

# Environment Auditing

The Coal Authority's Environment Policy Statement makes a firm commitment to securing the protection and enhancement of the environment and also to demonstrate environmental improvements. These principles, which are aimed at Authority staff as well as the various consultants and contractors are supported by a safety, health and environment audit programme.

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**Safety, Health  
and Environment  
Guidelines  
for Contractors**



**The Coal Authority**



# Success of Environment Auditing Programme

During 2002 - 2003 a total of thirty five environmental audits were undertaken covering the following activities: -

- Major projects
- Remediation of surface hazards
- Land management activities
- Maintenance of liability sites

Whilst the audit programme has helped to improve the standards of many sites there are further improvements that can be achieved, these are: -

- Identifying environmental risks within risk assessment
- Preparation of method statements to include the environmental risks identified.
- Improving environmental awareness with site personnel including the Authority's requirements.
- Bunding and storage of fuel oils.

The audit programme not only allows the Authority the opportunity to discuss the potential environmental concerns associated with the works but also the chance to raise the level of environmental awareness and understanding with site personnel.

The Authority also hold briefing sessions with their term consultants and contractors in order to further discuss safety, health and environmental requirements for the various sites. Term consultants and contractors receive a booklet as part of the contract/tender award process entitled "safety, health and

environment guidelines for contractors".

The audit programme has been seen as a great success by many of the consultants and contractors as it serves as an opportunity for third parties to comment on the safety, health and environment aspects of their working practices and documentation.

Authority staff that visit sites for operational purposes conduct site safety, health and environmental inspections, and have been provided with training for this role.

