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Document Title	Pollution Incident Response Management Plan Rix's Creek EPL 3391
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Approved by	Brendon Clements
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1. Introduction

It is the policy of The Bloomfield Group (Bloomfield) to strive to achieve a high standard of care for the natural environment and local community in all of the activities in which we engage during the production of quality coal and the provision of engineering related services (refer to *Group Environment Management Policy*).

Bloomfield is committed to the prevention, in so far as is reasonably practicable, of harm to the natural environment and 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 reoccurring or to minimise negative and/ or maximise positive impacts of the incident.

Section 148 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act)* requires that the "Relevant Authority" is notified "where a pollution incident occurs in the course of an activity" where "material harm to the environment is caused or threatened" see also the *Section Notification to the Authority* later in the document.

This Management System document provides information and the Procedures to guide the response to managing, including reporting to authorities, environmental incidents at Bloomfield Group Mining Operations; particularly those Operations that operate under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL).

It demonstrates compliance with Part 5.7A of the *POEO Act* and Part 3A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009 (POEO (G) Regulation)* related to establishing Pollution Incident Response Management Plans.

2. Impact of COVID-19

The intent of this Management Plan as drafted may have been impacted by COVID-19. As such, where there are any references to expectations of people gathering, meeting or generally being in the same vicinity, this is to be done with appropriate social distancing, personal hygiene, and effective respiratory hygiene measures applied. Workers must reference the COVID-19 Management Plan for guidance on effective prevention and control practices for all activities conducted at a Bloomfield Operation. Workers unsure of how to control the risk should stop the job and report this to the Supervisor in line with the Risk Management System.

3. Scope - Meets requirements of CL.98c (1)(j)

This document relates to incidents that cause or threaten "material harm" to the environment (refer to Section *Definitions* below).

Potential environmental incidents related to Bloomfield Mining Operations have been identified through an Environmental Risk Assessment conducted as per the *Group Risk Management System* (refer to *MinOp Environmental Emergencies Risk Assessment Report 300712*). A summary of the environmental hazards identified through that process, as being of significance to the Operations and therefore as requiring a response under Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) required Pollution Incident Response Management Plans, is presented in Table 1 below.

The *MinOp Environmental Emergencies Risk Assessment Report 300712* and this document are aimed at demonstrating compliance with the requirements of Section 153C of the *POEO Act 1997* "Information to be included in Plan" and of Clauses 98C (1), "Additional

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matters to be included in the Plan”; 98D “Availability of Plan”; & 98E “Testing of Plan” of the *POEO (G) Regulation 2009*.

Other relevant documents readers should be aware of include the *MinOp Emergency Management System* and the *MinOp Incident Notification Procedure*.

Other related information can be accessed through the *Group Hazardous Materials Management System* in the relevant Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

4. Definitions

Material Harm to the Environment (Section 147 of the POEO Act 1997): Section 147 of the *POEO Act 1997* provides that:

(1) For the purposes of this Part--

(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.

(2) 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.

5. Notification to the Authority

With regards to activities that cause, or threaten, a significant environmental incident, Section 148 of the *POEO Act 1997* requires (in summary) that:

- A person carrying on the activity must immediately notify each relevant authority of the incident and all relevant information about it.
- An employee carrying on an activity must immediately notify the employer of the incident and all relevant information about it. If the employer cannot be contacted, the person is required to notify each relevant authority.
- An employer who is notified of an incident or who otherwise becomes aware of a pollution incident, must, immediately notify each relevant authority of the incident.

Refer to the Sections *Contact Information* and *Reporting and Notification Protocol* for contact details and protocols related to reporting to the “Authorities”.

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6. High or Extreme Risk Environmental Hazards

The *MinOp Environmental Emergencies Risk Assessment Report 300712* identified no Extreme rated environmental hazards at Bloomfield Mining Operations.

The following hazards were identified as having the greatest potential to cause “material harm” to the environment and therefore as being required to be addressed in the *Mining Operation Pollution Incident Response Management Plan* included in this document.

Hazard	Operation	Risk Ranking (Consequence/ Likelihood)
Unlicensed release of mine-water (pit-water storage)	Open Cut Mining	High (Major/ Possible)
Unlicensed release of mine-water (separators, drains & lines)	Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	High (Major/ Possible)
Unlicensed release of process water (dams)	Coal Processing	High (Major/ Possible)
Noise pollution	Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	Significant (Major/ Remote)
Hydrocarbon Spill (Bulk Storage/ Service Truck/ Delivery to site)	Exploration & Construction/ Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	Significant (Major/ Remote)
Blasting (noise, vibration, dust, NOx)	Open Cut Mining	Significant (Major/ Remote)
Spontaneous Combustion (Spon Com)	Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing	Significant (Major/ Remote)
Night lighting impact	Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/Maintenance	Significant (Major/ Remote)

Table 1: Potential Environmental Incidents

7. Contact Information - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(g)(i),(ii) &(iii)

Table 2 contains the contact details (as per Section 153C (c) of the *POEO Act 1997* and Cl. 98C of the *POEO (G) Regulation 2009*) who are authorised to:

- Activate the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (in accordance with the *Reporting and Notification Protocol* below);
- Notify the relevant authorities (in accordance with the *Reporting and Notification Protocol* below);
- Manage (relevant to their area of expertise) the incident.

Table 3 contains the contact details for the relevant Regulatory Authorities.

See Attachment A for contact details for neighbouring landowners.

REFER TO *Reporting and Notification Protocol* (see below) BEFORE CALLING ANY EXTERNAL PERSONS OR ORGANISATIONS.

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INTERNAL (BLOOMFIELD GROUP) REPORTING		
Name	Position	Phone Number
John Richards	Chairman of the Board	0419 236 002
Brett Lewis	Managing Director/ CEO	0409 494 366
Luke Murray	Chief Operations Officer	0427 292 152
Geoff Moore	Chief Development Officer	0407 490 944
Brendon Clements	Operations Manager	0437 684 222
Chris Knight	Environmental Manager	0403 058 777
Chris Quinn	Environmental Superintendent	0427 169 302
Tim Gentle	Technical Services Manager	0418 871 691
Rix's Creek North OCE	Mining Supervisor- Rix's Creek North	0437 199 724
Rix's Creek South	Mining Supervisor- Rix's Creek South	0408 498 332
Mick Innes	Blasting Superintendent	0427 213 423
Adam Sanderson	CHPP Superintendent RCS	0402 486 821
Chad Lizdenis	CHPP Superintendent RCN	0411 872 382
Simon Ball	MinterEllison– Environmental Legal Advisors	0402 282428

Table 2: Bloomfield Group Authorised Persons

EXTERNAL (REGULATORY AUTHORITY) REPORTING	
Organisation	Contact Details
EPA – Pollution line	131 555
NSW Health (Public Health Unit – Newcastle)	Office (02) 4924 6477 (ask for Public Health Officer) Fax 02 4924 6490
**WorkCover NSW	131050
Local Government – Singleton Shire Council	Business hours (02) 6578 7290 After Hours (02) 6572 1400
State Emergency Services	(02) 6572 4669 or 132500
NSW Department of Planning and Environment- Resource Assessments Compliance. (DPE)	65 753400 or 1300 305 695
Department of Regional NSW Resources- Mining, Exploration and Geoscience (MEG) & Regulator (RR)	1300 814 609
Fire & Rescue NSW	000

** Workcover are not the Appropriate Regulatory Authority for injury on a site covered by the Mining Act 1992.

Table 3: Regulatory Contacts

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8. Reporting and Notification Protocol

The following protocol is to be applied following (or during) an environmental incident to ensure the appropriate persons and organisations are informed. This protocol should be read in conjunction with the authorisation and notification protocols contained in the document *MinOp Incident Notification Procedure*. Response actions are outlined later in this document in the Section *Response to Environmental Incidents*.

8.1 Workers

All workers (employees and contractors working on site) are required to immediately report all environmental incidents/ potential environmental incidents to their Supervisor.

8.2 Supervisor

The Supervisor will **immediately** report the incident to the Operations Manager (or alternate) and the site Environmental Superintendent or Environmental Manager, and complete a copy of the *Group Incident Reporting Form*.

8.3 Operations Manager/ Environmental Officer - Meets requirements of S 153C (a)(ii)(iii)

The Operations Manager (or alternate) with support from the Environmental Manager and Environmental staff will make an immediate initial assessment of the incident and determine whether the incident represents/ threatens material harm (refer to Section Definitions) to the environment. If so, the incident will be reported to Chief Development Officer and the Directors (or alternatively Managing Director/CEO).

If not, the incident will be managed internally utilising group resources, without reporting a Pollution Incident. Note: this may still involve notification of relevant authorities if the incident is a non-compliance with EPL 3391 or Development Consent conditions, but not environmental harm (i.e. blast overpressure exceedance reporting).

8.4 External Reporting to EPA 9 and Other Authorities) - Meets requirements of S 153C (a)(ii)(iii)

The Directors (or alternatively Managing Director/CEO) will decide if the incident warrants external reporting. If external reporting is authorised:

- A verbal incident report is to be made "**immediately**" to the NSW EPA Pollution Line (taking note of incident number) by the Environmental staff or Operations Manager (refer also to Section *Legal Professional Privilege* below).
- If the environmental incident causes or **threatens injury to human health** or safety, the incident is to be reported to NSW Health and NSW Emergency Services, commensurate with the scale of the incident and potential impacts.
- If **actual injury or human health** impacts have occurred, the incident is to be reported as required in the *MinOp Incident Notification Procedure*. For onsite injury the relevant regulatory authority will be Resources Regulator for offsite injury
- The incident will be reported to the relevant Local Government office.

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8.5 Ongoing Communication with Authorities

If required, the Operations Manager or delegated to the Environmental Manager or Environmental Superintendent will be the point of contact for all continuing communications with the authorities for the duration of the incident (and incident clean up) in accordance with the authority's instructions/ requirements until the emergency situation is resolved and/ or the authority is satisfied. For more information on the roles and responsibilities during emergency situations, see the MinOp Emergency Management System.

8.6 Notification of Neighbouring Property Owners/ Occupiers - Meets requirements of S 153C (a)(i) & Cl. 98C (1) (i) & (l)

The Directors (or alternatively Managing Director/CEO) will determine whether the incident threatens offsite human health. If offsite environmental impacts and/ or human health is threatened, the potentially impacted landowners will be notified by the Environmental Superintendent or Environmental Manager via phone call (see Appendix A for contact details of neighbouring landowners).

Consultation will take place with those people and adequate instructions will be provided to landowners to ensure the protection of human health, livestock and property. Timely updates will continue to be provided for the duration of the incident and clean-up work. A follow up report on the incident and outcomes will be presented to the community at subsequent Community Consultation Committee meetings

8.7 Investigation

Any "Notifiable Incident" as defined in this document is reported using the Group Incident Reporting Form and is considered to be a Significant Incident and will trigger a Significant Incident Investigation as per the Group Incident Investigation Procedures

8.8 Follow-up Reporting

The NSW EPA will specify requirements for the provision of further information relating to the incident, but (at a minimum) will generally require a written report within 7 days of the incident. Other Government Agencies will also require this report (DPE, MEG, RR)

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9. Inventory of Potential Pollutants - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(d) & (e)

Table 4 below presents the type, maximum volume and location of potential pollutants stored at the licenced premises.

See Appendix B for a site map, including the location of potential pollutants.

Inventory of Potential Pollutants- RCS

Type of Storage	Max Storage Capacity (L, kg)	Product Name	Typical Qty	Unit (L, kg)
Above Ground Tank	110,000 L	Diesel	80,000	L
Above Ground Tank	90,000 L	Diesel	70,000	L
Above Ground Tank	90,000 L	Diesel	50,000	L
Above Ground Tank	15,000 L	Nalflote 9840 plus	10,000	L
Above Ground Tank	15,000 L	Nalflote 9855	10,000	L
Above Ground Tank	60,000 L	Combustible Liquids	40,000	L
Cylinder storage	1000 L	Acetylene,Dissolved	800	L
Cylinder storage	100 L	Argon compressed	100	L
Cylinder storage	800 L	Oxygen Compresed	800	L
Above Ground Tank	50,000KG	Ammonium Nitrate	40,000	KG
Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion	60,000 L	Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion	40,000	L
Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion	30,000 L	Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion	20,000	L
Magazine	10000units	Excel	8,000	Number
Magazine	3000 kg	Boosters	1,500	Number
Magazine	10000 units	IKON	8,000	Number
Dam / Septic Tank	20,000 L	Sewerage effluent	20,000	L
Dam	3 GL	Mine Water / Process Water	2	GL
Coal Tailings	1,450,000 BCM / Year	Coal Tailings	1,450,000	BCM / Yr

Inventory of Potential Pollutants- RCN

Type of Storage	Max Storage Capacity (L, kg)	Product Name	Typical Qty	Unit (L, kg)
Above Ground Tank	90,000L	Combustible Liquids	40,000	L
Above Ground Tank	450,000L	Diesel	200,000	L
Above Ground Tank	450, 000L	Diesel	200,000	L
SepticTank	10,000L	Sewerage effluent	10,000L	L
Dam	5 GL	Mine Water / Process Water	3	GL
Tailings Dam	500,000 BCM / Year	Coal Tailings	500,000	BCM / Yr
Above Ground Tank	26,340L	Lupromin FF 1908 (Frother)	26,000	L
Above Ground Tank	26,340L	Lupromin FP C 1321 (Collector)	26,000	L

Table 4: Potential Pollutants Stored at the Site

10. Incident Response Equipment Register - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(f)

Table 5 below summarises the equipment and resources available to assist with the management of an environmental incident (refer also to *MinOp Emergency Management System*).

Equipment or Resource	Location	Maintenance Responsibility
Spill kits	Workshops and hydrocarbon storage facilities	Environmental Superintendent
Earthmoving plant (e.g. grader, backhoe)	Open cut	Operations Manager
Camera and sampling equipment	Environmental Store Room	Environmental Superintendent
Spare (or hire) pumps and polypipe line	Spare polypipe in open cut lay down area. Pumps hired as needed.	Pump Supervisor
Vacuum truck (hire via waste contractor)	Offsite	Environmental Superintendent
SDS Register	Online	Safety & Health Manager
Fire fighting equipment	Workshops, CHPP, fuel storage facilities and on vehicles/ plant.	Area Supervisors

11. Response to Environmental Incidents

The following Sections outline the resources and actions required to respond to environmental incidents. A response action plan is presented for each of the significant potential pollution incidents outlined in Table 1. A summary of the management measures in place to minimise the likelihood of the incidents, and the relevant management system documents, are also presented.

12. General - Meets requirements of S 153C (b) & Cl. 98C (1) (i) & (j)

As well as following the specific actions detailed for each environmental incident below, the following general actions should be followed for all environmental incidents:

- **Report** the incident to Supervisor, Operations Manager and Environmental Superintendent (as detailed in the reporting and *Notification Protocol* section). At a minimum, the reported information should include:
 - ◆ Nature of the Incident;
 - ◆ Location of the Incident;
 - ◆ Assistance required (e.g. spill kit, machinery).
- **Assess** the scale of the incident and incident site, identifying potential hazards to human safety, and take appropriate actions to maintain human safety.
- Where possible, and safe, implement the **3 Cs Incident Response – Control, Contain, Clean-up**:
 - ◆ **Control** the source of the pollution incident, and control access to the impacted area;
 - ◆ **Contain** the released pollutant from spreading any further; and
 - ◆ **Clean up** the already released pollutant (and dispose of legally).

Depending on the scale of the incident, the 3Cs response may be achievable locally with site based spill kits, but may also require the use of specialised contractors.

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13. Unlicensed Release of Mine Water - (Pit-water, Dams, Drains and Lines)

Mine-water (typically saline and turbid) is stored in non-operational open cut pits and storage dams onsite. This mine-water is also transferred between storages using open drains and polypipe lines.

If pits, dams, drains or lines fail, mine-water has the potential to discharge into natural creeks and drainage lines that lead offsite and into natural watercourses, eventually reporting to the Hunter River

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Measures outlined in the <i>Site Water Management Plan</i> implemented, including: <input type="checkbox"/> Mine planning to reduce unnecessary capture of clean water. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular review of site water balance and pit water inventory to determine storage capacity. Monthly water quality testing to assess quality of stored waters.	Tech Services Manager, Environmental Superintendent, Pump Supervisor, Environmental Superintendent
Regular inspection and, if required, maintenance of water management structures and equipment, such as pumps, polypipe lines, drains and dam walls.	Environmental Superintendent, Pump Supervisor
Fully welded and/ or flange-jointed polypipe lines High risk pipelines are fitted with flow monitoring equipment.	Operations Manager, Pump Supervisor
Response Actions	
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
Take action to stem flow of mine water: <input type="checkbox"/> Failed polypipe line - shutdown pump and engage contractors to repair line. <input type="checkbox"/> Drain failure – shutdown pump, close valve or reduce water level on overflowing storage. Use earthmoving plant to install temporary bypass or reinstate drain. <input type="checkbox"/> Dam failure or overtop - increase pumping capacity to reduce water levels.	Operations Manager, Pump Supervisor
Where possible, prevent mine water from leaving site – divert water to alternative storage or install check dam or sump, and pump water back to alternative storage (taking into account possible damage to natural drainage lines).	Operations Manager, Pump Supervisor
Evacuate any downstream work areas that may be impacted by released mine water.	Operations Manager, Pump Supervisor
Implement water sampling program to characterise discharge water quality for the duration of the discharge, and assess potential downstream impacts.	Environmental Superintendent
Inspect integrity of other mine water management structures that may have also been impacted.	Environmental Superintendent, Pump Supervisor
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Operations Manager

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14. Unlicensed Release of Process Water (Dams, Drains and Lines)

Fine coal rejects consisting mainly of clay particles (tailings) are disposed of onsite in non-operational open cut voids or designated prescribed emplacement areas, and transferred from the CHPP via polypipe lines.

If the tailings dam fails (non-catastrophic failure) or lines fail, tailings may be released to natural creeks and drainage lines. Depending on water flow in the creeks, the fine tailings may be transported downstream.

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Measures outlined in the <i>Emplacement Area Management Plan</i> and <i>TD2 Operation and Maintenance Manual</i> , implemented including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Annual inspection of dam integrity by qualified civil engineer. <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term mine planning to ensure adequate tailings storage volume for life of mine. <input type="checkbox"/> Surveyor's Monitoring Plan of tailings and decant water levels <input type="checkbox"/> Pipelines are located within contained and internally draining catchment areas 	Tech Services Manager
Regular inspection and, if required, maintenance of tailings emplacement and transfer infrastructure, such as polypipe lines.	CHPP Manager
Protective intercept drains adjacent to tailings line.	CHPP Manager
Fully welded and/ or flange-jointed polypipe lines High risk pipelines are fitted with flow monitoring equipment.	CHPP Manager
Response Actions	
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
Implement <i>Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) for Tailings Dam 2</i> .	Operations Manager, CHPP Manager, Tech Services Manager
Take action to stem flow of tailings/decant water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Failed polypipe line – shutdown pump and engage contractors to repair line. <input type="checkbox"/> Dam failure or overtop – stop pumping tailings. Increase decant water pumping capacity to reduce water levels. <input type="checkbox"/> Use earthmoving plant to temporarily reinstate or raise emplacement wall. 	CHPP Manager, Operations Manager
Where possible, prevent tailings from leaving site. Excavate sump or drain to intercept and pump tailings/ water back to alternative storage. (taking into account possible damage to natural drainage lines).	Operations Manager
Implement downstream water sampling and visual inspection program to characterise impact on water quality and delineate migration of tailings particulate matter.	Environmental Superintendent
Inspect integrity of the remainder of the emplacement and transfer line.	CHPP Manager
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Operations Manager

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15. Hydrocarbon Spill (Bulk Storage/ Service Truck/ Delivery to Site)

A significant release of hydrocarbons is possible from a vehicle accident involving a diesel delivery truck or an open cut field service truck, or failure of a bulk hydrocarbon storage facility.

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
The MinOp Mine Transport Management Plan has been implemented to ensure safe traffic movement across operational mining areas.	Mining Supervisors
Design of hydrocarbon transfer and storage infrastructure in accordance with relevant Australian Standards and industry guidelines.	Asset Management
Regular inspection and, if required, maintenance of hydrocarbon storage facilities.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Superintendent
Maintenance of spill kits at high risk sites, such as workshops and hydrocarbon stores. Portable spill kits kept on service trucks and delivery trucks.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Superintendent
Response Actions	
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
Employ the 3 Cs spill response actions to contain, contain and clean up released hydrocarbons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contain released hydrocarbons with spill containment booms, mats, etc, or cutting a sump/ pushing up bunding. 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. Implement soil and water sampling program to delineate hydrocarbon impacted area. Recover all hydrocarbon impacted material. 	CHPP Manager, Maintenance Manager, Area Supervisors and Environmental Superintendent
Ensure all contaminated waste products are disposed of in accordance with <i>Site Waste Management Procedures</i> , and spill kits are replenished, as required.	Environmental Superintendent
Inspect integrity of the remainder of the hydrocarbon storage facility.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Superintendent
<i>Group Incident Investigation Procedures</i>	Operations Manager

16. Blasting (Noise, Vibration, Dust, NO)

Blasting, which is an integral part of open cut coal mining, 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 (refer also to MinOp Airborne Dust Management Plan).

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Blast design in accordance with MinOp Explosives Management Plan to minimise offsite impacts and Blast Fume Management Strategy to minimise the potential for blast fume generation. Use of the Blasting Checklist for Rix's Creek to record blast details prior to initiation.	Blasting Supervisor
Monitoring of meteorological conditions, including participation in the Hunter Valley Meteorological Sounding Group (JV), to plan blasting schedules, and model potential fume impacts.	Blasting Supervisor
Blast monitoring to record offsite ground vibration and airblast overpressure impacts.	Environmental Superintendent
Response Actions	
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints Management Protocol Group Incident Investigation Procedures 	Environmental Superintendent, Operations Manager

17. Noise Pollution

24 hour open cut operations generate offsite noise. Operations are managed and monitored to meet noise limits contained in the site Environmental Protection Licence (EPL). However, noise complaints are still received. Noise impacts can be enhanced by atmospheric conditions, such as temperature inversions or wind direction.

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Planning and management of night time operations to meet development consent/ EPL noise limits.	Operations Manager, Mining Supervisor
Noise and meteorological monitoring programs	Environmental Superintendent
Installation of noise mitigation measures on permanent infrastructure such as CHPP and conveyors.	CHPP Manager, Environmental Superintendent
Community Consultative Committee meetings to obtain community feedback about offsite mine impacts, and modification of site operations in response to that feedback.	Environmental Superintendent
Response Actions	
If complaint is received, Mining Supervisor will inspect noise levels and possible noise sources, and modify open cut operations, if required.	Mining Supervisor

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Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Complaints Management Protocol</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Group Incident Investigation Procedures</i>	Environmental Superintendent Operations Manager

18. Spontaneous Combustion

Spontaneous combustion (Spon Com) results from self-heating which is caused mainly by the oxidation of coal and coal rejects. If the heat generated by this reaction is trapped, such as in a spoil pile, the temperature of the material will begin to rise and if unchecked may ultimately ignite (i.e. spontaneously combust).

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Identification of high potential Spon Com coal ahead of mining (during resource definition investigations).	Operations Manager
Dump design and scheduling to ensure Spon Com prone material is not concentrated during dumping.	Operations Manager
Procedures for handling and stockpiling of Spon Com prone materials.	Operations Manager/ CHPP Manager
Response Actions	
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
Separation, isolation and irrigation of Spon Com material to extinguish combusted material, and prevent spreading of combustion.	Operations Manager/ Mining Supervisor
<i>Group Incident Investigation Procedures</i>	Operations Manager

19. Night Lighting Impact

Night lighting is required to ensure adequate illumination for night time vehicle/ mobile plant operations. Procedures are in place to ensure lighting plant are located so as not to cause offsite impact. However, complaints are occasionally received regarding night lighting. A 24 hour complaints line is maintained to ensure timely response to night lighting incidents.

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Design and maintenance of permanent flood lighting in accordance with development consent conditions to minimise light spillage.	Mine Electrical Engineer, EA
Inspection of mobile lighting tower positioning to minimise offsite impacts of obtrusive lighting with specific regard to minimising the impact for motorists on the New England Highway.	Mining Supervisor
Community Consultative Committee meetings to obtain community feedback about offsite mine impacts, and modification of site operations in response to that feedback.	Environmental Superintendent
Response Actions	

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If complaint is received, Mining Supervisor will inspect positioning of lighting towers. Offsite inspection may also be required, if offending lighting plant is not immediately obvious.	Mining Supervisor
Report incident (as detailed in the <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section)	See <i>Reporting and Notification Protocol</i> section
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Complaints Management Protocol</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Group Incident Investigation Procedures</i>	Environmental Superintendent Operations Manager

20. Testing of Procedures - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(m), (n) & (p)

The information and actions contained in this document are tested annually to ensure the document remains accurate, relevant and practicable. Testing will alternate between desktop simulation and practical response exercise in alternate years.

Testing will also take place within a reasonable period of time of an actual Environmental Incident occurring, to ensure the procedures are adequate and up-to-date.

Testing, whether desktop simulation or practical exercise, will assess all aspects of the procedures contained in this document.

Following completion of testing, whether annual or incident related, observations and outcomes of the testing will be recorded and used to update this document, as required.

The site Environmental Superintendent coordinates the annual test, and maintains any records generated during testing. At a minimum, records must include date of testing, and the names of the person conducting the testing

21. Training - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(m)

Training in the procedures contained in this document will be implemented as per the schedule presented here in Table 6.

Coordination of the training program is the responsibility of the site Environmental staff and recorded through the *Group Training and Competency Management System*

Role	Format	Frequency
Operations Managers	Formal training & assessment/ participation in annual testing	Annual
Supervisors	Formal training & assessment	Annual
Operators/ Drivers	Toolbox Talk/ periodic participation in annual testing	Two Yearly
Maintenance Workers	Toolbox Talk/ periodic participation in annual testing	Two Yearly
Contractors	Site Induction	Two Yearly

Table 6: Training Schedule

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22. Evaluation and Ongoing Review

The ongoing effectiveness and efficiency of this Management System is monitored as part of the operation's day-to-day management. Feedback from this and other more formal reviews and/ or following special occurrences, form the basis for System improvement and re-design.

Internal auditing of this document is carried out as per the *Internal Audit Management System*. Ongoing review of this document is as per the *Document and Records Management System*.

23. Document Management - Meets requirements of Cl. 98C (1)(o)

Copies of this document are managed under the *Document Management System*. This document and other relevant documents are kept on site and are available to all employees and contractors (as appropriate).

In accordance with Clause 98D of the *POEO (G) Regulation* the following information is available on The Bloomfield Group WEB Site on the Rix's Creek Mine page:

- The procedures for contacting the relevant authorities including the EPA, local Council, the NSW Ministry of Health, WorkCover NSW, and Fire and Rescue NSW; and
- The procedures for communicating with the community as described in Sub-section *Notification of Neighbouring Property Owners/ Occupiers* above.

A hardcopy of this document is maintained onsite, and made available to authorised EPA Officers, if requested. The hardcopy of this document will be found at the Rix's Creek Mine Main Office.

24. Consultation

This Management System has been developed/ reviewed in consultation with relevant members of the workforce as appropriate to the impact and influence of the intent of the Management System.

25. Support Documents

Environment Management Policy
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
Environmental Emergencies Risk Assessment Report 300712
Emergency Management System
Incident Notification Procedure
Group Incident Reporting Form
Group Incident Investigation Procedures
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan
Noise Management Plan
Water Management Plan
Emplacement Area Management Plan
Operation and Maintenance Manual – Tailings Dam 2
Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) - Tailings Dam 2
Transport Management Plan
Site Waste Management Procedures
Airborne Dust Management Plan
The Bloomfield Group Integrated Management System Explosives Principal Control Plan
The Bloomfield Group Integrated Management Fume Management Strategy

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Blasting Checklist of Rix's Creek
Complaints Management Protocol
Training and Competency Management System
Internal Audit Management System
Document and Records Management System
Communication and Consultation Management System

26. Attachments

- Appendix A – Contact Details for Neighbouring Landowners
- Appendix B – Map of Site, Environmental Emergency Response Location Plan

27. Revision History

2.3	Post incident water discharge event at Rix's Creek following activation on 22/03/2023.	05/05/2023	Chris Quinn	Brendon Clements
2.2	Post incident water discharge event at Rix's Creek following activation on 12/09/2022.	17/01/2023	Chris Knight	Brendon Clements
2.1	Post incident water discharge event at Rix's Creek following activation on 03/05/2022.	2/8/2022	Chris Knight	Brendon Clements
2.0	Post incident water discharge event at Rix's Creek following activation on 07/01/2022. Update to new format	05/04/2022	Chris Knight	Geoff Moore
1.9	Post incident water discharge event at Rix's Creek following activation on 12/11/2021	10/12/2021	Chris Quinn	Chris Knight
1.8	Post incident water discharge from historic underground workings at Rix's Creek	12/8/2021	Simon Ball	Chris Knight
1.7	Annual Review following test of PIRMP	29/03/2021	Chris Quinn	Chris Knight
1.6	Annual Review – additional section on COVID-19	25/03/2020	Chris Knight	Geoff Moore
1.5	Annual Review following test of PIRMP. Incorporate DPE, DRG and RR reporting requirements (outside of EPL requirement).	27/09/2018	Chris Knight	Luke Murray
1.4	Annual Review and Title Changed from Environmental Incident Emergency Response Management Plan Rix's Creek.	27/03/2017	Chris Quinn	Luke Murray
1.3	Annual Review	08/03/2016	Chris Quinn	Luke Murray
1.2	Annual Review	06/04/2015	John Hindmarsh	Luke Murray
1.1	Annual Review	12/03/2014	John Hindmarsh	Luke Murray
1.0	Original Issue	03/10/2012	John Hindmarsh	Garry Bailey
Rev.	Description	Date	Drawn	Approved

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28. Appendix A: Contact Details for Neighbouring Landowners

Name	Address	Phone Number
Reg EVELEIGH	80 Rix's Creek Lane	65711935
Chris EVELEIGH	80 Rix's Creek Lane	0458 875 988
Mark EVELEIGH	80 Rix's Creek Lane	0417 020 590
Trevor and Cindy BURGESS	5708 New England Highway Camberwell	0403 704 462
Jillian COULING	Lot 21 Rix's Creek	65715688
Fiona KEAST	58 Rix's Creek Lane	65722710
Jill & Kerry McELROY	By Railway	65712407
Rod & Doreen HALL	485 Middle Falbrook Rd Middle Falbrook	65773139

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Environmental Emergency Response Location Plan – Rix's Creek Mine



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