



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NDU

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINE No. 18

TRAFFIC CENTRE

1.0 Purpose of guideline

This environmental guideline for the setting up of a traffic centre 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

A traffic centre is a terminal for bus lines, taxis, light railways. Traffic centres are often built near housing estates, shopping complexes and most of them are in open areas.

3.0 Potential impacts

The major environmental issues associated with a traffic centre are noise and air pollution. The different aspects, impacts and nuisances associated with such activities are listed below:-

Activity	Aspects	Impacts/ Nuisances
Construction phase		
Design of the traffic centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Road network and access -Setback from residential settlement -Poor visibility -Improper drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Congestion and traffic jam - Noise from traffic and people - Air pollution from engines - Accidents - Water accumulation causing inconvenience to general public.
Site preparation/ construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generation of excavated soil, debris and construction wastes on site. -Use of heavy machinery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dumping into barelands, water bodies and drains - Dust, noise and mud, - Visual impacts
Operation phase		
Day to day activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Movement of vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic hazards - Vehicular emissions - Noise and nuisance to the neighbourhood

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Poor housekeeping of the traffic centre and toilets- Generation of solid wastes, oil from leakages and wastewater including stormwater, , domestic wastewater from toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Odour- Flies , pests and rodents- Visual impacts- Odour , blocking of drains.- Land and water contamination- Injuries due to slippery surface
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4.0 Siting of activity

Case to case basis

5.0 Environmental conditions

The major environmental issues are **noise and air pollution** and the following conditions shall be observed:-

- (i) The exhaust and noise emissions from the vehicles shall be within permissible limits as per the Road Traffic (Control of Vehicular Emissions) Regulations 2002 enforced by the National Transport Authority.
- (ii) Wastewater shall be collected and disposed of.
- (iii) All solid wastes shall be collected and disposed of.
- (iv) Engines of vehicles shall be switched off when idle to prevent noise, smoke as well as unnecessary fuel consumption.
- (v) No parking of vehicles shall be allowed on landscaped and green areas.
- (vi) No poster sticking shall be allowed except at designated areas.
- (vii) No nuisance by way of noise dust, air pollution shall be caused to the public and surrounding environment during site preparation, infrastructural works and during operation of the activity.
- (viii) 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:

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S. No	Environmental media/ pollutant	Enforcing Agency/ Authority
1	Noise	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
2	Effluent	Ministry of Public Utilities
3	Solid wastes	Ministry of Local Government
4	Vehicular emission	National Transport Authority

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

Information Counter,
Department of Environment,
Ground Floor Ken Lee Tower,
1, St Georges Street
Port-Louis

Tel: 203 6200- 203 6210

Website: <http://environment.gov.mu>

Email : menv@mail.gov.mu