

Our expert environmental services cover all stages of the life of your asset

Case study 1 Relocation of the Inde river, Germany.

To make way for an advancing opencast lignite mine, the Inde river near Cologne, Germany, was relocated onto back fitted mine land. In the process, RWE engineers restored the heavily trained river to a new meandering course modelled on its pre-industrial dynamics, which now provides a natural habitat for a number of rare and endangered animal and plant species.

Case study 2 To obtain consent for one of the South-East of England's largest onshore wind farms in Kent, RWE had to manage particularly difficult and complex planning issues, in particular in relation to application of the habitats directive.



Bryn Titli onshore wind farm

The consents process included the management of a challenging public inquiry which was successfully contested to obtain the permission needed to construct the wind farm.

Case study 3 RWEPI carried out a series of studies for the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) to support prioritisation for use of an initial investment package of €29m in emission control in Serbia's coal-fired power stations.

A key aspect was the use of a multi-disciplinary team and the RWE Power International's Environmental Risk Assessment Process (EnvRAP®) to identify and rank the environmental issues to which the plants contributed, assess the causes and determine cost-effective solutions.

Specifications were produced for the selected projects and the EAR moved forward to execute the work suggested by RWEPI, namely: ash slurry conversion, precipitator upgrades and oily water separation units.

"The services being provided via RWE, especially on the environmental side, have been of a very high international standard. The support provided to Hubco is highly acknowledged and appreciated."
Hubco



Beerwalde – rehabilitation work in progress on waste rock dump of a uranium mine in Germany



Managing environmental issues

A complete range of expert services to manage environmental risk and improve performance in an increasingly demanding world

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Environmental Management is one of a wide range of capabilities that RWE Power International can offer to the power and mining industries. For more information please contact us.



Power generation and mining experts



RWE Power International's specialist services cover every aspect of owning and operating power plant, from construction, commissioning, operations and maintenance, to eventual decommissioning. Our mining expertise covers minerals and solid fuels and spans exploration, development, operations and rehabilitation.

We have a great depth of operations and engineering knowledge and practical experience as an asset developer, owner and operator. As part of the RWE Group, we can call on the capabilities and resources of one of the world's leading multi-utility companies. We combine global reach with local understanding to provide innovative solutions that enhance the performance and profitability of any power generation or mining asset.

With clients in more than 70 countries around the world, our expertise spans the full range of electricity generation technologies, fuel sources including hard coal, lignite, oil, gas, nuclear, and mining methods.

A shared history of innovation

RWE Power International is a collaboration between two companies within the RWE Group, RWE Npower plc and RWE Power's consulting subsidiary, RE GmbH. We have a proud history of innovation, shared between RWE npower and RE. Our experience of transforming state-owned power utilities into commercially focused private organisations was achieved by adopting cutting-edge, innovative operating and engineering solutions. Our mining services are based on more than 40 years of developing and running lignite mines, and include large-scale groundwater management, reclamation and environmental services.

Managing environmental issues better

Drawing on our own experience in managing a diverse portfolio of major power generating plants and mining operations, we offer a wide range of environmental services, covering any stage of your asset's life. We are able to assess the environmental impact and risks you face (water, soil and air pathways), indicate how environmental performance can be improved and advise on optimising the value and output of your assets, within the regulatory framework in which you have to operate.

We combine a real concern for protecting the environment with a practical approach to how this can best be achieved within 'real world' operating conditions. Our background in major power generation and lignite mining, where environmental protection is an integral part of operation, gives our environmental services a uniquely business like approach.

Value for money in addressing environmental issues

We have a wealth of practical experience in managing the complex environmental issues and challenges facing the power

generation and mining industries. We go beyond evaluating impacts and constraints to reach a deeper understanding of what can be achieved, what it will cost and what the alternatives are. Our contribution will be to help you assess where to focus your resources in understanding and managing environmental risk, improving environmental performance and targeting investment towards projects that will be effective.

Optimised performance within regulatory constraints

Our track record demonstrates the ability to optimise the production potential of plant and minimise the environmental impact of your operations, whilst complying with complex regulatory regimes. Our own teams of specialists can advise on the operation and maintenance of assets to reach maximum efficiency; our environmental experts can assess how well a plant or mining operation measures up to regulations and find routes to optimum-cost compliance. It's a win-win situation: greater efficiency and better environmental management leading to long-term profitability, combined with sustainability.

A global awareness of pressures and trends

Power generation and mining are global businesses facing significant variations in environmental and social pressures. RWE is continuously in touch with producers and regulators around the world, attuned to these differences in outlook and aware of how regulatory regimes are changing. From our own experience as power generators and mine operators in Europe where environmental pressures are particularly intense, we know that compliance with current regulations is not enough. Plant owners and mine operators need strategies in place that anticipate further tightening of regulations.

We will help you to plan and implement these strategies in order to achieve results that are beneficial to all.

Full assessment of environmental risk

Our assessment programmes provide a full and accurate picture of your current environmental performance and your level of exposure to risk. This is an essential first step in devising

management strategies that minimise risks and achieve compliance, without adversely affecting the commercial performance of the asset. An assessment may also give confidence to do business in areas or processes that previously have been viewed as high risk. Regular monitoring and benchmarking will be integral to your strategy.

We can provide the know-how to ensure this is effective. For pre-acquisition and due diligence audits we can provide a rapid interim report highlighting potential problems.

Improved relationships with legislators, lenders and neighbours

RWE has expert knowledge and skills in environmental case making that is vital for building good relationships with regulatory authorities, lenders and neighbours, whose attitudes can have a direct impact on the overall viability and profitability of a plant or mine operation. These skills cover accurate analysis of the issues and options, understanding the positions of the key players, collecting the facts, and providing interpretations that relate to the key issues.

Equally important are the communications and negotiating skills involved in presenting your case and winning arguments with a range of audiences.

Our background gives us a high level of credibility with legislators, financial institutions and insurers. We also have a track record of building successful relationships with our neighbours throughout our plant portfolio and mines.

Expertise with added value for any high-impact process operator or landholder

The experience that we have acquired in the international energy and mining industries has already been used by clients in other process industries for whom emissions and other environmental impacts are a significant issue. We have been able to minimise unwarranted restrictions on plant operation and devise least-cost compliant strategies that meet the genuine need for environmental protection.

Site clearance and reclamation for the future

Our environmental services do not stop with the decommissioning of an operation, they also include post-business aspects. Our international experience covers the development, assessment and implementation of concepts for site clearance and reclamation of areas used by the power generating or mining operation, based on state-of-the-art techniques. Our engineers can design and implement near natural wet and dry habitats of high biodiversity.

We carefully take the stipulations of the licensing authorities and the assumed future use into account, to ensure minimum cost for you.