

New England Highway upgrade between Belford and the Golden Highway

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan - Summary

EPL 21420

Under Part 5.7 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*, there is a duty to notify each relevant authority (identified below) of a pollution incident, where material harm to the environment is caused or threatened. Material harm includes actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems, that is not trivial or that results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount over \$10,000.

In the event of a potential pollution incident causing or threatening material harm, and in accordance with the Environmental Incident Classification and Reporting Procedure, project staff will seek immediate assistance from the Site Environmental Representative to determine whether notification to the relevant authorities is required. If the site staff listed above are not available, staff will contact the Environmental Officer to determine whether notification to the relevant authorities is required. If none of the listed contacts are available, the most senior staff member available will determine whether notification to the relevant authorities is required. If an incident is determined to be Material Harm, the most senior staff member available will advise who will make notification to the relevant authorities, as detailed below.

Relevant Authority Notification	
If the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property, notification will be undertaken in the following order:	
Fire and Rescue NSW	000
EPA	131 555
Ministry of Health (Ask to be directed to local contact)	1300 066 055
Safe Work NSW	131 050
Singleton Council	02 6578 7290
If there is not an immediate threat to human health or the environment, notification will be undertaken in the following order:	
EPA Environment Line	131 555
Singleton Council	02 6578 7290
Ministry of Health (Ask to be directed to local contact)	1300 066 055
Safe Work NSW	131 050
Fire and Rescue NSW	1300 729 579

Community Advice Mechanisms

Early warnings for affected or potentially affected community members for any pollution incident are to be communicated by methods such as doorknocking, letters, signs, notices, local papers, leaflets, etc. (minimum of letter box drop and a clearly visible sign on premises). For air pollution incidents that may affect community members, those community members may be asked to either close their doors and windows and stay indoors until further notice or to vacate the premises. For water pollution incidents that may affect community members, those community members may be asked to avoid use of the water until further notice.

Transport for NSW will provide regular updates of any pollution incidents either via letterbox drop, notices in local papers and/or via door knocks as required.