

How the Silver City Energy Storage Centre project will manage dust during construction

Why Dust Management Matters

Construction activities such as excavation, vehicle movements, and material handling can generate dust that impacts air quality, visibility, community amenity, and health.

Effective dust control is essential to the health and safety of the community and workers.

Managing dust during construction:

The construction of the Silver City Energy Storage Centre project will be undertaken within the conditions of approval granted by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). The specific measures required to manage noise, vibration, dust, and traffic have been identified through that planning process.

During construction, about 250,00 cubic metres of earth and hard rock needs to be moved using heavy equipment, and could cause dust in surrounding areas during windy conditions if not properly managed.



Environmental Management Strategy and Air Quality Management Plan
Hydrostor and the Silver City project team are preparing an Environmental
Management Strategy and an Air Quality Management Plan. These documents
provide a consistent strategy for the assessment, mitigation, and monitoring of dust
generated from construction activities.



Mitigation Tactics

Hydrostor and the Silver City project are committed to minimising dust generation through proactive planning, real-time monitoring, and responsive site practices, in-line with regulatory requirements and industry best practice. **These include but are not limited to:**

- Minimising exposed surfaces through the site planning and programming and limiting clearing of vegetation.
- Maintaining access roads and restricting unnecessary vehicle movements.
- Compacting the earth and road base using heavy equipment such as rollers.
 Compacted materials are less likely to generate dust in windy conditions.
- Managing stockpiles and loose materials and ensuring exposed stockpiles are dampened or sealed with soil binding products or fabric covers.
- Suppressing dust on active areas such as unsealed road surfaces or haul roads, and using mulch or water carts to dampen dust.
- In periods of hot and dry conditions, polymers can be added to water carts which help bind fine dust particles, making them heavier and less likely to become airborne during windy weather.
- Other methods include covering loads when transporting materials or covering haul roads and modifying or rescheduling activities that are likely to generate excessive dust during windy weather.



Using water to manage dust

Water carts are one of the most visible methods used to suppress dust on construction projects. However, they are not the only mitigation measure—planning, progressive stabilisation, and early landscaping can play an important role in managing dust during construction. When required, water used for dust suppression on active areas of construction is sourced from local supply.



Contact and Further Information

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