Managing dust during construction

More than two-million cubic tonnes of earth will be moved to build the new 18.5 kilometre carriageway.

Constructing a complex project of this magnitude in a very constrained environment surrounded by residents, businesses and traffic is extremely challenging.

Dust is one of many challenges the project team will manage during the life of the project. There are other elements critical to the project that need to be managed which include:

- vegetation removal, noise, water quality and fauna management

Every effort is being made to minimise the impact of dust, however local residents are advised that this project requires a significant amount of earthworks and there will still be some dust during this time.

The Southern Expressway project team takes its responsibility for the local environment very seriously and we have implemented leading management practices and standards to minimise and manage any potential impacts from dust.

Environmental management

The steps to reduce the impact of construction on those living in areas surrounding the project are outlined in the Contractor’s Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). This plan was developed by Baulderstone Abigroup Joint Venture, the design and construct contractor working with the department to deliver this project.

The CEMP identifies the potential environmental impacts of the project and management measures required to prevent and minimise these.
What measures is the project taking to reduce dust?

- using water carts to damp down access roads and stockpiles to reduce dust
- sealing / stabilising areas of high traffic haul routes where necessary to reduce dust
- monitoring machinery emissions
- covering / damping down soil when transporting it
- using designated haul and access roads
- limiting construction activities on windy days, including special air quality inspections when wind speeds exceed 16 knots
- planting on stockpiles and rolling them smooth to suppress dust
- reducing haul road speed
- closing non-necessary unsealed tracks

What do you need to do?
To minimise the impact of dust to your property you can:

- close your windows
- put draft blockers under your doors
- park undercover if possible
- use pool covers if available
- increase the frequency of pool filter flushing to twice a week
- regularly hose out air conditioner filters

Managing complaints
All dust complaints received will be treated seriously. If you live in close proximity to the worksite and believe you have an issue with excessive dust on your property as a result of the Southern Expressway duplication works please contact us on 1300 626 097.