

site audit results for the dowse to petone roading project

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Dowse to Petone Roothing Project Receives an “A” Grade for Environmental Management on Site

Environmental Challenge is the environmental manager for the Dowse to Petone roading upgrade project. In November 2008 the project site became the first Fletcher Construction project in New Zealand to receive an “A” grade for an environmental audit, thanks in part to a suite of Management Plans implemented by the Environmental Challenge.

The New Zealand Transport Agency (formerly Transit New Zealand) is currently upgrading State Highway 2 between Dowse Drive and Petone in the Lower Hutt District, north of Wellington. The site works are being undertaken by Fletcher Construction and Higgins Roothing Contractors who have formed a joint venture for this project.

With over 200 resource consent and designation conditions to comply with on the project, Environmental Challenge was contracted in 2007 to provide environmental management services and to ensure compliance with these conditions for the duration of the three year project. Environmental Challenge drafted a suite of Management Plans in order to address the conditions and potential issues relating to construction on the selected site. The suite includes Management Plans to address dust,



Sediment protection measures in place at the Dowse to Petone project site.

erosion, sediment control, hazardous substance, noise, vibration and other compliance issues. The suite of Management Plans is now part of day-to-day operation on the site and Environmental Challenge performs regular site audits to ensure compliance.

The Fletcher Construction Company also conducts quarterly environmental audits of the site. Their environmental audits are carried out in terms of their own management procedure, the company’s environmental management manual, applicable environmental plans and industry best practice. The audits determine the level of compliance within the audit scope, identify areas requiring preventative or corrective action, and highlight opportunities for the improvement of environmental performance and environmental management systems. Based on these criteria the project site is then assigned a grading ranging from an “A” grade for excellent performance, to an “F” grade for sub-standard

performance. The most common grade awarded by Fletchers is a “C”, which indicates good performance but with implementation lacking in some areas.

The Dowse to Petone project’s two most recent audits by the Fletcher Construction Company have resulted in very good outcomes. In July 2008 the site was awarded a grade of “B” which indicates very good performance with good implementation and systems in place. Then in November 2008 the site was awarded the highest possible grade for an environmental audit, an “A”. This indicates excellent performance and strong commitment and implementation by everyone on site.

It is believed the Dowse to Petone Project is the first Fletcher Construction project to receive an “A” grade for an environmental audit in New Zealand. This has been made possible through Environmental Challenge’s implementation and ongoing management of stringent environmental management procedures and protocols. Environmental Challenge and the Dowse to Petone team will look to maintain these high standards through to project completion at the end of 2009.