

Our Reference: PUB(CW) 90505/16

6 Dec 2011

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Dear Sir,

**EROSION CONTROL MEASURES (ECM) AT CONSTRUCTION SITES TO CATER TO 1 IN 5 YEAR STORM**

We would like to highlight that the revised Code of Practice on Surface Water Drainage which took effect on 1 Dec 2011 has incorporated 2 amendments to the silt control requirements. The revised COP can be downloaded from: <http://www.pub.gov.sg/general/code/Documents/HeadCOPFINALDec2011-1.pdf>.

2 The silt control amendments are necessary to cater for the increase in maximum rainfall intensities in Singapore over the past 30 years, so as to better prevent silty discharge from affecting our waterways and water bodies. It is also to prevent silty runoff from construction sites above a slope from affecting adjacent premises and areas on a lower ground.

3 These requirements are <> as follow:

**6.3.6 Design Criteria of ECM**

The ECM shall be designed to cope with a minimum design rainfall intensity of a return period of <1 in 5 year storm.>

**6.3.8(B) Sediment Control Measures**

The sediment control measures shall trap, contain and treat the silty discharges from within a construction / earthworks site (including rain, runoff, water from washbay, underground water at basement, etc) by providing:

- a. *Perimeter Cut-off Drain* – Perimeter cut-off drains shall be concrete-lined and adequate to capture all runoff from the site. <For sites located above slope, a solid kerb of at least 600 mm high should be provided along the entire perimeter of the site to prevent overflow onto adjacent properties.>

4 These requirements will translate into the construction sites having to provide a bigger storage, an increase of 35% in capacity, to hold and treat silty water as well as correspondingly to provide larger treatment capacity, and also build a curb around its construction perimeters. Alternatively, the contractor could also look into innovative ways to phase their earthwork to reduce the exposed earth areas within their construction site, so as to reduce the size of storage and the treatment required.

5 Notwithstanding the effective date, we will provide a grace period of 4 months for the industry to transit to the revised ECM requirements.

6 Therefore, with effect from 1 Apr 2012, all ECM plans submitted by the Qualified Erosion Control Professional shall comply with the above revised requirements, with the exception for certain sites near major waterways and reservoirs, within heavy road traffic or human traffic areas, tourist spots, and flood prone areas, as well as problematic sites which causes muddy water runoff or failed to implement adequate ECM on site. **The grace period does not apply to these sensitive sites and problematic sites as these sites will need to adhere to the new ECM requirements, as and when deemed necessary by PUB.**

7 Please inform all your members/relevant staff of the revised ECM requirements. For clarifications, please contact me at DID: 67313318.

Thank you and best regards.

Yours faithfully



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for DIRECTOR  
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