

REGIONAL QUARRIES

POLLUTION INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

for

Inverell Aggregates (EPL 20338)

This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan has been prepared for

Inverell Quarry
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Version History

Rev	Description	Originator	Reviewed	Approved	Date
1	Review and implementation	Sean Murphy	18/10/2021	Sean Murphy	18/10/2021

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1 INTRODUCTION

Regional Quarries Australia (RQA) is committed to the prevention, in so far as is reasonably practicable, of harm to the natural environment and the local community through the identification and control of environmental hazards. In the course of operations, incidents and other events may occur that require a response in order to either prevent the incident from re-occurring or to minimise negative and/ or maximise positive impacts of the incident. This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) provides information and procedures to guide the response to managing a pollution incident, including reporting to authorities and the community, adjoining Inverell Quarry.

1.1 Background

To satisfy statutory obligations under the *NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) Part 7.5A, and associated *Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011* (POELA Act) for licensed premises, RQA has in place this document. It is designed to ensure the effective response to pollution incidents, including:

- Comprehensive and timely communication to staff at the premises, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), other relevant authorities as specified in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act, and people outside the facility who may be affected by the impact of the pollution incident.
- Risk minimisation and control of a pollution incident at the premises by identifying risks, and the development of planned actions to minimise and manage those risks.
- Proper implementation by trained staff, and regular testing for accuracy, currency and suitability.

1.2 Scope

This PIRMP is specific to Regional Quarries Australia Pty Ltd.'s Inverell Quarry. This plan applies to all activities, products and services on the site over which RQA has operational control.

2 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Specific legislative requirements for the development and implementation of this PIRMP are provided in the following:

- Part 5.7A of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act);
- Part 5.7A of the Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011 (POELA Act);
- The Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Amendment (Pollution Incident Response Management Plans) Regulation 2012; and
- Environment Protection License (EPL) 20338.

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3 NOTIFICATION OF A POLLUTION INCIDENT

A pollution incident is required to be *immediately* notified if there is a risk of 'material harm to the environment', defined in section 147 of the PEOE Act as:

- 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 practical measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment.*

These provisions will ensure that pollution incidents are reported directly to the relevant response agencies so they will have direct access to the information they need to manage and deal with the incident.

4 CONTACT DETAILS OF THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES TO BE NOTIFIED

In accordance with Part 5.7 of the *Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) the following notification will occur when material harm (as defined by Section 147 of the POEO Act) to the environment is caused or threatened.

- Individuals responsible for activating the plan and managing the response:
Darryl Marks (Production Supervisor) **0476 651 097**
- Individuals authorised to notify and co-ordinate relevant authorities:
Darryl Marks (Production Supervisor) **0476 651 097**
Sean Murphy (Operations Manager) **0419 879 069**
- Call **000** if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property. Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police, and the NSW Ambulance Service are the first responders, as they are responsible for controlling and containing incidents.
- If the incident does not require an initial combat agency or following the call to 000 the following must be notified:
 - Inverell Shire Council – 02 67288 288
 - The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) – Environment Line **131 555**;
 - SafeWork NSW on **13 10 50**; and
 - Fire and Rescue NSW – **000** (if not contacted already).
 - NSW Resources Regulator – **1300 814 609**

Complying with these notification requirements does not remove the need to comply with any other obligations for incident notification, for example, those that apply under other environment protection legislation or legislation administered by SafeWork NSW.

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4.1 Relevant Information to be Given When Notifying the Incident

According to section 150 of the POEO Act (1997) when notifying the incident to the regulatory authorities the following information has to be provided:

- a) *Time, date, nature, duration and location of the incident;*
- b) *Location of the place where pollution is occurring or is likely to occur;*
- c) *The nature, the estimated quantity or volume and the concentration of any pollutants involved, if known;*
- d) *The circumstances in which the incident occurred (including the cause of the incident if known);*
- e) *Action taken or proposed to be taken to deal with the incident any resulting pollution or threatened pollution, if known; and*
- f) *When the information relating to items c), d) or e) is not known at the time of verbal notification, this information must be provided once it becomes available.*

4.2 Communicating with neighbours and the local community

Communicating with neighbours and the local community is an important element in managing the response to any incident and shall be undertaken if offsite environmental impacts and/or human health is threatened, under the determination of Quarry Manager. RQA will formally contact properties in close proximity to the Quarry's boundary (please refer to **Figure 1** & corresponding **Table 1** below), with priority and consideration given to notifying any sensitive premises in close proximity. Information provided to the community will be relevant to the incident and may include the following details:

- Type of incident that has occurred;
- Potential impacts local landholders and the community;
- Site contact details; and
- Advice or recommendations based on the incident type and scale.

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Figure 1: Adjacent Land Ownership Map



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Table 1: Neighbouring Land Owner Contact Details

Stakeholder	Name	Contact Information

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5 DESCRIPTION AND LIKELIHOOD OF HAZARDS

Main hazards to human health or the environment that are potentially material and associated with the activity being undertaken at the premises, the likelihood of any such hazards occurring, and pre-emptive actions to minimise or prevent risk of harm to human health or the environment and the response actions arising from activities undertaken at the premises are identified and summarised in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Potential hazards with their associated likelihood, pre-emptive and response actions.

Potential Hazard	Likelihood	Pre-emptive Actions	Response Action
<p>Hydrocarbon Spill (Service Truck/ Delivery to site): A significant release of hydrocarbons is possible from a vehicle accident involving a diesel delivery truck or a field service truck.</p>	Low	Maintenance of spill kits at workshop and portable spill kits kept in pit area.	<p>Report incident (as detailed in sections 6 of the PIRMP)..</p> <p>Contain released hydrocarbons with spill containment booms, mats, etc, or cutting a sump/ pushing up bunding.</p> <p>Where possible, prevent hydrocarbons entering drainage lines or from leaving site. Recover liquid waste (vacuum truck to be hired via waste contractors) and ensure disposal via licenced waste contractor.</p> <p>Implement soil and water sampling program to delineate hydrocarbon impacted area. Recover all hydrocarbon impacted material and dispose of accordingly.</p>
Potential Hazard	Likelihood	Pre-emptive Actions	Response Action
<p>Blasting (Noise, Vibration, Dust, NOx) Blasting, while only occasionally used can result in excessive offsite overpressure, ground vibration and dust impacts. Blasting can also cause clouds of visible oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) fumes, which may cause health impacts. Impacts are mainly preventatively managed through careful blast planning</p>	Low	<p>No explosives stored on site, and all blasting operations are undertaken by a licensed contractor.</p> <p>Blast design to minimise offsite impacts.</p> <p>Monitoring of meteorological conditions, to plan blasting schedules.</p> <p>Blast monitoring to record offsite ground vibration and airblast overpressure impacts in accordance with EPL licence conditions.</p>	Report incident (as detailed in sections 6 of the PIRMP).

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Complete failure of sediment retention structures	Low	Regular monitoring and maintenance of sediment structures in accordance with Water management plan.	Report incident (as detailed in section 6 of the PIRMP) and inspect failure and extent of sediment deposition downstream. Remove excess sediment where possible while recognising other environmental values.
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5.1 Inventory of Pollutants

Regional Quarries Australia's Inverell Quarry premises stores, handles and uses a small amount of potential pollutant materials in its operation, and safe handling is conducted in accordance with the Safety Data Sheets (SDS). **Table 3** below presents the type, maximum volume and location of potential pollutants stored at the licenced premises.

Table 3: Potential Pollutants Stored at the Site

Potential Pollutant	Maximum Quantity	Storage Location
Diesel	5000L	Bunded Fuel Tank
Pre Coate	11000L	Bunded Tank
Oils	2000	Bunded Area

Note: Oils & Grease to be brought to site by contractors to fill machinery as required.

5.2 Incident Response Safety Equipment

Table 4 below summarises the equipment and resources available to assist with the management of an environmental incident.

Table 4: Available Safety Equipment and Resources

Equipment or Resource	Location
Spill kits	Fuel Tank
Fire fighting equipment	All mobile & Fixed Plant, All light vehicles, Fuel Tank

5.3 Staff training

General information relating to incident management and emergency response shall be included in all site inductions. All personnel must complete the induction prior to gaining access to site. Records of inductions are maintained within the main office.

5.4 Availability of Plans

The PIRMP will be maintained, in written form, at the Quarry office, and shall be made readily available to those responsible for its implementation and to an authorised officer on request, as well as to anyone requesting the plan in writing generally within 14 days of the request being made.

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5.5 Testing of Plans

The PIRMP will be tested routinely at least once every 12 months, 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.

6 Pollution Incident Response Management Plan

If it is suspected that an incident may cause material environmental harm the PIRMP will be executed. This plan is based on seven phases:

PHASE 1 - ASSESSMENT

Identify the severity, risks and extent of the incident:

- What is the substance emitted?
- What are its properties?
- Is there a risk to health and safety?
- Do you have the necessary PPE to manage the emission?
- What is the nature of the surrounding area?
- What is the volume of the emission?
- If workers are at risk implement the emergency evacuation procedure and clear site of personnel.

If the emission has the potential to cause material harm, execute the next phase of the plan (Notify)

PHASE 2 - STOP

- Stop the source of the emission
- Ensure that necessary emergency materials are on hand to control larger emissions
- Examples
 - Restore drums to upright position
 - Close open valve causing spill
 - Isolate feed line
 - Plug the leak
 - Construct an earthen bund

PHASE 3 - NOTIFY

Individuals responsible for activating and co-ordinating plan are to notify authorities and neighbours as per section 4 of this plan.

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PHASE 4 - CONTAIN

- All incidents raised as risks require the “Contain” considerations
- Utilise barriers (absorbent booms, banks of soil or any other safe objects) or spill absorbent to prevent the emission from spreading.
- When an emission is on a hard surface use appropriate absorbent materials ie absorbent granules or sand.
- The main priority is to prevent the emitted material from discharging off site.

PHASE 5 - MITIGATE

- Implement environmental controls at and away from the pollution source to prevent/minimise further impact to the local receiving environment.
- Example – A fuel spill discharged into quarry dam. Mitigation controls to ensure this spill in not spread may include closing of weirs or outlets, ensuring water does not fill from affected dam etc

PHASE 6 – CLEAN UP

- Clean up and remedial actions to restore the environment
- Disposal of the pollutants in accordance with regulations

PHASE 7 – REVIEW

- Conduct an investigation into the event and assist the EPA and investigators with external enquiries.
- Test the effectiveness of the PIRMP annually and within one month of an incident to ensure controls are replenished and plan is effective.

7 LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Blast Management Protocol
- Air Quality Management Plan
- Water Management Plan

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8 SITE MAPS

Figure 1: Local Topography & Drainage

	Latitude	Longitude	Easting	Northing
1	29° 47' 58.522308"	151° 7' 51.42252"	319357.081	6701958.828
2	29° 48' 0.847368"	151° 7' 55.68744"	319472.763	6701887.101
3	29° 48' 3.296196"	151° 7' 48.81756"	319289.518	6701808.717



Maps (Clause 98C (1) (k)) of Regional Quarries Australia Pty Ltd Inverell Quarry

Figure 1 – Aerial view of Quarry showing discharge points.

- Point 1: Water Discharge
- Point 2: Dust
- Point 3: Water

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Figure 2: Discharge Monitoring Points



Figure 2 – quarry location of potential pollutants' (Workshop)

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