



Unit NEC1

NEBOSH National Certificate in Environmental Management

Introduction

This Supplement has been prepared to update your study material for the NEBOSH National Certificate in Environmental Management. You should read it in conjunction with your existing course material.

Element 1: Foundations in Environmental Management

The Ethical, Legal and Financial Reasons for Maintaining and Promoting Environmental Management

Common Law and Statute Law: Characteristics and Distinctions

Nature and Development of Common Law

In the **Topic Focus** in this subsection, please delete the last bullet point (beginning "Secondary legislation") and substitute the following:

- "Until a case comes before a judge, the law is uncertain."

Nature and Development of Statute Law

In the **Topic Focus** in this subsection, please delete the 5th bullet point (beginning "Regulations") and substitute the following:

- "Secondary legislation (usually in the form of **Regulations**) provides more detailed and technical content of the relevant regulatory regime than primary legislation (an Act of Parliament). Secondary legislation is usually prepared by the Secretary of State (appropriate government minister). There is limited parliamentary scrutiny with the secondary legislation placed before Parliament for a limited period. The general public can comment on proposed secondary legislation during the consultation phase prior to implementation. Secondary legislation is commonly used to provide more detail of a general requirement identified in an Act of Parliament. European directives are also often implemented in the UK by developing appropriate Regulations. (However, sometimes a European directive can be implemented as an Act of Parliament.) An example of secondary legislation is the **Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010**, made under the **Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999**."

Advantages of statute law:

- Widely published and easily accessible.
- Open to parliamentary scrutiny.
- Made through the democratic process by politicians who reflect society's wishes.

Disadvantages of statute law:

- Often rigid - not as flexible as common law.
- Generally a long drawn out political process.
- Sometimes reactive, resulting in the law-making being rushed.
- Often requires interpretation by the courts."



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The Roles and Powers of Enforcement Agencies, the Judiciary and External Agencies

The Roles and Functions of External Agencies

Environment Agency/Scottish Environment Protection Agency

At the end of this subsection, please insert the following new paragraph:

“You should be aware that it is likely that the Welsh division of the Environment Agency will be replaced by a new body known as Natural Resources Wales in 2013. This will also cover the current duties in Wales of the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Council for Wales.”

Element 5: Control of Contamination of Water Sources

Main Control Measures Available to Reduce Contamination of Water Sources

Controls for Storage and Spillage

Use of Oil Interceptors

At the end of this subsection, immediately before the diagram of a Simple Decanter Centrifuge, please insert the following new subsection:

“Decanter Centrifuge

A centrifuge operates to clarify an effluent around a centre line. The unit rotates at high speed around its centre line and, as it does so, the impact of gravity is replaced by that of centrifugal forces which can be around 4,000 times that of gravity. Such force can be used to cause effective separation of solids from liquids at a much faster rate than sedimentation.”

Element 6: Control of Waste and Land Use

Categories of Waste

In the **Key Information** box at the beginning of this main section, please delete the 1st bullet point and substitute the following:

- “Waste can be defined as ‘any substance or object which the holder discards, intends to discard, or is required to discard’.”

Then immediately below the **Key Information** box, delete the 1st paragraph of text (including the quote) and substitute the following:

“Waste is described as:

‘any substance or object which the holder discards, intends to discard, or is required to discard’.”

Managing Waste

Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs)

In the **More** box at the end of this subsection, please delete the existing text and substitute the following:

“For a simple guide to site waste management plans visit: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/NetRegs/SWMP_Simple_Guide_Feb_2011.pdf.”