



Environmental Health & Safety Audit Protocol Papua New Guinea 2021

release notes

STP ComplianceEHS (STP) announces the release of its newly developed environmental, health and safety (EHS) audit protocol for Papua New Guinea. This audit protocol covers relevant national EHS requirements. The regulatory date for the current release is November 2021.

This EHS audit protocol is organized around twenty topics, with a separate section devoted to each, as follows:

- General Environmental
- Air Emissions
- Water and Wastewater Management
- Solid and Hazardous Waste
- Environmental Product Stewardship
- Above and Below Ground Tank Management
- Community Noise
- PCBs
- Asbestos
- Occupational Health
- Equipment, Machine and Electrical Safety
- Material Handling and General In-Plant Safety
- Fire Safety
- Transport of Dangerous Goods
- Industrial Hygiene
- Chemical Management
- Construction Work Site Safety
- Incident Prevention and Response
- Marine Protection and Operations
- Flora and Fauna

highlights of the regulatory framework

Papua New Guinea (PNG) Parliament is a single chamber legislature (law-making body) consisting of 89 Members elected from Open electorates and 22 Governors elected from Provincial electorates. The legal system in Papua New Guinea is based on English common law. In Papua New Guinea, the legal system is a mix of common law and customary law. The sources of law are:

- Written law—as stipulated in Section 9 of the Constitution.
- Common law—as stipulated in Section 3(1) of the *Underlying Law Act 2000*.
- Customary law—as stipulated in Section 3(1) of the *Underlying Law Act 2000*.

release notes

please review

The Constitution and the Organic Law are the Supreme Law of Papua New Guinea. An Organic Law may be altered only by another Organic Law, or by an alteration to the Constitution. Section 9 of the Constitution requires that the laws of Papua New Guinea consist of only:

- The Constitution;
- Organic laws;
- Acts of Parliament;
- Emergency regulations;
- Provincial laws;
- Laws made under or adopted by or under the Constitution or any of those laws, including subordinate legislative enactments made under the Constitution or any of those laws; and
- The underlying law.

Health and safety legislation is governed by the *Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1961* and the associated regulations and orders. The Act was amended in December 2016. The Department of Labour and Industrial Relations is responsible for inspection and enforcement of occupational safety and health in industrial establishments.

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) was established in 1985. Its mission is to ensure natural and physical resources are managed to sustain environmental quality and human well-being. The key legislations administered by the Department are:

- *Environmental Planning Act 1978*;
- *Environmental Contaminants Act 1978*;
- *Conservation Areas Act 1978*;
- *National Parks Act 1982*;
- *International Trade (Fauna & Flora) Act 1979*;
- *Fauna (Protection and Control) Act 1966*;
- *Crocodile Trade (Protection) Act 1974*; and
- *Water Resources Act 1982*.



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