

Environment

Our Environment



Participating in the emissions trading debate, preparing our businesses for the Australian Government’s proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) and reporting under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System (NGERS) were key priorities during the year. Our businesses successfully carried out an internal trial under the NGERS reporting regime and we obtained independent emissions intensive trade-exposed (EITE) assurance for cement and lime greenhouse gas data in readiness for the proposed CPRS.

Boral’s approach to managing the environment is detailed on pages s10 to s11.

Environmental performance

An important part of Boral’s environmental strategy is to ensure that our people have the right knowledge and capabilities to perform their job and protect the environment. During 2008/09, Boral’s employees continued to receive the latest internal environmental training via 16 business-specific environmental awareness training

sessions (to 107 employees), one session on sustainable development (to 27 managers) and 11 environmental management sessions (to 89 employees). Numerous sessions were held with senior management teams on the continually developing area of energy and climate change. Business-specific environmental training takes place across the organisation; Australian Construction Materials has begun the roll-out it’s Environmental Management System.

In 2008/09, the corporate Environmental Services team carried out its fifth annual internal environment conference in five states. This year the conference highlighted state-specific issues, best practice sustainability management and shared learnings across the organisation. A total of 75 employees from across Boral’s businesses attended.

Audit and assurance programs are an important part of Boral’s EMS. In 2008/09, Environmental Services undertook 43 compliance and/or systems corporate audits, and nine acquisition and divestment audits. Business-specific auditing takes place across the Company. For example, Australian Construction Materials completed 283 internal environmental short-form and 49 third party audits. In the USA, Environmental Management System audits were conducted at 33 locations; this is part of the three year re-audit program for some 70 operating sites. To date, 61 locations have been audited and 1,260 issues identified, of which 72% have been completed.

In our Thailand and Indonesian businesses, best practice standards, auditing protocols and hazard/action registers to monitor closing out of actions are maintained. Our Indonesian business has continued to conduct an internal HSE audit program, auditing 14 plants during the year.

During 2008/09, Boral incurred nine Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) in Australia (resulting in \$19,921 in fines) for environmental contraventions. Six PINs were issued for minor or technical non-compliances including: contraventions of development approvals relating to polluting of waters; the release of high pH waters and sediments into the stormwater drainage system; a concrete spill which resulted in the pollution of waters; and dumping of concrete wastes as fill.

At a glance	FY2009	FY2008
GHG emissions (million tonnes)	3.62	3.94 ¹
Energy (million GJ)	28.65	31.99
Mains water (million litres)	2,285	2,820
Waste recycled/re-used/ consumed (million tonnes)	4.62	5.58
NOx (tonnes)	6,308 ²	–
SOx (tonnes)	1,837 ²	–
Dust (PM10) (tonnes)	2,903 ²	–

¹In Boral’s 2008 Sustainability Report, Boral’s 2007/08 GHG emissions were reported as 3.79 million tonnes. This restated figure reflects new reporting methodologies in Australia and the USA, enhanced data collection and review processes.

²NOx, SOx and dust data is for 83 sites, which account for over 80% of Boral’s total greenhouse gas emissions, Boral’s remaining sites are below the NPI and TRI thresholds.