

ESB Group Policy Statement on Environmental Management and Sustainability

Summary

The ESB Group Policy for Environmental Management and Sustainability sets out the high-level principles and context for the management and oversight of environmental and sustainability issues in ESB Group. This Policy is a statement of the commitment of ESB Group to conducting our activities and those of our subsidiary companies in an environmentally responsible manner. This policy statement commits ESB Group to comply with all statutory and regulatory environmental legislation pertaining to our business operations.

Scope

This Policy applies to all ESB Group companies. In relation to alliances, joint-ventures, or other shareholding arrangements and contractors, ESB takes all reasonable steps to ensure that such ventures and contractors comply with sound sustainability and environmental management principles. This policy sets out the high level principles and policy requirements that form the basis of sustainability and environmental management in ESB.

Supporting Policies and Procedures

- ESB Biodiversity Policy
- ESB Sustainability Objectives
- Business Unit Environmental Policies, Environmental Management Systems and Environmental Management Plans

Policy Principles

ESB recognizes that our activities comprising of electricity generation, transmission, distribution and supply have environmental impacts and that it is our responsibility to manage these impacts in a manner that provides a high level of protection for our natural environment and contributes to the sustainable development of our economy. We strive to achieve excellence in all our endeavors and are committed to playing our part as a responsible business by ensuring high levels of environmental management and by embedding sustainability in all of our activities.

Policy Statement

At ESB we are committed to the highest levels of environmental management and sustainability in all aspects of our operations and we commit to leadership in carbon management and energy efficiency. Under this policy we commit to

- Adopting appropriate management structures, management systems and targets to manage sustainability and environmental issues
- Complying with all regulatory, planning and environmental legislation pertaining to our business activities
- Conducting our activities and those of our subsidiary companies in an environmentally responsible manner
- Developing and maintaining effective environmental management systems suitably certified to the requirements of ISO14001
- Acting responsibly in our use of national environmental resources
- Contributing to environmental and sustainable policy development at national and EU level
- Maximising energy efficiency and conservation in all our activities and encouraging our customers and suppliers to use our natural resources in a prudent and efficient manner
- Identifying the environmental impacts associated with our activities and managing them appropriately
- Identifying and managing significant environmental risks and having emergency response plans in place
- Minimising the production of all waste as far as practicable and disposing of all residual wastes in a safe responsible and legislatively compliant manner
- Assessing the impact of our operations on biodiversity and reviewing potential opportunities for enhancement in line with the Biodiversity Policy
- Regularly auditing our operations to ensure compliance with relevant legislation
- Striving for continuous improvement in Environmental and Sustainability performance through setting challenging internal targets and objectives in order to promote efficient use of resources and environmental awareness
- Engaging with our staff to promote environmental awareness and sustainability in the workplace, in the community and in the home
- Working with staff and suppliers to embed sustainability considerations into our procurement activities as well as in our investment and expenditure decisions
- Ensuring all new ESB Buildings will be built to best sustainable standards

- Openly reporting on our environmental performance in a verifiable way and communicating progress against environmental and sustainability and targets on an annual basis
- Communicating this policy to our staff, suppliers, contractors, partners and customers, with the aim of ensuring increased awareness and encouraging environmentally sustainable behaviour
- Liaising with external organisations and stakeholders to promote good environmental and sustainable business practises.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or more frequently if required.