



ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING DIRECTIVE

1.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING

With the lofty goal to develop an industrial society and those involved in development projects that have an intrinsic culture of **pride in environmental excellence (EE)**, the Department of Environment (DOE) has embarked on a program entitled “**Guided Self-Regulation (GSR)**”. To assist the regulated community (RC) to achieve the state of self-regulation, the DOE has formulated a set of **environmental mainstreaming (EM)** tools to be implemented in the organizations and industrial premises. The Environmental Mainstreaming Tools (**EM tools**) include:

- Environmental policy (EP)
- Environmental budgeting (EB)
- Environmental monitoring committee (EMC)
- Environmental facility (EF)
- Environmental competency (EC)
- Environmental reporting and communication (ERC)
- Environmental transparency (ET)

Thus, the GSR is a complement to the existing Command and Control approach of enforcement which aimed to achieve environmental compliance to the Environmental Quality Act 1974 more effectively. The EM tools are briefly explained in the following sections.

(i) Environmental Policy (EP)

The environmental policy (EP) of successful organizations uses **strong and unequivocal statements** to convey their environmental commitment to their employees, clients, stakeholders and the public. The EP is disseminated to all relevant parties and translated into action in the organization's work procedures, materials purchasing policy, business decision making process and cascades down to the **supply chain**.

(ii) Environmental Budgeting (EB)

Sufficient budget must be set aside solely for the purpose of taking measures to comply with the **environmental regulatory requirements** and other **environmental-related efforts**. At the design stage, budget must be available for the design and installation of the pollution control facilities, while at the operational stage, budget must be allocated for proper operation and maintenance of pollution control systems and management of waste generated by the industry or project development. The environmental budget also includes the cost for setting up of laboratory facilities, provision of personnel, and purchase of performance monitoring equipment.

(iii) Environmental Monitoring Committee (EMC)

The success of an organization to comply with the environmental requirements is contingent upon the relevant personnel in different departments in the organization playing their role in an effective manner. To promote **collective responsibility** to be environmentally compliant, two monitoring committees are set up: one at the working level, the other at the policy level. At the working level, the committee known as the **environmental performance monitoring committee (EPMC)** is chaired by a senior official of the organization and it meets on a monthly basis, or at a minimum, once in a quarter. At the policy

level, the committee is known as the **environmental regulatory compliance monitoring committee (ERCMC)**, which meets at a minimum, once a year. The chief executive officer or chairman of the organization chairs the ERCMC.

(iv) Environmental Facility (EF)

The primary components of the environmental facilities (EFs) include industrial effluent treatment system, air pollution control system, best management practices, and associated support facilities such as laboratory, performance monitoring equipment, on-line instrumentation system, and waste management infrastructure. The above form an integral part of the company's overall **infrastructural planning**, which cannot be compromised.

(v) Environmental Competency (EC)

The relevant personnel involved in discharging various environmental responsibilities within an organization need to possess the required competencies. The personnel include those who have been assigned the task to perform **DOE-regulated functions**: to manage waste and supervise the operation of best management practices, air pollution control and effluent treatment systems. The organizations must draw up a comprehensive **training program** to produce **competent persons** and trained **support staff** to ensure full compliance with the DOE requirements in the regulated activities.

(vi) Environmental Reporting and Communication (ERC)

A formal **communication channel** must be established for reporting environmental concerns and system upsets which warrant prompt actions to be instituted. **Internal reporting** can be initiated to report on a regular basis the regulatory compliance status of the organization to the **chief executive officer (CEO)** and various heads of the department within the organization. Updates of new environmental requirements and their implications can be disseminated to the relevant company personnel. ERC requires **systematic analysis** of PM data, which must be summarized in appropriate format for easy understanding and communication and maintained for management review purposes.

(vii) Environmental Transparency (ET)

To foster rapport with the immediate neighbors, promote green image, and improve public confidence, companies are encouraged to be more transparent in their **environmental compliance** and **achievement**. **Compliance status** can be displayed on company website (WB) or billboard (BB) located at the boundary or entrance to the company's premise, or communicated to the immediate neighbors through issuance of fliers on a scheduled basis. An **environmental sustainability report (ESR)** can be prepared for the company to showcase its success in managing the environmental concerns of the company and minimizing the **environmental footprint** of its business. The corporate image of the organization is markedly enhanced through environmental transparency.

2.0 Conclusion

Environmental mainstreaming leads to environmental excellence

Rigorous implementation of the above EM tools by the regulated sectors will result in creating organizations and businesses, which are successful and at the same time take pride in their achievement of **environmental excellence (EE)**. EE is exhibited in the intrinsic values of being **environment conscious** (where environmental agenda is factored into the industry's **management and decisions making process**), achievement of sustained environmental **regulatory compliance**, high degree of **environmental transparency and accountability**, and strong commitment to **continuous environmental improvement**. Highly successful organizations are also exemplary in their environmental compliance and achievements, which go **beyond regulatory requirements**.

THIS DIRECTIVE IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY



**DIRECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (HEADQUARTERS)
PUTRAJAYA
1 MAY 2019**

NOTE ON SUBMISSION REQUIREMENT:

EMT COMPLIANCE REPORT must be submitted via DOE online system (EMAINS) at <https://emains.doe.gov.my>



QR reference for web access of EMAINS