

General Environmental Management Plan (GEMP) – Waste Management



TG-NET-ENV-516	General Environmental Management Plan (GEMP) – Waste Management		Applies to
			Transmission ✓
Revision: 2.00	Classification: Internal	Issue Date: March 2024	Review Date: March 2032

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Waste is defined in the in the Waste Framework Directive (75/442/EEC) as “any substance or object which the holder discards, intends to discard or is required to discard”. This includes materials that other people want, or for which they can find a beneficial use i.e. material that is to be recovered / recycled.
- 1.2 In any construction project, there may be a variety of different wastes, from office and canteen waste to construction materials, waste aggregate from temporary tracks, waste oils, asbestos and clinical waste that will require management.

2 Legislation

- 2.1 Waste legislation and guidance is extensive, complex and works must comply with all the obligations they impose. Key guidance from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) can be found on their waste website (www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste). This includes information on core legislation including:
 - Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended)
 - Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended)
 - The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

3 General Compliance Requirements

3.1 Principles of Waste Management

- 3.1.1 Waste management priorities and practical actions that can be undertaken on site should follow the principles of the waste hierarchy as illustrated below:
 - Eliminate - Design out waste
 - Reduce - Minimise waste generation
 - Reuse - Reuse materials on site if possible
 - Recycle - Reprocess materials for off-site use
 - Recover - Recovery of energy from waste sent off site
 - Dispose - Least desirable option – last resort

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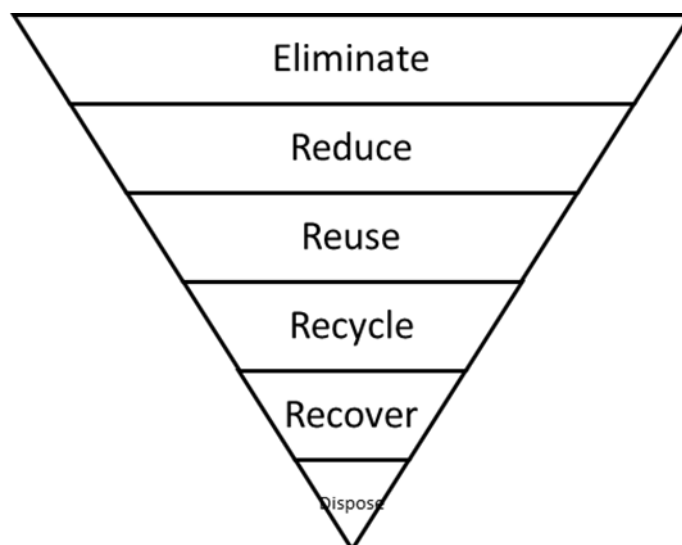


Figure 3.1 - Waste Hierarchy

3.1.2 A Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is required to be prepared and agreed prior to construction works starting. The SWMP should be kept up to date as the project progresses. This plan should be based on the above principles and include the following minimum requirements:

- Waste minimisation;
- Allocate a waste champion – who is responsible for the SWMP;
- Record types and quantities of waste that will be produced during the project;
- Decide how waste arising will be managed in line with the waste hierarchy;
- Plan for efficient materials and waste handling and set reduction targets (KPIs);
- Measure quantities and types of waste produced and compare against targets;
- Monitor the implementation of the SWMP and update as necessary; and
- Compile a waste budget.

3.1.3 The SWMP can be in electronic form provided the requisite information can be collated and reviewed, and that the data is readily available as required.

3.1.4 For further guidance on preparing and updating a SWMP, please refer to:

[A simple guide to Site Waste Management Plans \(netregs.org.uk\)](https://www.netregs.org.uk)

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3.2 Duty of Care

- 3.2.1 All those who produce or handle waste have legal responsibilities, a ‘Duty of Care’, for its safe keeping, transport and subsequent recovery or disposal.
- 3.2.2 Failure to comply the ‘Duty of Care’ is an offence as it is a legal requirement under Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended).
- 3.2.3 ‘Duty of Care’ requires the producer to:
- Ensure those transporting waste are registered with SEPA;
 - Ensure the waste is being treated, re-used or disposed of at a suitably licensed site in line with current legislation;
 - Keep a Waste Transfer Note for all waste being transported off site;
 - Ensure that all waste on site is properly stored and secured;
 - Take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised handling or disposal by others;
 - If you are dealing with hazardous / special wastes, such as asbestos, chemicals, oils or contaminated soils, you have extra legal responsibilities and are required to complete detailed ‘Special Waste Consignment Notes’; and
 - Should there be uncertainty over whether a waste is hazardous or special, advice should be sought.

3.3 Storage

- 3.3.1 The site should be kept tidy and free from litter at all times.
- 3.3.2 Segregation of waste (including metal, plastic, glass, paper and card) at the point of generation should be provided for site offices / welfare facilities and for construction activities by the use of designated storage areas / containers to ensure cross-contamination is reduced.
- 3.3.3 All storage areas / containers should be clearly labelled to identify the waste type and properties.
- 3.3.4 Waste storage areas should be appropriately secured to ensure to prevent pollution.
- 3.3.5 Controls should be in place to prevent wind blow (e.g. covered skips).
- 3.3.6 All wastes that could leach or be entrained in water should be stored in a sealed container or on an impervious surface with barriers to lateral flow.
- 3.3.7 Storage of liquid wastes should be stored in a sealed container within a secondary containment system (bund) with 110% capacity of the container.
- 3.3.8 Keep the duration of storage to the minimum required.

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3.4 Special Waste Storage

- 3.4.1 Containers used for storage of special waste should be inspected weekly for leaks and corrosion. A written record of inspections is be retained.
- 3.4.2 Take care to separate different types of special waste, e.g. different chemicals that, if mixed, could react.
- 3.4.3 Written instructions must be available on site for storing and disposing of each type of special waste.
- 3.4.4 An inventory must be maintained of all special wastes stored on site, detailing quantities and locations.

3.5 Movement

- 3.5.1 All movement of waste must be undertaken in line with the relevant waste regulations.
- 3.5.2 Any waste being transported off site must be done so by a registered waste carrier.
- 3.5.3 A Waste Transfer Note / Special Waste Consignment Note must be completed and retained prior to waste leaving the site.
- 3.5.4 Before waste is allowed to leave site, the producer must ensure that the site it is being transported to is appropriately licensed.
- 3.5.5 Vehicles transporting waste must be suitably secured so as not to allow waste to escape.

3.6 Reuse, Treatment, Disposal

- 3.6.1 All re-use, treatment and disposal of waste must be undertaken in line with an appropriate Waste Management Licence (WML) or an exemption to require a waste management licence (WMX), under the Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended).
- 3.6.2 If it can be proven that the material is not waste, it will not fall within these requirements.
- 3.6.3 A WML and WMX must be obtained from SEPA prior to undertaking the activity.
- 3.6.4 No burning of waste is permitted on site.
- 3.6.5 No fly-tipping is permitted.

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4 Further Information

Some useful sites on waste management are:

- www.sepa.org.uk
- www.zerowastescotland.org.uk
- www.wrap.org.uk
- www.bre.co.uk
- www.smartwaste.co.uk
- www.ciria.org.uk
- www.netregs.org.uk

5 Revision History

No	Overview of Amendments	Previous Document	Revision	Authorisation
01	New document created	N/A	1.00	Richard Baldwin
02	Reviewed and updated	TG-NET-ENV-516 (Rev 1.00)	2.00	Richard Baldwin
03				