

**An Assessment of the Environmental Impact of
Asphalt Production in Nigeria****Momoh L. Rilwani* and Fred E. Agbanure******Department of Geography & Regional Planning, Ambrose Alli Univesity, Ekpoma,
Edo State, Nigeria**Telephone: +234 803 953 2352, +234 805 618 0468; E-mail: mrlilwani@yahoo.com****Delta Direct Labour Agency, Delta State, Nigeria***KEYWORDS** Roads. Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA). Environmental System

ABSTRACT This study assessed the impact of asphalt production on the environment in Nigeria, using the HMA facility of the Delta State Direct Labour Agency located at Agbarha-Otor in Ughelli North Local Government Area, Delta State as a case study. Soil, water and vegetation samples were obtained in a field survey, while interviews and focus group discussions were also held with the stakeholders. Analysis of the laboratory results of field samples taken reveal that the HMA facility has some limited impact on the soil, vegetation and water around it. In particular, the statistical analysis shows that the impact on the Cadmium and Benzene contents in the soil is significant, while the impact on the other pollutant elements considered are not significant. For vegetation and water, the impact on the elements considered is not significant. Analysis of the interviews and discussions held with the stakeholders reveal that the HMA facility has impacted both positively and negatively on the socio-economic activities and health of the host community.