SOLO RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE - GATESHEAD

PUBLIC POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Solo Resource Recovery

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Revision History

Version	Revision date	Authorised by	Comments
1.0	August 2014	QSE Manager	Document created
2.0	April 2015	QSE Manager	Updated IMS format
3.0	March 2016	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
3.1	March 2017	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
3.2	March 2018	QSE Manager	Review and update of scope and definitions
3.3	May 2019	QSE Manager	Update for annual test
3.4	May 2020	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
3.5	May 2021	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
3.6	May 2022	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
3.7	May 2023	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
3.8	May 2024	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
3.9	May 2025	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed
4.0	July 2026	QSE Manager	Document Reviewed

1.0 OVERVIEW

This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements described under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022* (POEO (G) Regulation) as guided by the NSW EPA's publication "*Guideline: Pollution Incident Response Management Plans, September 2022*".

The objectives of the plan are to ensure comprehensive and timely communication about a pollution incident to all relevant parties, minimise and control the risk of a pollution incident occurring and ensure correct implementation by staff.

As per regulations a copy of the full PIRMP is available on the Gateshead site and to all persons responsible for the implementation of the plan. A public version of the plan outlining procedures for contacting relevant authorities and community notification guidelines is accessible via the company website.

The plan is routinely tested every 12 months to ensure relevance, accuracy and compliance with applicable legislation and standards. A review of the plan will be undertaken within 1 month of a pollution incident occurring to ensure the plan is capable of being implemented in a workable and effective manner.

This plan forms part of the Site Environment Management Plan which makes up part of the Solo Integrated Management System. Environmental incident reporting processes are designed to ensure that all relevant team members are trained in the correct reporting protocol and under what circumstances.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

Pollution Incident - means an incident or set of circumstances during or as a consequence of which there is a 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 a premise, but it does not include an incident of circumstances involving the emission of any noise.

Material Harm to the Environment:

(a) harm to the environment is material, if:

(i) It involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or

(ii) 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.

(c) For the purposes of this Part, it does not matter that harm to the environment is caused only in the premises where the pollution incident occurs.

3.0 SCOPE

This PIRMP has been prepared for Solo Group Gateshead Site. This site contains a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) which receives and processes recyclable material under the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 20427.

Figure 1: Extract from EPL 20427

Section 55 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Environment Protection Licence

Licence - 20427

NSW EPA

Licence Details	
Number:	20427
Anniversary Date:	31-October

Licensee
SOLO WASTE PTY LTD
PO BOX 1427
KINGSCLIFF NSW 2487

Premises
SOLO RESOURCE RECOVERY
27 OAKDALE ROAD
GATESHEAD NSW 2290

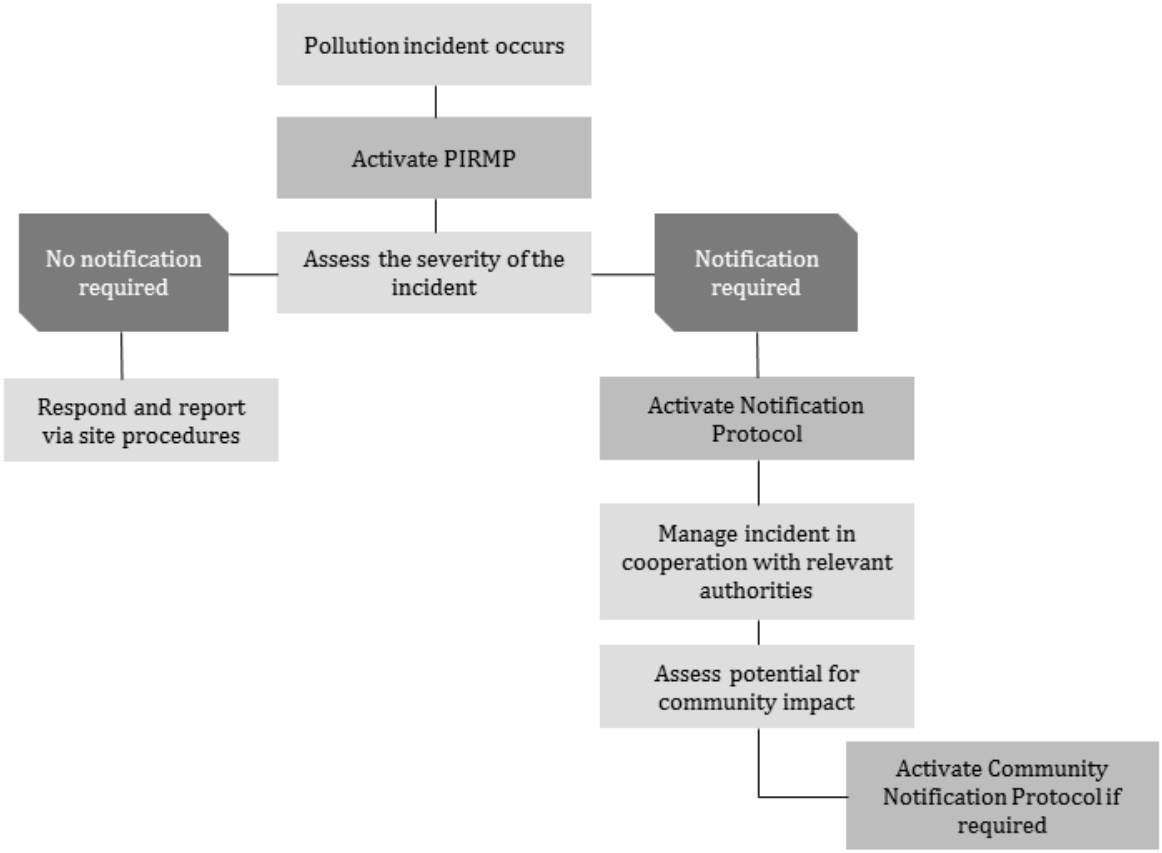
Scheduled Activity
Resource Recovery
Waste Storage

Fee Based Activity	Scale
Recovery of general waste	> 0 T recovered
Waste storage - other types of waste	> 0 T stored

The Gateshead Site is comprised of the following:

- Administration Office
- Drivers Lunch Room
- Yard Area including Fuel storage and Washbay
- MGB Storage
- Weighbridge
- Transfer Station
- Mechanical Workshop
- Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)
- Staff Car Park and Visitors Car Park

4.0 INCIDENT RESPONSE PROCEDURE OVERVIEW



5.0 INCIDENT RESPONSE

Should an environmental incident occur where harm to the environment has, or is likely to occur the following steps are to be taken:

- Assess severity of incident.
- If appropriate take steps to prevent further discharge, isolate and contain spill using available equipment and PPE.
- Minor incidents not requiring notification will be attended under the *Spills – Oil or Other Substances Procedure(IMS-AIIR-D-0010)*.
- If required enact Notification Protocols, advise relevant authorities of the incident and what steps are being taken (record details of time of call and who was told).
- Record the date, time and location of the incident.
- Record what chemical or pollutant is involved (if known) and estimated quantity.
- Record details of the receiving environment.
- Records any injuries to team members or members of the public as a result of the incident.
- Do not leave the incident location until advised by supervisor / state agency official.

6.0 NOTIFICATION PROTOCOLS

External:

Agency	Contact
Fire and Rescue NSW	000* (*if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property) 1300 729 579
EPA Environment Line	131 555
Ministry of Health via the local Public Health Unit	1300 066 055
WorkCover Authority	13 10 50
Lake Macquarie City Council	02 4921 0333

Internal:

Position	Contact
Solo Contracts Manager	xxxx xxx xxx
Solo Operations Supervisor	xxxx xxx xxx
MRF Site Supervisor	xxxx xxx xxx
Solo Compliance Team	xx xxxx xxxx

7.0 COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION STRATEGY

Decisions to notify neighbours and the local community will be made in consultation with regulatory authorities based on an initial assessment of the pollution incident.

Advice provided to the community will depend on the type and extent of the pollution incident and guidance from the regulatory authorities.

Notifications may include (as an example) advice to close doors and windows to avoid odour etc. The appropriate method for communication will be determined by the nature of the event or as directed by the relevant agency. Methods may include door knocking by company representative (or emergency personnel), telephone contact or written correspondence.

Affected community stakeholders will be regularly updated throughout the course of the pollution incident.