

# Operation Environmental Management Plan

## What is an OEMP?

The Operation Environmental Management Plant (OEMP) is a site-, project- or industry-specific plan developed to ensure that appropriate environmental management practices are followed during the commissioning and operation phases of a project. The OEMP documents procedures to monitor and control environmental impacts and provides a mechanism to respond to changes in project implementation and to obtain feedback for continual improvement in environmental performance.

## When is it required?

Upon review of an environmental permit application, the Environment Agency—Abu Dhabi (EAD) may require preparation and submission of an OEMP for an industrial or development project. As a general guideline, an OEMP is usually required for industrial facilities that contain manufacturing processes, development and infrastructure projects (e.g., railways, ports, harbours, terminals, airports, waste management facilities, water and sanitation, gas distribution systems), power projects (e.g., power and desalination plants, geothermal plants, renewable energy facilities), and any project required by EAD to obtain a license to operate.

## Why is it required?

Federal Law No. 24 of 1999 for the Protection and Development of the Environment requires that the operation of various establishments does not directly or indirectly cause pollution of the land, water, or air environments. As the competent authority for implementation of Federal Law No. 24 within the Abu Dhabi Emirate, EAD may require an OEMP as a mechanism for controlling environmental impacts throughout the commissioning and operational phases of a project.

## Who prepares it?

The OEMP should be prepared by an EAD-approved consultant engaged by the proponent. The OEMP must be submitted to EAD for approval no later than 1 month prior to the commencement of operation, unless otherwise agreed.

## What happens next?

Upon submission of the OEMP, EAD will review the document and provide a written response to the proponent. EAD may seek clarifications or revisions to the OEMP. The proponent must provide EAD with any requested information or, at a minimum, a written response to the comments.

Following approval of the OEMP, EAD will issue an environmental operating permit, at which time operating activities may commence.

## Further information?

For further information, refer to the *Technical Guidance Document for Operation Environmental Management Plan*, visit the EAD Web site, or contact EAD Customer Service.