

## **EQA Environmental Regulations**

**This document is Supplemental to the EQA Scheme Regulations. It is designed to cover the extra requirements for ISO 14001:2004 Certification.**

### **Environmental Legislation:**

1. Companies are expected to include a commitment to comply with all relevant Environmental legislation within their Environmental Policy. Failure to meet this commitment or failure to take action to meet this commitment within a reasonable time frame will result in suspension and/or withdrawal of certification by EQA.
2. As a certification body accredited by a European accreditation body (Irish National Accreditation Board), EQA are expected to follow the guidance of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA). EA have issued guidance document EA-7/04 “Legal Compliance as a part of accredited ISO 14001: 2004 certification”. This document is available for download from the EA website <http://www.european-accreditation.org/n1/doc/EA-7-04.pdf>.
3. Companies are obliged to inform EQA of any convictions or penalties imposed for breach of Environmental Legislation within 10 working days. EQA will conduct a review of the certification status based on the severity of the occurrence and any remedial actions which have been taken to rectify the situation.
4. Companies are obliged to inform EQA of any litigious action being taken against them for breach of Environmental Legislation within 10 working days of the company becoming aware that such action has been commenced.

### **Incidents, Accidents and Emergency Situations:**

1. Companies are obliged to inform EQA of any major incidents, accidents or emergency situations concerning their Environmental Management System within 10 working days of their occurrence.
2. Failure to notify EQA of major incidents, accidents or emergency situations may result in suspension or withdrawal of Certification and/or require a special visit to confirm on-going compliance.