



ESP UTILITIES GROUP LTD

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

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Version history				
Version	Date	Author	Reason for new version	Sections affected
4.0	April 2015	Mick Carr	Annual Review	All
4.1	January 2017	Vicki Spiers	Annual Review – reformatting Addition of Last Reviewed Date	All
4.2	November 2018	Robert Peare	Annual Review	All
4.3	November 2019	Aimée Falvey	Annual Review	Section 3.
4.4	December 2020	Aimée Falvey	Annual Review	All
4.5	June 2021	Paul Miles	Review for board	All
4.6	June 2022	Aimée Falvey	Annual Review	All
4.7	June 2023	Tom Jenkins	Annual Review	2, 3, 4 – updated for grammar.
4.8	June 2023	Tom Jenkins	Clarification for section 4	4

1. Objective

ESP recognise that it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of our business strategy and operating methods, with regular review points.

We will encourage customers, suppliers, and other stakeholders to do the same.

2. Scope

The Environmental Policy of ESP Utilities Group Limited “ESP” has been developed by the Executive Management team to cover the activities of both our own employees and our external Service Providers that we may choose to employ to design, construct, maintain and modify our gas, electricity and water distribution infrastructure and associated equipment.

ESP expects that all our operational employees and external Service Providers will comply with the requirements of this policy with the objective of both maintaining an acceptable level of, and striving for, continual improvements with regard to environmental considerations.

ESP have a duty of care to ensure that environmental matters associated with business activities are taken in to account. This will be achieved by ensuring that these business activities are developed with due consideration being given to their environmental impact.

This Environmental Policy has been produced in order to define our objectives and arrangements for managing environmental matters.

3. Responsibilities

The Business Operations Director is responsible for the execution and development of this Environmental Policy and for ensuring that this policy is implemented and regularly reviewed. This includes responsibility for ensuring that all of our employees, who are involved with the management of our operational activities performed by our external Service Providers, are aware of this policy and its requirements and to ensure that all such Service Providers accept the same standards of care for Environmental matters as ESP.

Our employees will be expected to co-operate with the Executive Management Team regarding all aspects of environmental care associated with our business activities. Everyone will be given the opportunity to express their views on Environmental issues and will be encouraged to participate.

4. Key Principles

We are committed to:

- Comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements where practicable.
- Continually monitor and improve environmental performance.
- Continually monitor and reduce environmental impacts where practicable.
- Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.

- Increase employee awareness and training.

Energy and water - Implementing energy saving technologies and initiatives to remain a low emitter of Greenhouse gases and using utilities in a responsible and economic way to minimise negative impacts on the environment

- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible.
- Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use.
- Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind.
- The energy consumption and efficiency of new products will be considered when purchasing.
- We will share information in order to raise awareness and promote a water efficient culture.
- We will minimise the impact of any water or wastewater incident on the surrounding environment and report any pollution events in line with regulatory requirements.

Office supplies - Purchasing supplies wherever possible which are recycled and recyclable, and whose production and use minimises the consumption of natural resources.

- We will evaluate if the need can be met in another way.
- We will evaluate if renting/sharing is an option before purchasing equipment.
- We will minimise the use of paper in the office.
- We will reduce packaging as much as possible.
- We will evaluate the environmental impact of any new products we intend to purchase.
- We will favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products wherever possible.
- We will reuse and recycle where we are able to.

Transportation - Adopting strategies to minimise the environmental impacts of business travel.

- We will promote the use of travel alternatives such as e-mail or video/phone conferencing.
- We will make additional efforts to accommodate the needs of those using public transport or bicycles.
- We will favour 'green' vehicles and maintain all vehicles to ensure ongoing efficiency.

Maintenance and cleaning - Managing waste according to our duty of care, minimising volumes going to landfill, by re-use and recycling wherever possible.

- Conserving resources by ensuring that buildings and fittings are properly maintained and reflect appropriate eco guidance.
- Cleaning materials used will be as environmentally friendly as possible.
- We will only use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.
- We will provide COSHH training to all staff to reduce the risk of Hazardous substances.

Construction

- Using contractors / suppliers who perform the services in accordance with the government's environmental policy, demonstrating commitment to the continuous improvement of environmental performance and the management and prevention of pollution from the activities they undertake.
- To enhance and protect the biodiversity of our sites in line with the recommendations of the Environment Agency.

- To reduce the impact of construction, refurbishment, and maintenance of ESPUG projects and assets by environmental risk assessment.
- To consider noise impacts when planning any project construction or maintenance.
- In the construction, maintenance, repair and testing of water networks, care to be taken when disposing of chlorinated or contaminated water to avoid environmental pollution.

Monitoring and improvement - Setting and reviewing annual environmental objectives.

- We will continually monitor and seek to improve our environmental performance.
- We will incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.

Culture - Communicating this policy and our environmental performance to appropriate people working for or on behalf of the organisation.

- We will involve staff in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance.
- We will update this policy at least once annually in consultation with staff and other stakeholders where necessary.
- We will provide staff with relevant environmental training.
- We will work with suppliers, contractors, and sub-contractors to improve their environmental performance.

5. Advice and Assistance

Advice on the implementation of this policy can be obtained from any member of the Executive Management Team.

6. Reporting & Policy Compliance

Any staff member who has a concern regarding this policy should report it to their Line Manager, or a member of the Executive Management Team.