

<h1>UC Irvine Environmental Health & Safety</h1>		
SECTION: 4.0	TITLE: Environmental Protection	
INITIATOR: Dick Sun		REVISION DATE

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1. Program Description

This section outlines the policy and procedures related to environmental management of air, water, and soil that are administered through the Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) Department. EH&S has primary responsibility for environmental management through implementation of regulations associated with the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and use of hazardous materials and disposal of hazardous wastes. This section also defines the responsibilities of the various units whose actions have the potential to affect these aspects of environmental management.

This section does not apply to environmental protection, regulation, and permitting associated with other laws and programs such as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Endangered Species Act, cultural resource regulations, land use planning, and various aspects of transportation planning. These environmental activities are administered by Campus and Environmental Planning.

It is the policy of UC Irvine to act as a steward of environmental resources and to take proactive measures to protect the environment and comply with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. It is also the University's policy to investigate suspected contaminant releases to air, water, or soil and to remediate such releases if necessary.

2. Scope

EH&S provides specialized services to the campus in the area of environmental management, which includes the following:

- A. Air emissions. To comply with rules and regulations, the campus must obtain permits and provide reports to South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for air emission sources and toxic air contaminants. Many stationary and mobile sources of air emissions must be permitted by the SCAQMD. For details, please see Environmental Management's [Air Quality Management](#) webpage. Examples of equipment requiring permits are furnaces, boilers, process heaters, dust collectors, storage tanks, certain generators, and air pollution control devices.
- B. Due diligence. The University performs Phase I Environmental Assessments (due diligence) for construction projects or acquisition/leasing of property. These assessments are designed to make a determination of the environmental risks associated with a potential project or acquisition and to recommend further work, such as environmental sampling, when necessary.
- C. Environmental monitoring. In compliance with permits or regulatory

requirements, various campus units perform routine environmental monitoring of air, water, or soil.

- D. Environmental releases. Any releases or spills should immediately be reported to EH&S, which will determine the appropriate response and notification actions.
- E. Environmental remediation. When contamination of the environment is found, the University, with regulatory agency oversight, works to investigate the nature and extent of impacts, evaluate potential remedies, and take appropriate remedial action.
- F. Hazardous materials management. Federal and State laws and regulations require the University to properly document and store hazardous materials on campus. Additionally, the University is required to disclose information about [hazardous materials management](#) to regulatory agencies and the public.
- G. [Hazardous waste management](#). Chemical, radiological, universal, and medical wastes are managed in accordance with Federal, State, and local requirements through EH&S. See the [Hazardous Waste](#) webpage for more details.
- H. Sanitary sewer discharges. Discharges or overflows of the sanitary sewer system are regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board's waste discharge permit number 2006-0003. The program ensures that facilities such as the University develops and implements a system-specific Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP).
- I. Stormwater discharges. Certain operations on campus (San Joaquin Landfill) are required to monitor stormwater discharges, in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for industrial activity. See the [Water Quality](#) webpage for more details.
- J. Storage tanks. [Aboveground](#) and underground tanks used for storage of hazardous materials or fuels must meet stringent requirements. Regulations require permits, adherence to construction standards, monitoring programs, tank integrity testing, guidelines for closure of tanks, cleanup of contamination, record keeping, and reporting.

3. Responsibilities

- A. Departmental/Unit Responsibilities
 - 1) Ensure that environmental laws, regulations, and UC Irvine policies and procedures are followed.
 - 2) Work with EH&S to obtain permits when required.
 - 3) Maintain compliance with all environmental permits and campus use authorizations.
 - 4) Refer regulatory agencies to EH&S.
 - 5) Perform environmental monitoring, contract for laboratory analysis, and make reports as required by permits or regulations.
 - 6) Seek consultation from EH&S about environmental requirements that apply to campus operations.
 - 7) Provide training for employees in operational requirements pertaining to environmental management and maintain records of such training.
 - 8) Ensure that activities with potential for environmental impact are performed within approved operating procedures and that any required records are current.
 - 9) Notify EH&S immediately of any environmental releases or spills.
 - 10) Coordinate the payment of fees with agencies and campus units.

B. Environmental Health & Safety Responsibilities

- 1) Represent the University when dealing with regulatory agencies.
- 2) Assist campus units with preparation of environmental compliance plans, permits, and reports as mandated by laws, regulations, permits, licenses, and use authorizations.
- 3) Assure that reports are submitted to agencies on time and in compliance with applicable requirements.
- 4) Serve as office of record for environmental permits.
- 5) Coordinate the payments of fees with agencies and campus units.
- 6) Investigate reports of environmental releases and notify Federal, State, and local authorities in a timely manner, as required.

C. Employee Responsibilities

- 1) Be fully aware of the environmental impact of activities and comply with all requirements that govern those activities.
- 2) Refer regulatory agencies to EH&S.
- 3) Adhere to all environmental requirements contained in permits and standard operating procedures.
- 4) Participate in energy conservation, recycling, and pollution prevention programs.
- 5) Take immediate action to stop releases to the environment and report all instances of environmental releases to EH&S.
- 6) Notify supervisor of conditions that have the potential to become environmental hazards and take appropriate preventive measures as directed.
- 7) Complete all required training pertaining to environmental management; go to [UC Irvine's Training & Employee Development \(TED\)](#) system for a list of required training classes.