



# WERRIS CREEK COAL

## POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

### PUBLIC COPY

Title	Name	Signature	Date
Operations Manager	Murray O'Keefe		30/09/2022
Environmental Superintendent	Megan Martin		30/09/2022

## 1 STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

In accordance with the requirements of Part 5.7A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and Part 3A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009*, holders of an Environment Protection Licence must prepare a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) in relation to the activity to which the licence relates. This document is constructed to the Pollution Incident Response Management Plans guideline 2020. The document is to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the legislation and informs the procedures to be implemented at Werris Creek Coal (WCC) for managing pollution events.

## 2 SITE DESCRIPTIONS

This PIRMP is applicable across all WCC Operations subject to Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 12290. Details of the EPL are outlined below:

SITE	EPL ID	ACTIVITY
Werris Creek Coal Pty Limited – Werris Creek	12290	Coal Works (2,000,000 – 5,000,000 T handled), Coal Mining (2,000,000 – 3,500,000 T produced).

## 3 NOTIFICATION PROTOCOL

Under Part 5.7 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act, it is a requirement that in the event of a pollution incident, notification is made “immediately” to the relevant authorities when “material harm to the environment” is caused or threatened.

**The protocol for reporting of an incident is as follows:-**

1. Initiate the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan and take measures to “control, contain and clean-up”.
2. Inform your supervisor. Containment of any spill should be undertaken if it is safe to do so. Immediately on containment, or if containment is not possible, contact your supervisor to inform them of the incident. Any spill/incident must be notified to your supervisor.
3. The supervisor will initiate any additional containment/control of the incident and coordinate required clean-up activities in consultation with Operations Manager. The supervisor will also notify the Environmental Officer. If Environmental Officer is absent, then this role is delegated to the Senior Mining Engineer and/or Technical Services department.
4. WCC Operations Manager, WHC General Manager will determine if the pollution incident has “caused or threatened material harm to the environment” and whether external notification is required.
5. The Environmental Officer will provide the required reports to the relevant agencies relating to the cause, response and mitigation measures enacted to manage the pollution incident.

**The relevant agencies and order of notification are prescribed as follows:-**

- If the incident represents an immediate threat to human health and/or property, call 000. Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Police and NSW Ambulance Service will be the first responders.
- If the incident does not require an initial combat agency, or once the 000 call is made, notify the relevant authorities in the following order:-
  1. Environment Protection Authority on the Environment Line 131 555;
  2. Public Health Unit – Tamworth (02) 6764 8000 ((02) 4924 6477 - after hours));
  3. Fire and Rescue/ Rural Fire Service NSW 000 ((02) 5732 8429);
  4. Safe work NSW 13 10 50
  5. Liverpool Plains Shire Council (02) 6746 1755
  6. NSW Resource Access Regulator 1800 633 362
  7. NSW Department of Planning and Environment – 1300 305 695
  8. NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Resource Regulator – 1300 814 609

Failure to apply the above notification protocol may result in penalties of up to \$2 million for corporations and up to \$500,000 for individuals.

#### **4 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL WITH THE COMMUNITY**

**In the event of a notifiable incident occurring, which impacts on neighbouring properties, the following communication protocol will be followed:-**

- The effected landholder, tenant or lessee will be notified about the incident immediately and informed as to the control/containment and clean up mechanisms applied.
- In the event of widespread community impact (more than 3 landholders effected), notice relating to the incident will also be provided by letter drop and/or door knock to the affected parties, with follow up advice issued as required.
- In the event of a post blast fume incident, site personnel will make direct contact at the properties likely to be affected with advice to remain in doors with windows closed until such time as the fume passes. Landholders will be advised, by direct contact, once high risk conditions have passed. Determination of likely affected residences will be made by use of the on-site weather station and consideration of prevailing wind speeds and direction.
- In the event of any discharge incident to receiving waters, those properties directly affected by discharge water will be directly informed, with follow up contact provided confirming water quality of the discharge water, and predicted impacts on those users for all water use parameters including domestic, stock and irrigation purposes.
- The Werris Creek Coal Community Consultative Committee (CCC) will also be advised of the incident through usual environmental reporting processes relative to the CCC.



## WHC\_WC\_PRO\_POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

### SITE LOCATION

