



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NDU

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINE No.8

FILLING STATION

1.0 Purpose of guideline

This environmental guideline for filling station 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

The sale of fuel (gasoline, diesel, LPG, kerosene) is the principal activity in filling stations. However, additional services may also be provided such as washing and polishing of vehicles, retailing activities, filling up the radiator, checking tyre pressure, lubrication and vulcanization services.

3.0 Potential impacts

The major environmental issues associated with filling stations are noise, fuel spillage, generation of wastewater. The different aspects, impacts and nuisances associated related to such activities are listed below:-

| Activity | Aspects | Impacts/ Nuisances |
|--|--|--|
| Construction phase | | |
| Siting and layout | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sensitivity of site (proximity to residential areas , water bodies , environmentally sensitive areas , heavy traffic) -Location of components including fuel dispensers, storage tanks , etc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Threat to flora and fauna -Noise -Risks of contamination of water bodies -Traffic implications - Aesthetics and visual impacts -Risks and hazards (fire , spillage , explosion , etc) |
| Site preparation / construction of buildings, installation of tanks, fuel dispensers and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generation of excavated soil , debris and construction wastes - Use of heavy machinery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dumping into barelands, water bodies and drains -Dust, noise and mud -Visual impacts |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| other services | | |
| Operation phase | | |
| Vehicular access / egress within site | - Inadequate parking capacity | - Traffic implications - Queuing of vehicles within site |
| Filling of storage tanks or vehicles | -Emissions from evaporation of fuel | -Impact on air quality - Odour |
| Overfilling of tanks and pipes , leakage and spillage of fuel | -Seepage of spilled fuels into the soil and groundwater -Contact with drinking water , aquatic plants and animals | -Soil contamination - Impacts on hydrology and water quality including potential threat to drains, surrounding groundwater and aquifers -Affect human health , aquatic plants and animals |
| Washing and cleaning operations | - Generation of wastewater | - Water pollution |
| -Lubrication of vehicles , retailing & other associated activities | Generation of solid wastes including grease , old fuel tanks and domestic wastes | -Land and water pollution - Risks of dumping |
| -Change of batteries | -Generation of hazardous wastes | - Land contamination - Risks of dumping |
| -Collection of used oil | - Generation of used oil | -Land and water contamination |

4.0 Siting of activity

The proposed development shall not occur in any area where there is heavy traffic or blind spots/dangerous bends where there is poor visibility.

5.0 Environmental conditions

The major environmental issues are **noise, generation of wastewater and fuel spillage** and the following conditions shall be observed:

- (i) All electric motors such as pumps and compressors shall be housed in soundproof enclosures to keep noise level 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 service areas shall be paved / asphalted to avoid dust nuisance
- (iii) A contingency plan as provided for under section 30 (3)(a) of the Environment Protection Act 2002 shall be prepared and implemented to combat any case of accidental spillage of fuel.
- (iv) All petroleum products and used oil must have secondary containment. Areas enclosed by secondary containment shall be maintained, and all accumulated water within secondary containment areas should be disposed of. The secondary containment shall have a storage capacity of 110 % of the capacity of the storage tank.
- (v) All hazardous wastes shall be collected and disposed of as per the Environment Protection (Standards for Hazardous Wastes) Regulations 2001.
- (vi) Used oil shall be collected and disposed of as per the Environment Protection (Collection, Storage, Treatment, Use and Disposal of Used Oil) Regulations 2005.
- (vii) Solid waste shall be collected and disposed of.
- (viii) Wastewaters shall be collected, treated and disposed of.
- (ix) 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.
- (x) 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 | Inland waters, effluents | Ministry of Public Utilities |
| 3 | Solid wastes and hazardous wastes | 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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