

Management Approach: Environmental Protection

At an operational level, Stantec is a professional services firm with team members working primarily in leased office space; therefore, the direct environmental impact of our operations relate primarily to office energy consumption, business travel, and office supply use. As a consulting firm, we offer architectural, engineering, planning, and science services to our clients and, in the creation and implementation of Stantec designs, we look to decrease our environmental impact.

Stantec's policies, programs, management system, and project management framework guide us as we operate our business and execute projects.

Environmental Policy

Stantec's Board approved Environmental Policy commits the Company to minimize the environmental impacts of our business operations and comply with environmental regulations in the jurisdictions where we operate. In the execution of our professional and project delivery services, we strive to manage environmental risks and promote a philosophy of environmental conservation and restoration in the office, in the field, through our project approaches, and with acquisitions. Through our Partner Code of Business Conduct, the policy expectations also extend to our supply chain and business partners.

Environmental Management

Stantec's environmental director oversees the environmental aspects within our global Health, Safety, Security and Environmental team, and collaborates across the company with our Corporate Sustainability, Practice Services, business operating units, and global leadership teams.

We manage, monitor, and improve our environmental performance with a formal ISO 14001:2015-certified Environmental Management System (EMS) as part of our global Integrated Management System. Our EMS sets environmental objectives and monitors and measures environmental targets, regulatory compliance, orders and citations, and improvement plans. Our formal corporate environmental targets reduce energy, greenhouse gas emissions, and paper use. We require a documented emergency response plan for every office and a spill response plan for every laboratory.

All offices are internally audited for compliance against the EMS and a sampling of offices are externally audited. Results are shared with executive leadership, and corrective action is taken as required.

We raise awareness of our environmental management practices through continuous communications with our employees, suppliers, business partners, and clients through various means including bulletin newsletters, intranet articles, supplier pregualifications, conversations with account and project managers, etc.

Supporting Clients

For our clients, across all business operating units, Stantec provides environmental conservation, mitigation, restoration, and adaptation services. We have teams focused on biodiversity protection and ecosystem restoration. We design renewable energy systems as well as energy efficient, resilient buildings and infrastructure. Additionally, we have an entire business operating unit dedicated to providing environmental services.

At the project level, Stantec complies with environmental laws and regulations and looks for ways to improve the environmental impact of our efforts. We collaborate with clients to improve the environmental performance of the projects we support. Our process for assessing and managing environmental risks related is driven by Stantec project managers, who work under a single global project management framework that encourages them to identify environmental risks and look for opportunities to minimize environmental impact and maximize environmental performance (such as energy efficiency, nature-based solutions, and biodiversity enhancements). While many project managers have backgrounds in environmental management, project teams have access to Stantec environmental and social subject matter expertise available throughout our different business operating units.

See all Stantec Management Approaches

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¹ Stantec applies the precautionary principle: "Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a rationale for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation" (Rio Declaration).