*
- *Schedule 3 Soil Pollution – accepted limits establishes limits for the level of a variety of contaminants in soil.*

Tenants must put in place measures to prevent soil and groundwater pollution.

This means tenants need to assess the likelihood that the following activities will cause soil or ground water pollution and put in place measures, including monitoring, to control the risk of pollution associated with these activities:

- aircraft / vehicle refuelling;
- aircraft / vehicle maintenance (including wash down);
- product storage and disposal; and
- importation of fill and landscaping materials.

Issue: Air Pollution

The Regulations establish:

- *Reg 4.01 operators at the airport take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent the generation of pollution.*
- *Reg 2.01 establish that air pollution has occurred when a pollutant is present in air in a quantity, way, or condition, or under a circumstance, in which harm is likely to be caused to the environment; or unreasonable inconvenience is likely to be caused to a person.*
- *Schedule 1 Air Pollution- accepted limits establishes limits for the level of a variety of substances in air emissions.*

Tenants must put in place measures to prevent air pollution.

This means operators need to assess the likelihood that the following activities will cause air pollution and put in place measures, including monitoring, to control the risk of pollution associated with these activities:

- Building Activities
- Spray painting;
- Storage of products that vent emissions; and
- Excavation and ground clearing (dust).

Issue: Excessive Noise

Regulations establish:

- *Reg 4.06 operators at the airport must take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent the generation of offensive noise from an undertaking.*
- *Reg 2.04 establishes when noise that is offensive is deemed to occur.*
- *Schedule 4 Excessive noise – guidelines, Parts 2.05 and 2.06 sets out indicators of noise that is excessive in relation to ground based aircraft operations and other airport operations.*

Tenants must put in place measures to prevent excessive noise.

This means operators need to assess the likelihood that the following activities will cause excessive noise and put in place measures, including monitoring, to control the risk of excessive noise associated with these activities:

- Operation of Aircraft including ground running;
- Engine maintenance testing;
- Operation of air extraction systems; and
- Operation of air conditioning units and other mechanical equipment.

Issue: Waste Management

The Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014 establish:

- *Owners of waste (as well as the transporters and receivers) have a responsibility to ensure their waste is managed, transported and disposed of appropriately.*
- *Reg 112 Peoples storing waste on premises must ensure it is stored in an environmentally safe manner. (This applies to all classes of waste).*

Tenants must ensure that their waste is stored, transported and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

This means that:

- Solid and liquid³ wastes are stored in containers that prevent them escaping into the environment;
- Waste containers are positioned away from high risk areas in the event of accidental spills;
- Waste is separated and disposed according to its classification e.g. General, Restricted or Hazardous;
- Waste is transported by an appropriately licensed contractor to an appropriately licensed waste facility; and

Relevant records are retained as required.

Issue: Flora, Fauna and Ecological Communities

The Regulations establish:

- *Regulation 4.04 operators at the airport must take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure their undertakings do not have an adverse consequence for local biota and ecosystems; flora and fauna that it knows to be endangered or vulnerable; or endangered ecological communities.*
- *Regulation 4.05 requires an operator who in the course of their operations discovers a species or ecological community of significance to notify the Airport Lessee Company and the AEO*

The Airports Act 1996, Section 98(1) (f), deems land clearing on airports a building activity.

Tenants must identify areas of local wildlife and vegetation including habitats of native species, vulnerable/endangered flora or fauna and endangered ecological community in the vicinity of their operations and ensure that their operations do not have an adverse effect on these species and / or areas.

This means that tenants must ensure their activities do not adversely impact

- Local biota and ecosystems
- Any flora or fauna.
- Other ecological communities

The Act requires that a Building Application is submitted for a land clearing activity. Land Clearing Guidelines issued by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government specify that pruning or removal of any vegetation is a 'land clearing' activity.

- This means that operators must submit a Vegetation Removal Application to the Airport Building Controller prior to undertaking significant pruning or removal of any vegetation on their site.

Issue: Heritage Management

Regulations establish;

- *Regulation 4.04 operators at the airport must take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure their undertakings do not have an adverse consequence for existing aesthetic, cultural, historical, social or scientific values of the local area, including sites of indigenous significance.*
- *Regulation 4.05 requires an operator who in the course of their operations discovers a object of significance to notify the airport-lessee company and the AEO*

Tenants must identify any area or item of aesthetic, cultural, historical, social or scientific value in the vicinity of their operations and to ensure that their operations do not have an adverse effect on these items and / or areas.

This means that tenants must

- ascertain whether their site has any heritage value; and, if it does
- put in place procedures that ensure their operations do not adversely affect that value.

If an item of cultural or heritage significance is discovered on airport, in the course of operations, it must be reported to SMA and the AEO.