

BALLINA TREATMENT PLANT

PUBLIC POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN



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Revision History

Version	Revision date	Authorised by	Comments
1.0	September 2013	QSE Manager	Document created
2.0	September 2014	QSE Manager	Updated IMS format
3.0	September 2015	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
4.0	September 2016	Lead QSE Coordinator	Update for annual test
4.1	September 2017	QSE Manager	Update for annual test, change definitions
4.2	September 2018	QSE Manager	Minor update for annual test
4.3	June 2019	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
4.4	June 2020	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
4.5	June 2021	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
4.6	June 2022	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
4.7	June 2023	QSE Manager	Update for annual test

1.0 OVERVIEW

This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements described under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022* (POEO (G) Regulation) as guided by the NSW EPA's publication "*Guideline: Pollution Incident Response Management Plans, September 2022*".

The objectives of the plan are to ensure comprehensive and timely communication about a pollution incident to all relevant parties, minimise and control the risk of a pollution incident occurring and ensure correct implementation by staff.

As per regulations a copy of the full PIRMP is available on the activity site and to all persons responsible for the implementation of the plan. A public version of the plan outlining procedures for contacting relevant authorities and community notification guidelines is accessible via the company website.

The plan is routinely tested every 12 months to ensure relevance, accuracy and compliance with applicable legislation and standards. A review of the plan will be undertaken within 1 month of a pollution incident occurring to ensure the plan is capable of being implemented in a workable and effective manner.

This plan forms part of the Site Environment Management Plan which makes up part of the Solo Integrated Management System. Environmental incident reporting processes are designed to ensure that all relevant team members are trained in the correct reporting protocol and under what circumstances.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

Under the *Protection of the Environmental Operations Act 1997*, the following are defined as:

Pollution Incident - means an incident or set of circumstances during or as a consequence of which there is a likely to be a leak, spill or other escape or deposit of a substance, as a result of which pollution has occurred, is occurring or is likely to occur. It includes an incident or set of circumstances in which a substance has been placed or disposed of on a premise, but it does not include an incident of circumstances involving the emission of any noise.

Material Environmental Harm

- (a) harm to the environment is material, if:
 - (i) It involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or
 - (ii) It results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000.00 (or such other amount as is prescribed by the regulations), and
- (b) loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment.

- (c) it does not matter that harm to the environment is caused only in the premises where the pollution incident occurs.

3.0 SITE

This PIRMP has been prepared for the below site.

Section 55 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Environment Protection Licence



Licence - 10055

<u>Licence Details</u>	
Number:	10055
Anniversary Date:	28-September

<u>Licensee</u>
ELJO PTY LTD
SOLO WASTE AUST. PTY. LIMITED
PO BOX 1427
KINGSCLIFF NSW 2487

<u>Premises</u>
FISHERY CREEK ROAD
BALLINA NSW 2478

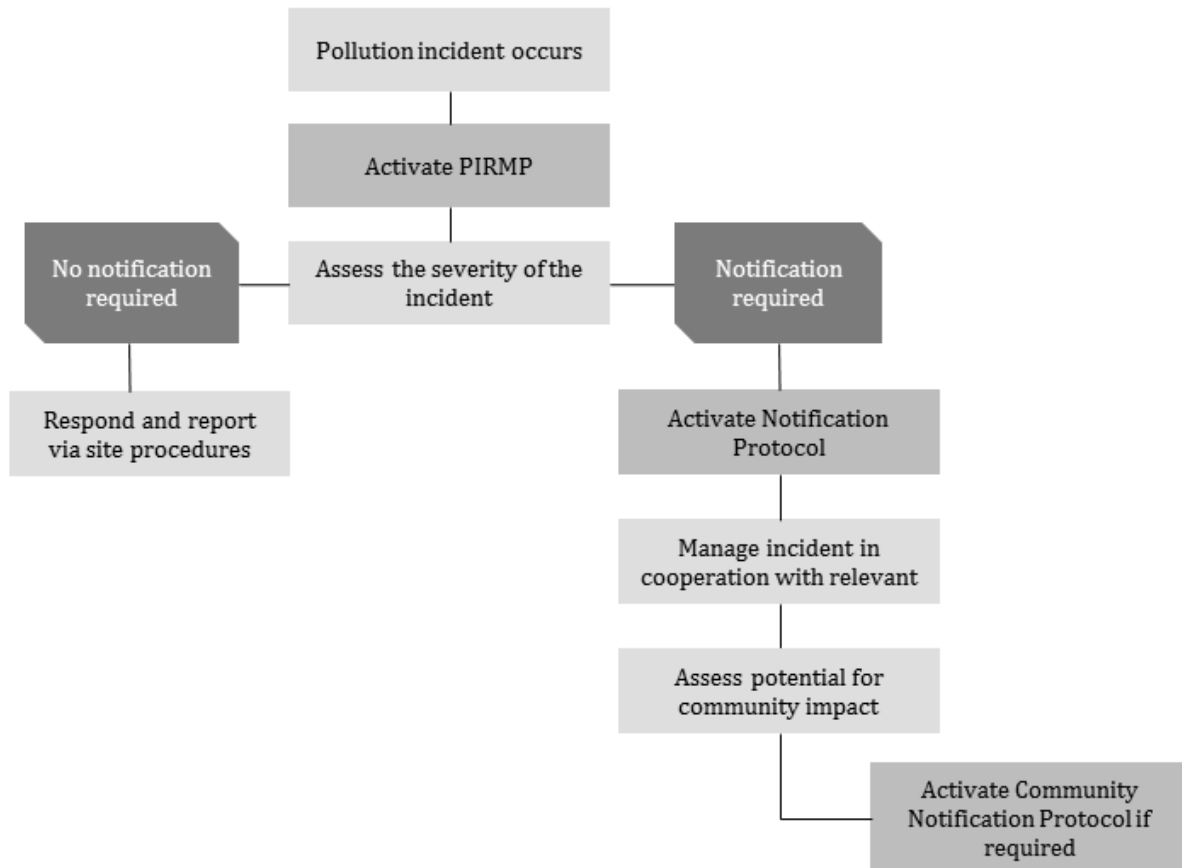
<u>Scheduled Activity</u>
Waste Processing (non-thermal treatment)

<u>Fee Based Activity</u>	<u>Scale</u>
Non-thermal treatment of hazardous and other waste	> 0 T treated

The site is comprised of the following:

- Administration Office
- Storage area
- Grease press
- Reception tank
- Bunded treatment tanks

4.0 INCIDENT RESPONSE PROCEDURE



5.0 INCIDENT RESPONSE

Should an environmental incident occur where harm to the environment has, or is likely to occur the following steps are to be taken:

- Assess severity of incident
- If appropriate take steps to prevent further discharge, isolate and contain spill using available equipment and PPE;
- Minor incidents not requiring notification will be attended under spill procedure (IMS-AIRR-D-0010) – Spills – Oil or Other Substances
- If required enact Notification Protocols, advise relevant authorities of the incident and what steps are being taken (record details of time of call and who was told);
- Record the date, time and location of the incident;
- Record what chemical or pollutant is involved (if known) and estimated quantity;
- Record details of the receiving environment;
- Records any injuries to team members or members of the public as a result of the incident;
- Do not leave the incident location until advised by supervisor / state agency official.

6.0 NOTIFICATION PROTOCOLS

External:

Agency	Contact
Fire and Rescue NSW	000* (*if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property) 1300 729 579
EPA Environment Line	131 555
Ministry of Health via the local Public Health Unit	1300 066 055
WorkCover Authority	13 10 50
Ballina Shire Council	02 6686 4444 or 02 6626 6954 (Emergency after hours)

Internal:

Position	Contact
Liquid Treatment Supervisor	xxxx xxx xxx
Branch Manager	xxxx xxx xxx
Compliance Team	xx xxxx xxxx

7.0 COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION STRATEGY

Decisions to notify neighbours and the local community will be made in consultation with regulatory authorities based on an initial assessment of the pollution incident.

Advice provided to the community will depend on the type and extent of the pollution incident and guidance from the regulatory authorities.

Notifications may include (as an example) advice to close doors and windows to avoid odour etc. The appropriate method for communication will be determined by the nature of the event or as directed by the relevant agency. Methods may include door knocking by company representative (or emergency personnel), telephone contact or written correspondence.

Affected community stakeholders will be regularly updated throughout the course of the pollution incident.