

NOISE AND DUST

Noise and Vibration

Monitoring would be undertaken to ensure that noise and vibration levels at nearby properties or other sensitive sites are kept to a minimum.

Strict controls on the sequencing of works and providing noise protection would be developed on an activity-by-activity basis. This would include:

- Mobile plant would be turned off when not in use.
- Mortar silos to reduce operating noise.

Working hours would be restricted to the hours indicated below:

Normal Working Hours

0800 – 1800 Monday to Friday

0800 – 1300 Saturday

Solid site hoardings and any permanent noise barriers would be constructed as early as practical in the construction programme.

The quietest possible plant that can reasonably practicably be obtained would be used for each construction task. Percussive plant would be avoided where alternative non-percussive plant is available for a given task.

Cutting operations or other noisy tasks would be minimised through off-site fabrication wherever practicable.

Air Quality and Emissions

Particular care would be required to maintain dust emissions at a practicable minimum when working in the vicinity of residential properties and environmentally sensitive areas.

Best practice mitigation would be required during dry conditions. Dust reduction measures would include:

- Careful management of earth stockpiles.
- Sheeting of vehicles transporting materials to and from the site.
- Limiting the speed of general vehicles within the site to 10mph.
- Surfacing of the haul roads as soon as possible in the construction programme.
- Haul roads to be regularly cleaned.
- Provision of wheel washing facilities at access points into local roads (to prevent mud from getting on the public highways).
- Visual monitoring would be carried out at sensitive locations on a daily basis.

By using effective dust mitigation techniques, including good site planning, the potential for dust emissions to arise at a construction site and impact on surrounding receptors can be minimised.

The potential for dust to arise during the ground breaking, earth moving and excavation stage of the construction activities is highly weather dependent. If the works are carried out in dry weather, increased water spraying may be required to ensure that the surface material remains damp. In wet weather greater attention would be paid to vehicle cleaning to ensure significant quantities of mud are not trafficked onto local roads, which once dry can become a significant source of dust.

Throughout the construction period, care would be taken to ensure the adequate control of dust from vehicles delivering and removing materials to and from the site. Drop heights, when loading and unloading materials, would be minimised. All dusty loads would be sheeted appropriately. Dried mud and dust carried onto roads by Lorries and other machinery can be a significant source of dust. The Site Manager would ensure that the hard surfacing of heavily used areas and adjacent public roadways are regularly cleaned.

Once the actual building of the development commences there is less potential for significant emissions of dust from the site, although emissions may still arise from the storage of dusty materials. Generally the storage compounds would be screened both for security and to prevent wind whipping. In addition, there are certain construction activities that are inherently dusty and would require additional controls eg stone or brick cutting. Such activities may require local screening or the activities may be limited to certain areas within the site or restricted to certain time periods in order to limit impacts.

Specific measures to prevent dust and air pollution would include the following practices:

- The provision of easily cleaned hard standings for vehicles (to include the areas close to the site access).
- The regular cleaning by brushing and water spraying of heavily used hard surfaced areas.
- The provision of wheel washing facilities or high pressure hoses to ensure all vehicles leaving the site are in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.
- Dusty materials stockpiles and dusty activities such as stone cutting and grinding to be sited away from the site boundary and/or effectively screened where practicable.
- The application of a 'No Burning' policy on site throughout the construction phases.