

Dust Control Plan Approval Requirements

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

A Dust Control Plan (DCP) may be required by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (District),¹ by District Rule 403.2, by permit condition, or as a mitigation measure. The District will not approve a DCP unless it complies with this document. Submission of a DCP for District approval may incur a review and inspection cost as specified in District Regulation III. District approval of a DCP makes it an enforceable document by the District and failure to comply with the approved elements of a DCP renders the owner/operator and their contractors liable to enforcement action by the District.

DCP Format

Include a cover letter on letterhead which declares responsibility for the affected site. Include a statement of purpose and commitment, and have a signature from the project owner. Include name, mailing address, phone numbers and emails for all project contacts including: project owner, general contractor, dust control preparer and 24-Hour point of contact. The 24-hour point of contact must be available 24/7 and have authority to commit additional assets to control dust after hours, weekends and holidays. The DCP may be submitted by mail or in person to the District (14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, California 92392) or electronically to reporting@mdaqmd.ca.gov (as an attachment in portable document format (pdf)).

The following are mandatory elements of a DCP:

Affected Facility, Activity or Location Description

As an umbrella document, the DCP should describe reasonably foreseeable or planned, as well as existing, activities on the described site (this will also reduce the need for revisions). An umbrella DCP can be used for all applicable operations at a given site and can be the reference for mitigation measures for each applicable operation or project at the site.

A - General Location (City, APN # and major cross streets. Include the land use agency with jurisdiction over the project.

B - Specific Location (plot plan, site plan, facility layout, etc.). A map or layout (hand-drawn if necessary) is mandatory. Indicate preferred access to the site, as well as major site features such as storage piles, equipment locations, and road locations (paved, gravel and earthen).

C - Type of Features. Identify disturbed areas and potentially disturbed areas, include actual or estimated disturbed surface area as well as the expected method of disturbance (vehicle travel, blasting, handling, tilling, cut and fill, etc.). Additionally, report surface area for all disturbed areas that will be left inactive for more than seven days.

D – Equipment List and Activities. Identify equipment (in list form) and activity each piece of equipment is performing. Include all equipment that will be producing dust

¹ The District requires Dust Control Plans for all solar development projects of at least one megawatt installed capacity or one acre in size.

(heavy earthmoving and hauling equipment, fuel burning equipment, vehicles by type, material handling equipment, etc.). Indicate if any structural demolition is planned.

E – Dust Control Measures. Identify the number of water trucks available on-site as well as the location and size of the water source. List any dust suppressant products that will be used, application frequency and rate. Provide any “other dust control measures” that will be used, ie. wind fencing (with less than 50% porosity), gravel, pavement, berms etc. Specify “treatment to prevent track out” ie. gravel pad, wheel wash, grizzly.

F – Dates. Provide start and end date for any dust generating activities and soil disturbance activities.

Mandatory Actions List

A - Required Signage. Signage shall be erected prior to the commencement of construction. A minimum 48 inch high by 96 inch wide sign containing the following shall be located within 50 feet of each project site entrance, meeting the specified minimum text height, black text on white background, on one inch A/C laminated plywood board, with the lower edge between six and seven feet above grade, with the contact name and contact information for the 24-hour point of contact. If the contact changes the sign must be updated with the new contact information within 30 days.

“[Site Name] {four inch text}

[Project Name/Project Number] {four inch text}

IF YOU SEE DUST COMING FROM {four inch text}

THIS PROJECT CALL: {four inch text}

[Contact Name], PHONE NUMBER (XXX)-XXX-XXXX {six inch text}

FOR AFTER-HOURS CALL: {four inch text}

[24-Hour Contact Name], PHONE NUMBER (XXX)-XXX-XXXX {six inch text}

If you do not receive a response, Please Call {three inch text}

The MDAQMD at 1-800-635-4617 {three inch text}”

B - (during construction phase) Operator shall use a water truck to maintain moist disturbed surfaces prior to disturbance and immediately after disturbance, and shall actively spread water during visible dusting episodes (such as high wind conditions) to minimize visible fugitive dust emissions.

C - For projects with exposed sand or fines deposits (and for projects that expose such soils through earthmoving), chemical stabilization or covering with a stabilizing layer of gravel will be used to eliminate visible emissions from sand/fines deposits.

D - Wind fencing or the equivalent will be installed to a minimum of four feet of height on the entire perimeter of the project. The wind fencing will be maintained as needed to keep it intact and remove windblown dropout.

E - All maintenance and access vehicular roads and parking areas shall be stabilized with chemical, gravel or asphaltic pavement sufficient to eliminate visible fugitive dust from vehicular travel and wind erosion. All other earthen surfaces within the project area shall be stabilized by natural or irrigated vegetation, compaction, chemical or other means sufficient to prohibit visible fugitive dust from wind erosion.

F - The operator will ensure that loaded vehicles will not exceed 15 miles per hour on public and private earthen or gravel roads. This limit will be posted on permanent private roads.

G - The operator will ensure that bulk material carried on haul trucks operating on paved roads will be properly covered so as not to fall on to the paved surface.

H - The operator will promptly remove (flush or sweep) any visible material tracked from the project onto adjoining public paved roads. Promptly is defined as not later than 24 hours.

I - (for a construction project) The operator will follow a construction schedule that specifies the construction of parking lots and paved roads first, and upwind structures prior to downwind structures.

J - Operator will maintain the natural topography to the extent possible during grading and other earth movement.

K - Operator will stabilize storage piles and disturbed surfaces which are idle for two weeks or more. Stabilization shall be sufficient to prevent wind erosion.

L – Appointed operator, identified by the contractor, will stop all work and focus on dust control during high wind event. Outdoor construction activities that disturb the soil will cease whenever visible dust emissions cannot be effectively controlled.

N – Prior to the start of earth moving or site-clearing activity, Contractor must meet with District Field Inspector on-site to review DCP requirements. Inspector will confirm compliance.

Elective Actions List

List other actions that will be performed to reduce dust emissions.

District Approval Process

The District will review any submitted Dust Control Plan (DCP) for completeness and adequacy in comparison with this guidance. The District will provide written notification of approval or disapproval, with a carbon copy to the Lead Agency for the project (if known). An approved DCP is an enforceable public document.

If a significant change occurs to the facility or operations covered by the DCP, please notify the District and submit an appropriately modified DCP within 60 days of the change.