

Risk Management Guidance on Standstill Covers for Engineering



The following information and list of subjectivities provides guidance for periods of standstill/cessation. Do note if the standstill is over 3 months, a survey should be carried out at the restart of the cover.

Stage of completion

- Consider the overview progress to date, what are the key activities left, how is it planned to complete the progress, are temporary works / formwork safely secured?

Approx. values of completed works

- Establish an estimate of completed works vs outstanding works

Fire protection / prevention

- Make a list of what fire prevention and firefighting facilities will be operational and available
- Ensure sufficient water, including pressure, is available
- Ensure security staff are trained in operation of fire prevention equipment
- Confirm that all combustible rubbish has been removed from the site

Water damage

- Ensure structures are watertight where possible so as to protect from heavy rain
- Check if main water valves are closed
- Drain down any systems possible (except for working fire prevention devices)

Explosion

- Ensure site gas mains are switched off
- Store away flammable chemicals/oils/fuels from the main project in secure containers (e.g. shipping containers)

Drainage facilities

- Find out what water drainage facilities are available, including temporary and permanent, and are there any dewatering pumps required &/or operational?
- Identify who will inspect the dewatering pumps and how often will drains be inspected to ensure no blockages have occurred
- Check to see that gutters and drainpipes are regularly cleared

Earthworks

- Check if all temporary and permanent works have been secured from collapse and to prevent anyone from accidentally falling over/into them

Security/Theft prevention

- Record how many trained security guards will be protecting the site, and what hours will they be on duty (should be 24/7)
- Security initiatives could include e.g. full 8ft fencing surrounding the entire site, or ensuring security checks on all areas of the site on a regular basis to check on theft and also water leaks, build-up of foliage (cut back), etc

Natural perils

- If the shutdown period is during the monsoon season, ensure scaffolding is solidly secured and the site has a net curtain around it (i.e. a mesh or canvas shield which will give some protection from wind, but also reducing loose or unpegged items from blowing or rolling off the project down on to other elements of the project or third parties below)

Materials

- Storage of materials should be done in a safe and watertight manner.
- Where possible ensure that 'target goods' are stored offsite (e.g. cable, kitchen/bathroom fittings, aircon, etc)
- If target goods are not stored offsite, record how will they be secured and who will have access. Record the approximate value of these materials
- Check if there are any other 'soft' materials on site (e.g. beds, bedding, curtains, furniture, etc) and remove them where possible to safe dry storage
- Ensure basement storage, if used, is protected from flooding/water entry. Such items should be stored on pallets at least 20cm off the floor

Electricals

- Record what circuits will be left operating and shut down non-essential systems (leave on any security, fire detection or dewatering pump circuits, if applicable)

Plant & Equipment

- Ensure any plant and equipment (e.g. lifts, pumps, aircon, production equipment, cables, etc.) left onsite is secured, if it can't be safely secured offsite
- Store plant and equipment, especially expensive and large rotating items as per manufacturers' recommendations
- Check if Original Equipment Manufacturers will extend any warranties

Contractors Plant & Equipment (CPE/CPM)

- If covered by the policy, check if there are any items to be kept on site, ensure they are safely stored and ensure cranes are safely secured
- Ensure there are preventive measures against theft &/or malicious damage

Third Party Exposures

- Check if there are any Third-Party Property or Bodily Injury exposures, such as items overhanging third parties, trenches around site, altered traffic conditions, boarded over trenches/pits, etc., and that they do not present a hazard for third parties

Workers Camps / Kitchens

- If there are any workers camps still being occupied ensure there is additional presence of security guards on site
- If there are cooking/heating elements, ensure they are not close to the work site

Contact QBE local business relationship person or engineering underwriters today for a discussion on the measures to protect your business

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