



# **POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**COROWA SALEYARDS  
License No 11812**

<b>VERSION</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>BY</b>
1	June 2013	
2	24 September 2019	S Appleyard
3	25 January 2021	A Reidy
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## Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Procedures in Notifying an Incident .....	4
3. Action to Control Pollution .....	4
4. Coordination .....	6
5. Hazards .....	6
6. Harm Minimisation .....	7
7. Early Warning and Updating.....	7
8. Pollutants.....	7
9. Effluent Quality Requirements .....	7
10. Safety Equipment .....	8
11. Training, Testing and Review.....	8
Appendix A - Staff Training Register .....	9
Appendix B - PIRMP Testing .....	10
Appendix C - Overflow Notification.....	11
Appendix D – Map of Facility & Effluent System.....	12
Appendix E - Contact Details .....	13

## 1. Introduction

This plan has been developed to document the processes required to prepare and respond to pollution incidents for Federation Council owned Corowa Saleyards. The plan covers descriptions of potential hazards, actions to be taken to prevent additional environmental harm and details of communication requirements in the event of a pollution incident.

A pollution incident means an incident or set of circumstances during or as a consequence of which there is or is 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 premises, but it does not include an incident or set of circumstances involving only the emission of any noise.

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 (POEO Act) Part 5.7A.

A pollution incident is required to be notified if there is a risk of 'material harm to the environment', which is defined under section 147 of the POEO Act as:

- (a) Harm to the environment is material if:
  - a. It involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial, or
  - b. It results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (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.

This PIRMP covers the Federation Council's Corowa Saleyards located at 437 Honour Avenue, Corowa under Environmental Protection Licence Number 11812. The Corowa Saleyards licence consists of:

- Yards to accommodate up to 25,000 head
- Yard wash down system
- Auger
- Sedimentation Ponds
- Drying beds
- Aeration Pond
- Irrigation Storage
- Centre Pivot irrigation
- Stormwater Detention Basin
- Truck wash

## 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
Local Land Services (Corowa Office)	02 60331196

- c) Notify neighbours and anyone directly affected.

Contact Details for neighbouring properties and relevant personnel are detailed in Appendix E - Contact Details

## 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 Appendix E - Contact Details)
- c) Incident Control
  - a. For truck wash bay detention basin overflow incident:
    - Close truck wash to public
    - Utilise spill kits to contain spill

Prevention measures:

- Weekly inspection of basin carried out
  - Basin cleaned and sludge removed a minimum of once a month
- b. For Livestock Effluent Overflow

- Close saleyards facility to public
- Contain spill if possible

Prevention measures:

- Seasonal irrigation of crops
- Weekly inspections of system components
- Removal of solids on a weekly basis
- Pump fail alarm system on pumps check weekly

c. Offensive Odour

- Check source of odour and operating systems
- Clean/ repair / remove odour causing material as required

Prevention Measures

- Cleaning of Saleyards after every sale
- System checks weekly
- Weekly effluent testing by Council
- Monthly effluent testing by NATA accredited laboratory (Waterview Lab Albury) as per EOMP.

d. Land Contamination

- Cease irrigating effluent
- Close saleyards facility to public
- Contain spill if possible

Prevention Measures:

- Compliance with irrigation program
- Yearly ground water testing completed by NATA laboratory (Waterview Lab Albury) as per EOMP.
- Annual soil sampling as per EPA licence and EOMP.

e. Dead stock

- Dispose of stock in accordance with Industry Guidelines at the Designated Dead Stock pit on site.

Prevention Measures:

- Enforcement of Meat & Livestock Australia Fit to Load Guide

f. Infected Stock

- Isolate stock within yards and contact Local Land Services
- Comply with any stock still order issued by Local Land Services

Prevention Measures:

- Pre-sale inspection of stock
- Attendance of Local Land Services staff at the weekly sale

- d) When fault has been corrected the site is to be cleaned up and made safe for normal occupation.
- e) Incident report and investigation to be completed.

#### 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, traffic control required
  - 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.
  - Local Land Services - if involves animal welfare issues or animal disease control
- 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 NSW 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 (zoonotic illness).
- 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
Truckwash Bay Detention Basin Overflow	Low	Low	Low
Livestock effluent overflow	Low	Medium	Medium
Centre Pivot Irrigation Failure	Low	Low	Low
Land contamination	Medium	Medium	Medium
Offensive odour	Medium	Medium	Medium
Deadstock	High	Low	Low
Infected stock	Low	High	Medium

## 6. Harm Minimisation

### Human Health:

- All persons without PPE to be kept outside incident area.
- Where pollutant has entered premises residents are to be evacuated to motel accommodation and professional cleaners to be called.

### Environment:

- Environmental harm is to be minimised by containment with spill kits, booms or sandbags. Sandbags and sand to be found Federation Council Depot. The pollutant is to be removed as soon as possible after containment.

## 7. Early Warning and Updating

In the event of effluent overflows or fuel spills that are not contained and which may enter the stormwater system, warnings will be issued to EPA and relevant water authorities, including Department of Planning Industry and Environment – Water. 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 Saleyards system. Please note there is no chemical or fuel storage on site.

Pollutant	Location	Hazard Rating	Quantity
Diluted Raw Animal Effluent	Effluent Ponds,	Low	12,500 m3/pa
Diluted Raw Animal Effluent	Centre Pivot Irrigation	Low	11,500 m3/pa
Diluted Raw Animal Effluent	Truckwash	Low	2,500 m3/pa
Fuel spill	Truckwash / Yards / Livestock Carriers	High	Up to 1,100 litres

## 9. Effluent Quality Requirements

Parameter	Limited (mg/L unless otherwise indicated)
BOD5	300
Suspended Solids	300
Oil and grease	100

Ammonia (as nitrogen)	50
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	100
Total Phosphorus	10
Sulphide	1
pH	7-9 pH units
Temperature	38 <sup>o</sup> C

Source: DPI Water Effluent Quality Requirements

### 10.Safety Equipment

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

- Disposable overalls
- Rubber gloves
- Gumboots
- Safety glasses
- Hearing protection
- Masks
- Captive bolt gun for stock

All persons without PPE to be kept outside incident area.

### 11.Training, Testing and Review

Training is provided to staff for the use of the plan which will ensure that all staff are aware of the content, processes and requirements of the plan to be able to competently implement as required. Training Records will be maintained in Appendix A.

Plan will be tested annually with desktop reviews to check the effectiveness of the plan. Testing records will be maintained in Appendix B.

## Appendix A - Staff Training Register

Date	Name	Brief Description of Training Task
19/09/2019		Saleyards Debrief and onsite review of PIRMP
21/01/2021		Saleyards Debrief and onsite review of PIRMP

## Appendix B - PIRMP Testing

Date	Name	Brief Description of Testing Task
19/09/2019		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk assessments reviewed</li> <li>• Pollutants reviewed</li> <li>• Contact details reviewed and updated</li> <li>• Desktop scenario tested</li> </ul>
21/01/2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk assessments reviewed</li> <li>• Pollutants reviewed</li> <li>• Contact details reviewed and updated</li> <li>• Desktop scenario tested</li> </ul>

## Appendix C - Overflow Notification

### FEDERATION COUNCIL

No: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>TO:</b>	NSW EPA	NSW Department of Health
<b>PHONE:</b>	13 15 55	02 6080 8900
<b>EMAIL:</b>	riverina.farwest@epa.nsw.gov.au	n/a
<b>FAX</b>	n/a	02 6080 8999

DATE: ..... TIME: .....am/pm

DURATION OF OVERFLOW (hours): .....

VOLUME OF OVERFLOW (litres): .....

LOCATION: .....

REASON FOR IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION: .....

DESCRIPTION OF SITE (Waterway, parkland, sports ground, school): .....

TYPE OF FLOW:                      Wet weather      Dry weather

POSSIBLE CAUSE: .....

ACTION TO STOP OVERFLOW: .....

ACTION TO CLEAN UP OVERFLOW: .....

ACTION TO PREVENT OVERFLOW OCCURRING AGAIN: .....

ACTION DIRECTED BY EPA/DEPT HEALTH: .....

OTHER AGENCIES NOTIFIED: .....

NAME: ..... SIGNED .....

## Appendix D – Map of Facility & Effluent System



## Appendix E - Contact Details

### Notification Protocol

EPA	
Department of Health	
Safe Work NSW (work cover)	
Federation Council	
Director of Development and Environment Manager Environment, Facilities & Regulations Water & Sewerage Engineer Saleyards Manager	

### Interested Parties

Water NSW	
Department of Primary Industry Local Land Services (Corowa)	

### Emergency

Police	
Ambulance	
Fire and Rescue	
SES	
VRA Search & Rescue Corowa	

