

POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mulwala Filtration Plant – Discharge to Waters Licence No 841

VERSION	DATE	BY
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Appendices

(Appendices are not available on Public Version of Pollution Incident Response Management Plan)

- Appendix A - Staff Training Register
- Appendix B - PIRMP Testing
- Appendix C - Maps
- Appendix D - Contact Details

1. Introduction

This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan has been prepared as a requirement of the Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011 and the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 Part 5.7A.

The plan provides for the immediate reporting of pollution incidents. All relevant authorities are to be notified of any pollution incident. A pollution incident is defined as any event that harms or is likely to harm the environment.

The Mulwala Filtration Plant and reticulation system as provided for in the licence comprises:

- Discharge to the Murray River of backwash effluent from a water filtration plant located at Gulai Rd Mulwala

2. Procedures in Notifying an Incident

If the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property call “000” immediately. The person initially reporting the incident is to contact the Federation Council who will then follow the procedure to notify the relevant authorities about the pollution incident:

- a) Call 000 if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property
- b) Notify relevant authorities in the following order:

EPA	131 555
Public Health Unit - Local Office	02 6080 8900 (24hours) – ask for Environmental Health Officer on call from the Public Health Unit if phoning A/H
Safe Work NSW (work cover)	13 10 50
Fire & Rescue NSW (if “000” was not called initially)	1300 729 579

- c) Notify neighbours and anyone directly affected.

Contact Details for neighbouring properties and relevant Water & Sewer personnel are detailed in 0Appendix D - Contact Details(not available in public version of this PIRMP)

3. Action to Control Pollution

The following procedure is to be adopted immediately to control a pollution incident:

- a) Federation Council (FC) to be contacted. Telephone 02 6033 8999 (b/h) or Emergency Telephone 1800 110 088 (a/h)
- b) Council staff responsible for the failed infrastructure/incident, to be contacted and directed to attend incident. (*Contact Details provided in 0Appendix D - **Contact Details***)
- c) Incident Control
 - a. For a **Discharge of reduced quality effluent** incident:
 - Commence procedures to stop continuation of the discharge.
- d) When fault has been corrected the site is to be cleaned up and made safe for normal occupation.

4. Coordination

Agencies on the contact list have different roles. The **incident coordinator** will be the **Federation Council** who will take direction from the EPA. Fire and Rescue will control the site if there is a danger to persons and property and until this danger is eliminated. The agencies should be coordinated and used as follows:

- a) Emergency Services (000) – Police, Ambulance, Fire and Rescue
Responsible for initial action on any emergency. When asked by the “000” telephone receptionist which service is required the criteria is:
 - Police – if illegal activity evident or damage to person or property
 - Ambulance – if injury to persons
 - Fire and Rescue – if fire exists or is possible, or if chemical contamination of the environment exists or is possible.

- b) The EPA is responsible for all pollution incidents to do with this licence. Any instructions from the EPA are to be followed.
- c) The Ministry of Health is to be advised once the initial incident is under control or sooner if necessary to determine the proper course of action relating to public health.
- d) The WorkCover Authority is responsible for workplace safety and industrial practices and is responsible for determining the cause of any incident of an industrial nature, and associated liability.
- e) The Federation Council is the licensed authority whose duty it is to repair, fix, mitigate or control any failure of its infrastructure, plant or equipment which has caused the incident.

5. Hazards

Incident	Likelihood	Impact	Risk
Sludge Valve Malfunction	Low	Low	Low
Filter Valve Malfunction	Low	Low	Low

6. Harm Minimisation

Human Health:

- all persons without PPE to be kept outside incident area.

Environment:

- environmental harm is to be minimised by containment with booms or sandbags. Sandbags and sand to be found at Corowa Shire Depot. The pollutant is to be removed as soon as possible after containment.

7. Early Warning and Updating

Where owners and occupiers of premises in the neighbourhood are at risk of impact then warnings will be issued as soon as information is available. Updates to the information will be made according to the circumstances but frequently enough for affected parties to take appropriate action. This will be hourly if it affects accommodation or access arrangements or daily if the incident is ongoing with containment difficulties. Communication will be via telephone call unless other form of communication is requested.

8. Pollutants

The following pollutants exist in the backwash effluent:

Pollutant	Location	Hazard Rating
Total Suspended Solids	Discharge point	Low

9. Safety Equipment

The following equipment is to be used as necessary in any emergency:

- Disposable overalls
- Rubber gloves
- Gumboots
- Safety glasses
- Hearing protection

All persons without PPE to be kept outside incident area