



Weed cutting

8. Promote

To promote environmental audits of manufactured products, processes and practices involving significant water consumption or pollution with the aim of achieving use-efficiency. To promote research into the conservation and enhancement of the aquatic environment.

9. Manage

To establish and properly resource an effective environmental management system in order to pursue the Authority's environmental policies.

10. Train

To educate, motivate, train and involve all of its employees in improving both the NRA's and their own environmental performance.

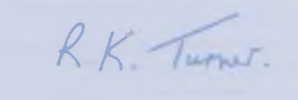
11. Report

To report regularly to the Board on environmental performance, to employees and the public through the Annual Report, Public Relations and External Affairs. To promote environmental awareness through schools and direct to teachers.



Sea defences


Ed Gallagher
Chief Executive


Professor Kerry Turner
Board Member



Grass cutting



Carrying out a post mortem

Further copies of this document are obtainable from your local region

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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



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NRA-Internal 12

INTERNAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



National Rivers Authority
Information Centre
Head Office

Class No

Accession No AS/A/2



NRA

National Rivers Authority



INTRODUCTION

The NRA is an environmental body. Its environmental value to the nation can be judged by its commitment to the overall enhancement of the water environment and its consistent efforts towards ensuring that its activities are environmentally sound.

PRINCIPLE

The NRA recognises that economic systems depend upon ecological systems, and that, in order to conserve and enhance the natural environment, it will be guided by the principle of sustainable development throughout all of its operations. The Brundtland Commission defined sustainable development as “...development that meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

COMMITMENT

The NRA will set, monitor and constantly review its policy objectives. These will promote a continuous and progressive process of environmental improvement throughout all of its functions. Environmental consciousness must be an intrinsic part of the NRA's management system. Environmental achievement must be encouraged at all levels by introducing targets which ensure continuous improvement.

Performance will be monitored, audited and reported to the Board.



Dredging



Bore hole drilling

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

The NRA is committed to the environmental principles of stewardship and sustainability. In addition to vigorously pursuing its statutory responsibilities as Guardians of the Water Environment, the Authority will aim to establish and demonstrate wise environmental practice throughout all its functions.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Whilst keeping within allocated resources the NRA will pursue the following internal environmental policy objectives.

1. Progressive Implementation

To continuously improve its environmental performance by a phased implementation of its Policy. This will be achieved by the immediate commencement of environmental measures which are essentially self-financing. This will be followed by a more gradual, phased approach towards measures which require a substantial financial commitment but have long-term environmental benefits.

2. Compliance

To support relevant Government Policy and comply with the UK Law and EC Directives on environmental matters.

3. Precaution

To pursue the prevention and precautionary principle.



Virology testing



Biological sampling

4. Performance

To establish a base-line on current environmental performance to enable future resourcing to be determined.

5. Priorities

To establish the existing environmental status of the NRA by sample audit, and to prioritise in accordance with our policy on progressive implementation in addition to applying resources to areas of major and significant environmental impact and risk. Areas of interest are;

- a) Waste minimisation (energy, water, recycling)
- b) Buildings and their environs
- c) Transport
- d) Laboratories
- e) Elimination of toxic substances and emissions where practicable.

6. Targets

To set challenging, yet achievable, environmental targets.

7. Suppliers

To encourage suppliers and contractors to support NRA environmental policy objectives. Suppliers of products and systems will be required to produce evidence of their positive environmental management.

