

BUILDING & MAINTAINING AN ESG LEGAL REGISTER

**A PRACTICAL GUIDE
FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

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ENERGY CONSERVATION & ESG

COST SAVINGS & COMPLIANCE

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Introduction: The Purpose and Importance of an ESG Legal Register

In an era where Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors are at the core of sustainable business strategies, organizations must navigate an increasingly complex web of legal requirements. A well-structured **ESG Legal Register** serves as the foundation of legal compliance and risk management.

An ESG Legal Register is more than a static list of laws; it is a dynamic, living document that identifies, organizes, and tracks all applicable legal and regulatory obligations related to ESG themes. It helps organizations ensure compliance, prepare for audits, reduce legal risks, and demonstrate transparency to stakeholders, investors, and regulators.

Incorporating an ESG Legal Register into your compliance management system not only fulfills regulatory demands but also enhances reputation, fosters trust, and drives long-term value.

This book offers a detailed roadmap to create, maintain, and embed an ESG Legal Register tailored to your organization.

Chapter 1: Environmental Regulations & Compliance Requirements

Understanding Environmental Obligations

Environmental compliance covers multiple domains:

- **Air emissions control** (e.g., National Ambient Air Quality Standards, permits)

Air emissions control is a critical part of environmental compliance for any organization operating in India. It is governed by a robust legal framework aimed at preventing, controlling, and abating air pollution, thus protecting human health and the environment.

Air emissions control compliance under Indian law is about more than just keeping emissions within limits – it includes:

- Obtaining and renewing consents.
- Installing and maintaining pollution control equipment.
- Monitoring, recording, and reporting emissions.
- Contributing to national air quality goals.

A robust air emissions register should track:

- Applicable laws & standards
- Permit numbers and expiry dates
- Stack details and emission limits
- Monitoring schedules and compliance status

1 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

Issued by: Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).