

Legislation Requirements

- Requirement under Part 5.7A of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act). It is required to prepare, keep, test and implement a pollution incident response management plan – PRIMP
- Under the new changes to the legislation Licensees must keep the plan at the premises to which the environment protection licence relates or, in the case of trackable waste transporters and mobile plant, where the relevant activity takes place (section 153D, POEO Act). Keep it in the truck.
- The plan must include the information detailed in the POEO Act (section 153C) and be in the form required by the POEO(G) Regulation (clause 98B). PIRMP
- Licensees must test the plan in accordance with POEO Regulation (Clause 98E). Review every 12 months.

What do you do when a Pollution Incident occurs?

If a pollution incident occurs in the course of an activity at the premises so that material harm to the environment (within the meaning of section 147) is caused or threatened, the person carrying out the activity must immediately implement any pollution incident management response that was developed to meet the requirements of the POEO Act.

- Refer to the PIRMP
- Contact PWA GM, Service Manager & Compliance Manager
- Refer to PIRMP to Notify relevant Authority
- Failure to have a PIRMP will result in fines
- Plans must be available to an authorised officer on request (Clause 89D)
- PIRMP for is available on the PWA Website
- Fire & Rescue, EPA, Health NSW, Safework NSW, Local Authority (Council) are the agencies to be contacted if a pollution incident occurs.

Staff Training & Testing Plans

All relevant staff to be trained in accordance with the plan – every 12 months.

Training could include toolbox talks, formal staff training on incident management, undertaking simulated incident exercises, including with emergency services. The training needs to be suitable for the level of risk and likelihood of incidents.

Plans must be tested routinely at least once every 12 months. The testing is to be carried out in such a manner as to ensure that the information included in the plan is accurate and up to date, and that each plan is capable of being implemented in a workable and effective manner. This is also applicable to plans prepared by waste transporters. The two usual methods of testing are undertaking desktop simulations and practical exercises or drills. Testing must cover all components of the plan, including the effectiveness of training.