



## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NDU

### ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINE No. 19

#### RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME

#### 1.0 Purpose of guideline

This environmental guideline for residential care home has been prepared by the Ministry of Environment & NDU to ensure that all environmental issues are duly taken into consideration by stakeholders.

#### 2.0 Nature of development

Residential care homes provide for:-

- (a) personal care and board for persons who by reason of old age, disablement, a physical handicap, dependence on alcohol or drugs, need for personal care;
- (b) personal care and board for children, women and men;
- (c) nursing for persons suffering from sickness, injury or infirmity;
- (d) services for the reception of pregnant women, or women immediately after childbirth;
- (e) nursing, including care, habilitation, rehabilitation under medical supervision, including medical treatment, of persons suffering, or appearing to suffer, from mental disorder;
- (f) a place of safety for persons
- (g) a place where you feel at home and happy (feel good factor).

#### 3.0 Potential impacts

The major environmental issues associated with a residential care home are solid waste and liquid waste disposal. The different aspects, impacts and nuisances related to such activities are listed below:

Activity	Aspects	Impacts/ Nuisances
<b>Construction phase</b>		
Design of building	- Poor ventilation/ lighting - Building incompatible with the surrounding environment	- Discomfort - Aesthetics and visual impacts
Site preparation / Construction of buildings (where applicable)	- Generation of excavated soil, debris and construction wastes - Use of heavy machinery	- Dumping into barelands and water courses and drains - Noise, mud, dust, traffic - Visual impacts
<b>Operation phase</b>		
Day to day running	- Generation of domestic solid wastes and wastewater	- Land and water contamination

	-Clinical wastes - Poor housekeeping (including cleaning and maintenance)	- Risks of infection and diseases - Flies / pests/ rodents - Odour
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#### 4.0 Siting of activity

- ◆ Case to case basis

#### 5.0 Environmental Conditions

The major environmental issues are solid waste and liquid waste disposal and the following conditions shall be observed:

- (i) The noise level shall be within permissible limits as per the Environment Protection (Environmental Standards for Noise) Regulations 1997. The noise exposure limits as per the above regulation are as follows:

Industrial noise		Neighbourhood noise	
7:00 – 21:00	60*dB(A) Leq	7:00 – 18:00	60 dB(A) Leq
21:00 – 7:00	55*dB(A) Leq	18:00-21:00	55 dB(A) Leq
		21:00 – 7:00	50 dB(A) Leq

\* A tonal character adjustment of +5 dB(A) should be applied to the measured value where the noise has a definite continuous note such as a whine or hiss.

- (ii) All clinical wastes shall be disposed of as per the Environment Protection (Standards for Hazardous Wastes) Regulations 2001 and to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Local Government.
- (iii) Wastewater shall be collected and disposed of.
- (iv) All solid wastes generated from the activity shall be collected and disposed of.
- (v) No nuisance by way of noise dust, odour shall be caused to the public and surrounding environment during site preparation, infrastructural works and during operation of the activity.
- (vi) The Department of Environment of the Ministry of Environment and NDU shall be informed in writing of the dates of commencement of works on site and operation of the activity for monitoring purposes.

## 6.0 Enforcement

Under Section 13 of the Environment Protection Act 2002, the enforcing agencies for the different environmental medium or pollutants are as follows:

S. No	Environmental media/ pollutant	Enforcing Agency
1	Noise, odour	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
2	Effluents	Ministry of Public Utilities
3	Solid wastes & hazardous waste	Ministry of Local Government

The above-mentioned enforcing agencies shall monitor compliance with the conditions falling under their purview.

## 7.0 Offences

Any person who fails to comply with any regulations/standards referred to in this guideline shall commit an offence and shall:

- (i) on a first conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 50, 000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.
- (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 100,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 8 years.

**For further information, please contact**  
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