BORING AND DRILLING SLURRY MANAGEMENT

WWW.UKY.ENV/STORMWATER

Care should be taken to prevent drilling slurry, bentonite-based fluids, and other drilling related waste from entering the stormwater sewer system. Under UK's MS4 Permit, only clean water discharges are permitted in the stormwater system. Slurry is considered an illicit discharge and must be contained, managed, and properly disposed of. All slurry spills can contaminate surface water and groundwater.

DO



Required Training: 1 per year

Relevant UK Departments:

- Facilities Construction Management
- Capital Project Management

- ✓ Treat all slurry as a potential environmental pollutant, especially if mixed with additives or petroleum-based lubricants.
- ✓ Isolate spills quickly and protect all drains, storm inlets, waterways, and low-lying areas.
- ✓ Stop the release of slurry safely using shovels, berms, absorbent socks/materials, or temporary diking.
- ✓ Immediately report any slurry release to UK Environmental Quality Management (EQM):
  - Use the online reporting tool on the EQM website
  - Or call (859) 323-6280 (8am-5pm, M-F)
  - After hours/weekends: call 911 from a campus phone or (859) 257-UKPD (8573)
- ✓ Contact UK Environmental Quality Management to determine if notification to the KY Environmental Response Team or National Response Center is needed (based on volume, type, and location).
- ✓ Notify the UK Project Manager of any release.
- ✓ Take measures to prevent tracking from vehicles or equipment.
- ✓ Collect residual slurry utilizing vacuum equipment or manual means.
- ✓ Stabilize spilled solids (mix with dry material if needed), and store in covered, labeled containers for testing/disposal.
- ✓ Appropriately dispose of slurry solids and residues. Landfills only accept non-dripping, non-hazardous solids. No slurry is permitted to be poured or washed down storm or sanitary sewer drains.
- ✓ Document any incidents and cleanup slurry fully.

DON'T

- ✗ Don't allow slurry to enter storm drains or surface waters.
- ✗ Don't wash slurry away with water.
- ✗ Don't attempt to stop a release if it puts you at risk.
- ✗ Don't leave slurry-contaminated soil or standing fluids uncleaned. Cleanup is still required even if reporting isn't.
- ✗ Don't dispose of untreated slurry in trash bins or storm drains.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- ➲ Use containment mats or berms under drill rigs and exit pits.
- ➲ Construct temporary impoundments or use filter bags to settle solids before water disposal.
- ➲ Remove all fluids within 30 days of drilling.
- ➲ Store spent slurry materials in sealed, labeled drums or roll-off bins for testing and disposal.
- ➲ Reuse clean bentonite slurry, if possible, otherwise dispose by vacuum truck or solidification.

ACTIVITY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Check slurry containment areas and pits DAILY for signs of overflow, leaks, or breaches.
- ☐ Ensure proper use of secondary containment for all fluid storage.
- ☐ Check and restock spill kits (absorbents, socks, dikes) WEEKLY at active sites.
- ☐ Inspect and maintain storm drain covers, filter socks, and barriers DAILY during active drilling.
- ☐ Train personnel on spill response and slurry disposal procedures prior to mobilization.
- ☐ Keep SDSs on site for all fluids, additives, and bentonite.
- ☐ Confirm all slurry and residue are removed, stabilized, and disposed of within required timeframes.