



McKENZIE CREEK QUARRYING 24th February, 1967.
CO. PTY. LTD.
122 FIREBRACE ST.
HORSHAM
VIC.

DUST SUPPRESSION.

In anticipation of the early proclamation of the Extractive Industries Act, which Act will extend the powers previously exercised under the Mines Act to the protection of the public and property in the vicinity of quarries from dust, you are now instructed to implement the following requirements at earliest at your quarries.

1. Blast Hole Drilling

Dust suppression is required, either by pressurised detergent addition to drilling water or by dust collection at the collar of the hole. The technique of either process may be obtained from the agents for the blast hole drill in use, such as Gardner Denver, Ingersoll-Rand or Holman Bros.

2. Blasting.

Although a firm technical opinion has not emerged as yet as to the possibility of reducing dust created from blasting by the addition of wetting agents to the blast hole, operators are expected to follow the development of these techniques and experiment accordingly.

3. Loading of rock at quarry face.

Dust suppression by thoroughly wetting the broken rock pile before loading is commenced, followed by atmospheric sprays in the vicinity of the loading point, are required.

4. Crushing and screening plants.

(a) Control of dust at all generation points by pressurised water sprays, preferably automatically controlled to start and stop with the start and end of the materials load, or by a dust collection and suppression plant, or by combinations of both, are required. Some suppliers of equipment are -

For spray systems: R.P. Sewell Pty. Ltd., 2nd Floor, Mobil Centre, 2 City Road, Melbourne.

For dust collection systems: Mideco Pty. Ltd., 15 Metropolitan Avenue, Nunawading; Mecal (Aus.) Pty. Ltd., Paramount Road, West Footscray, W.12; Cyclo Engineering Pty. Ltd., 10 Louvain Street, Coburg.

(b) Intermediate crushing stations and screening houses are required to be totally enclosed.

(c) Accumulations of dust and materials about the plant are required to be removed and the places kept clean.

5. Cement and bitumen mixing plants, and brick, tile and other processing plants.

The Act controls the operations in such plants when located adjacent to the land from where the stone being processed is obtained.

The dust suppression requirements will be decided in relation to the particular features of the process involved.

6. Bin and Conveyor Discharge points

Bin, conveyor and stockpile discharge points are required to be enclosed and, wherever practical, are required to be connected to the dust collection or water spray system.

7. Stockpiles and overburden dumps

Stockpiles, subject to wind scouring, are required to be wetted by pressurised water atmospheric sprays.

Overburden dumps and acoustic rock screens, subject to wind scouring, are required to be grassed where practicable, or be wetted by sprays during the periods of dry weather.

8. Internal roads

All main transport roads on the quarry land, and access roads for the purpose of transport of quarry materials to public roads are required to be sealed and be kept sealed, to be kept clear of spillage, and to be wetted over periods of dry weather. Such roads are required to be designed to promote the life of the seal and to facilitate the removal of dust accumulating by washing.

9. Transport of materials

Where materials are transported on roads external to the quarry land, overloading of trucks shall be avoided, and where the material is of a fine nature, or subject to wind scouring, covering of the loads on the trucks or wetting prior to leaving the plant is required.

Application of requirements

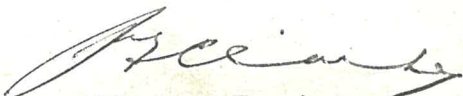
The above requirements shall apply to all quarries operating in the metropolitan area (within a radius of 15 miles from Melbourne G.P.O.), in metropolitan urban closely settled areas, and in the vicinity of major rural towns and cities.

Exemption from certain of the requirements will be considered for approval on application to the State Mining Engineer by the quarry occupier, having regard to isolated locations, short duration of the operation, etc.

The absence of a water supply will not be considered adequate grounds for an exemption from water sprays. The occupier will be required to locate a supply by boring or other means, and to adopt a low consumption, pressured spray system to conform to the water supply available.

In addition to the above requirements, additional provisions for suppressing dust by tree belts etc. may be required as a condition of the licence required to be obtained under the Act by all extractive industries or as required by regulations under the Act.

The matter of the difficulty arising from wetting materials, as affecting the specifications of materials supplied to construction authorities, will be discussed with the Country Roads Board.


State Mining Engineer