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Industry sector compliance results

Environment Protection Authority inspections of operators across four industries have found the majority are complying with licence conditions designed to protect the environment.

The EPA reviewed a total of 110 operators in the abrasive blasting, chemical works, chemical storage and hot mix asphalt preparation sectors in 2020.

EPA Manager for South East and Campaigns Naomi Grey said that of a total 1068 licence conditions applicable across the sites, 61 breaches had been identified.

The total level of compliance with all licence conditions ranged from 86 per cent to 98 per cent.

“It is pleasing to see the majority of operators in these industries doing the right thing,” Ms Grey said.

“The EPA will continue to monitor and work with operators found to have breached regulations to ensure they undertake corrective action so they can comply with their licence conditions.”

Environmental issues included stormwater or dust management, administrative breaches and chemicals not being stored in appropriate bunds for the containment of spills.

The EPA issued 34 letters identifying breaches and outlining actions and timeframes for licensees to become fully compliant with their requirements. One licensee received an expiation for contravening a licence condition.

Results for each sector are summarised below.

Chemical works: this involves salt production or the manufacture of material involving a chemical reaction and includes fertiliser, pharmaceuticals and cleaning products. Twenty sites covered by 261 licence conditions were assessed, with three breaches found. There was a 98 per cent compliance with all conditions.

Hot mix asphalt preparation: this involves the mixing of rock aggregates with asphalt materials by heating to produce road building mixtures. Eight sites covered by 122 licence conditions were assessed, with four licence breaches found. There was a 97 per cent compliance with all conditions.

Chemical storage and warehousing: this is the storage of chemical products in bulk or in containers larger than 200 litres and can include chemical works, transport and production. The EPA inspected 37 licensees covered by 415 conditions, with 15 breaches found. There was a compliance rate of 96 per cent.

Abrasive blasting: this sector cleans materials through the abrasive action of metal or mineral particulates. The EPA inspected 45 sites covered by 270 licence conditions, finding 39 breaches. There was an 86 per cent compliance with all licence conditions.

Read the full industry compliance results at
[Industry reports | EPA](#)