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Pollution Incident Response Management Plan

Bloomfield Colliery EPL 396

Doc No:	Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
Doc Owner:	Environmental Advisor
Approval:	Operations Manager
Signed:	Brad Donoghoe
Date:	

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1.0	13/05/2025	Draft	SLR	Chris Knight	Chris Knight
1.1	23/05/2025	Final	Chris Knight	Greg Lamb	Brad Donoghoe

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1. Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND

Bloomfield Collieries (Bloomfield) is one of two open-cut coal mines operated by The Bloomfield Group of Companies (TBG). Situated in Ashtonfield, New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 2-1), the mine produces around 0.6 million tonnes of coal annually using open-cut methods. Coal mining in this region dates back to the 1850's. The current owner began underground mining in 1937, with the last underground extraction taking place in May 1992. Open-cut mining has been in operation since 1966. Bloomfield produces both thermal and semi-soft coking coal, primarily for export to Asian markets. The parent company also owns Rix's Creek Mine, located north of Singleton.

It is the policy of 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 which 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.

Bloomfield operate the mine under Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 396 , issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) NSW in accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act). As per the POEO Act requirements, Bloomfield must prepare, maintain, test, and implement a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) in line with Section 153A under Part 5.7 of the POEO Act.

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 EPL.

1.2 SCOPE

This PIRMP has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 5.7A of the POEO Act. The scope of this plan is to address the statutory requirements for managing and responding to pollution incidents related to the activities governed by the EPL. The following sections outline how this PIRMP meets each specific requirement of the Act:

- Duty to Prepare and Implement Pollution Incident Response Management Plans (Section 153A).
- Information to be Included in the Plan (Section 153C).
- Keeping of the Plan (Section 153D).

- Testing of the Plan (Section 153E).
- Implementation of the Plan (Section 153F).

The PIRMP focuses on minimising the risk of pollution incidents and effectively managing any that occur, ensuring the health and safety of employees, nearby neighbours, and the environment. It specifies the notification procedures for pollution incidents that cause or threaten material harm, as defined in the POEO Act.

In the event of a pollution incident that causes or threatens material harm to the environment, this PIRMP will be immediately implemented to manage and mitigate the impact. The plan outlines specific responsibilities and actions to be taken promptly to address the incident.

As per Section 153C of the POEO Act, Table 1-1 contains all the required information included in the PIRMP, along with the relevant sections within the PIRMP where each requirement is addressed.

Table 1-1: Document Directory

Detail Required	Section in PIRMP
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 No 156 (POEO Act)	
Part 5.7A Duty to prepare and implement pollution incident response management plans: **153C - Information to be included in plan** A pollution incident response management plan must be in the form required by the regulations and must include the following:	
a) the procedures to be followed by the holder of the relevant environment protection licence, or the occupier of the relevant premises, in notifying a pollution incident to— I. the owners or occupiers of premises in the vicinity of the premises to which the environment protection licence or the direction under section 153B relates, and II. the local authority for the area in which the premises to which the environment protection licence or the direction under section 153B relates are located and any area affected, or potentially affected, by the pollution, and III. any persons or authorities required to be notified by Part 5.7,	Section 4.4
b) A detailed description of the action to be taken immediately after a pollution incident, by the holder of the relevant EPL to reduce or control any pollution.	Section 4.5
c) The procedures to be followed for coordinating, with the authorities or persons that have been notified, any action taken in combating the pollution caused by the incident and, in particular, the persons through whom all communications are to be made.	Sections 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4
d) Any other matter required by the regulations (as set out below)	
Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022	
Chapter 4 Pollution incident response management plans: **72 General licences—additional matters to be included in PIRM plan—the Act, s 153C** For the Act, section 153C(d), the following matters must be included in a PIRM plan:	
a) A description of the hazards to human health or the environment associated with the activity to which the licence relates (the **relevant activity**),	Section 3.5

Detail Required	Section in PIRMP
b) The likelihood of any such hazards occurring, including details of any conditions or events that could, or would, increase that likelihood,	Section 3.5
c) Details of the pre-emptive action to be taken to minimise or prevent any risk of harm to human health or the environment arising out of the relevant activity,	Section 3.6 and 4.2
d) An inventory of potential pollutants on the premises or used in carrying out the relevant activity,	Section 3.4
e) The maximum quantity of any pollutant that is likely to be stored or held at particular locations (including underground tanks) at or on the premises to which the licence relates,	Section 3.4
f) A description of the safety equipment or other devices that are used to minimise the risks to human health or the environment and to contain or control a pollution incident,	Section 3.7
g) The names, positions and 24-hour contact details of those key individuals who: I. are responsible for activating the plan, and II. are authorised to notify relevant authorities under section 148 of the Act, and III. are responsible for managing the response to a pollution incident,	Section 3.2 and 3.3 and 3.3
h) The contact details of each relevant authority referred to in section 148 of the Act,	Section 4.1
i) Details of the mechanisms for providing early warnings and regular updates to the owners and occupiers of premises in the vicinity of the premises to which the licence relates or where the scheduled activity is carried on,	Section 4.1and 4.4
j) The arrangements for minimising the risk of harm to any persons who are on the premises or who are present where the scheduled activity is being carried on,	Section 4.3
k) A detailed map (or set of maps) showing the location of the premises to which the licence relates, the surrounding area that is likely to be affected by a pollution incident, the location of potential pollutants on the premises and the location of any stormwater drains on the premises,	Sections 2.1and 3.4
l) A detailed description of how any identified risk of harm to human health will be reduced, including (as a minimum) by means of early warnings, updates and the action to be taken during or immediately after a pollution incident to reduce that risk,	Sections 3.5
m) The nature and objectives of any staff training program in relation to the plan,	Section 5.1
n) The dates on which the plan has been tested and the name of the person who carried out the test,	Section 5.2
o) The dates on which the plan is updated,	Section 5.2
p) the way in which the PIRM plan must be tested and maintained.	Section 5.2 and 5.3

1.3 DEFINITION

In implementing this PIRMP, the POEO definitions included in Table 1-2 are applied in the event of an incident.

Table 1-2: Definition

Terms	Definition as defined in POEO Act 1997
Pollution	"Pollution means – water pollution, or air pollution, or noise pollution, or land pollution"[1]
Pollution incident	"Pollution incident means an incident or set of circumstances during or as a consequence of which, there is or is 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 premises, but it does not include an incident or set of circumstances involving only the emission of any noise".
Material Harm	As defined in Section 147 of the Act: 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.

Harm to the environment includes any direct or indirect alteration of the environment that has the effect of degrading the environment and, without limiting the generality of the above, includes any act or omission that results in pollution.

Notification is required if a pollution incident causes or threatens to cause '*material harm to the environment*'.

[1] *The POEO Act provides definitions for each of these types of pollution.*

2. Premises Details

2.1 SITE OVERVIEW

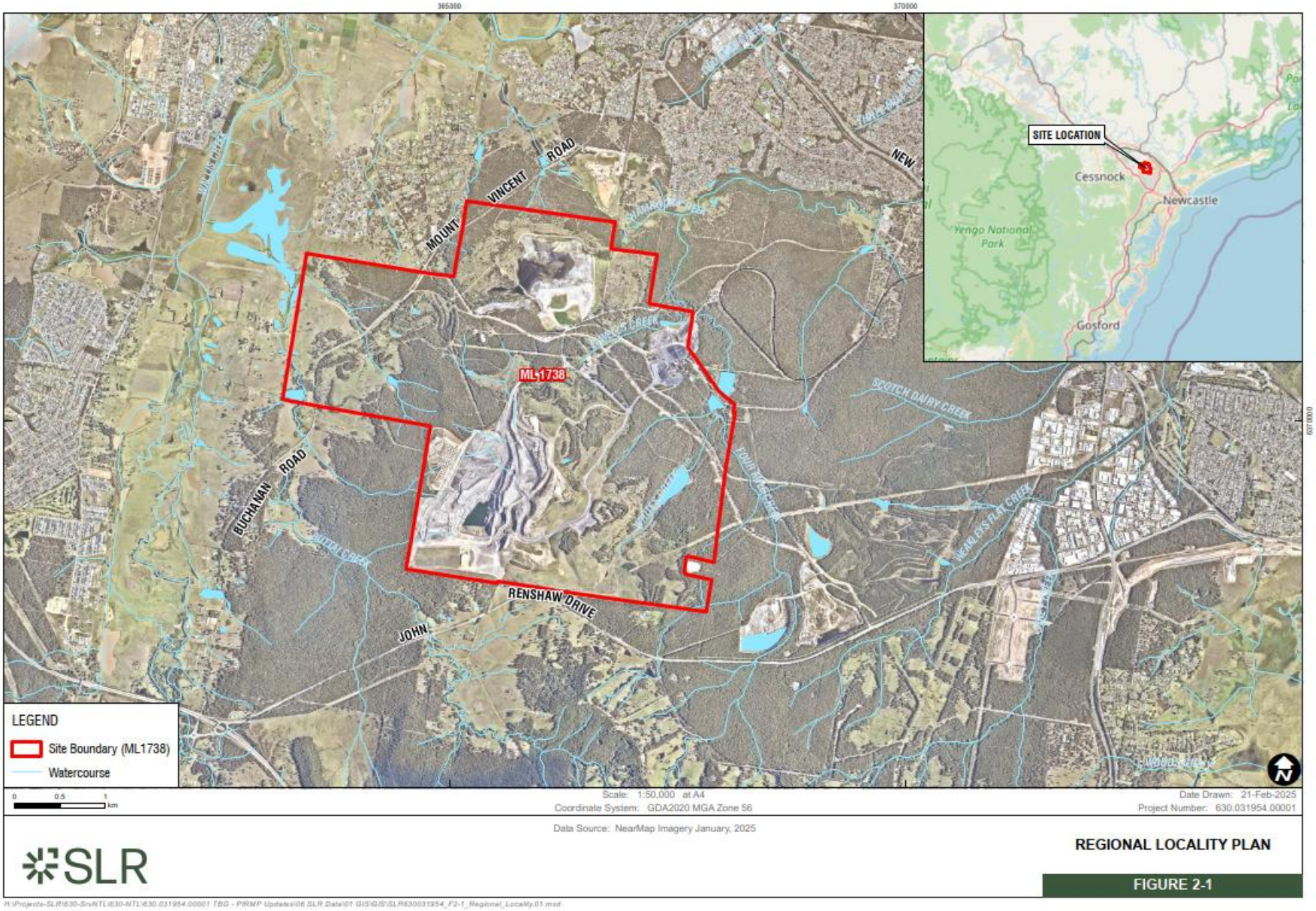
Bloomfield Collieries (Bloomfield) is an open cut coal mine owned and operated by The Bloomfield Group (TBG). Bloomfield comprises of two mining areas referred to as 'S Cut' and 'Creek Cut'. Bloomfield is located approximately 20km north-west of Newcastle in the Cessnock Local Government Area (Figure 2-1).

Mining has been carried out at the present site since the late 1850's with Bloomfield taking over the Mining Lease in 1937. Underground mining operations were originally undertaken on site but ceased in 1992 with Open Cut mining operations beginning in 1964.

Approval for the Bloomfield Colliery was granted by the Minister for Planning on 3 September 2009 under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. Additional approvals and legislation relative to mining operations undertaken at Bloomfield consist of the following:

- Project Approval 07_0087 (PA 07_0087) as modified.
- Environmental Protection Licence 396 (EPL396).
- Mining Lease 1738 and Consolidated Coal Lease 761.

Figure 2-1: Regional Locality Map



3. Management and Responsibilities

3.1 DUTY TO NOTIFY

Section 148 of the *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*"

Employees and contractors working at Bloomfield Colliery are responsible for alerting Site Management to all environmental incidents or hazards, regardless of the nature or scale of the observed incident or event.

With regards to activities that cause, or threaten, a significant environmental incident, Bloomfield adopts the responsibilities as defined in Section 148 of the POEO Act. Incident notifications are categorised as:

- Duty of employee or any person undertaking an activity:

  Any person engaged as an employee or undertaking an activity must, immediately after becoming aware of any incident, notify their relevant manager of the incident and all relevant information about it. The required information includes:

  a. exact location of incident.

  b. date, time, and nature of incident.

  c. extent of incident.

  d. actions taken.

  e. whether emergency services are required or have been contacted.

- Duty of the employer or occupier of a premises to notify:

  An employer or occupier of the premises on which the incident occurs, who is notified (or otherwise becomes aware) of a pollution incident, must undertake notification to the appropriate regulatory authority of any "material harm incidents", including relevant information.

Refer to Section 4.1 Contact Information and Reporting and Notification Protocol for contact details and protocols related to reporting to the "Authorities".

3.2 SITE MANAGEMENT

If an incident constitutes material harm to the environment, as defined in Section3.2, the Bloomfield Colliery Site Management listed in Table 3-1 will implement the PIRMP immediately.

Table 3-1: Bloomfield Group Site Management (Authorised Persons)

Person	Contact Information	Responsibility
Managing Director/CEO	Brett Lewis Tel: 0409 494 366	• Provide adequate financial resources, qualified personnel, and training to ensure implementation of environmental management plans. • Overall business management. • Assisting in communication with relevant authorities, communities, and staff.
Chief Operations Officer (COO)	Name: Luke Murray Tel: 0427 292 152	• Determination of material harm incident. • Activation of PIRMP. • Managing activation & implementation of response to Environmental Incident. • Ensuring all staff and contractors on site are aware of the PIRMP and adequately trained in its procedures.
Mine Manager, Bloomfield	Name: Brad Donoghue Tel: 0418 923 058	
Group Manager Environment	Name: Chris Knight Tel: 0403 058 777	• Provide environmental assistance to site as required and advice on legislative requirements for any incidents or impacts.
Environmental Advisor, Bloomfield	Name: Greg Lamb Tel: 0457 819 211	• Notification of Authorities. • Notification of Neighbouring Properties. • Prepare compliance reports in conjunction with Mine Site Manager that are required as a result of the incident. • Provide environmental assistance and advice on legislative requirements for any impacts. • Ensuring all staff and contractors on site are aware of the PIRMP and adequately trained in its procedures.
Minter Ellison – Environmental Legal Advisors	Name: Simon Ball Tel: 0402 282 152	• Provide legal advice and support as required

The personnel listed above are available 24 hours per day and are responsible for:

- Activating the PIRMP.
- Notifying relevant authorities.
- Managing the response to a pollution event.

If an actual or potential incident that threaten or causes material harm occurs, Bloomfield Colliery Site Management will immediately initiate the PIRMP (refer to Section 4 for Incident Notification and Response actions).

3.3 GENERAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Table 3-2 lists general roles (positions) within the organization and their broader responsibilities related to the PIRMP.

Table 3-2: General Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities
Managing Director	• Overall responsibility for environmental management and compliance with EPL Conditions and relevant legislation. • Oversee the implementation of this PIRMP and ensure adequate resources to enable implementation.
All employees and contractors	• Ensure familiarity, implementation, and compliance with this plan. • Support commitments to site environmental management and compliance. • Work in a manner that will not harm the environment or others. • Report all environmental incidents, complaints, or inappropriate practices to the Site Manager.

3.4 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

A summary of hazardous substances and pollutants received, stored and/or created at the licensed site are listed in Table 3-3. Material Safety Data (MSD) for each of the materials stored on site are to be available where the product is stored and within the PIRMP records.

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

See Figure 3-1 for a site map, including the location of potential pollutants.

Table 3-3: Inventory of Potential Pollutants

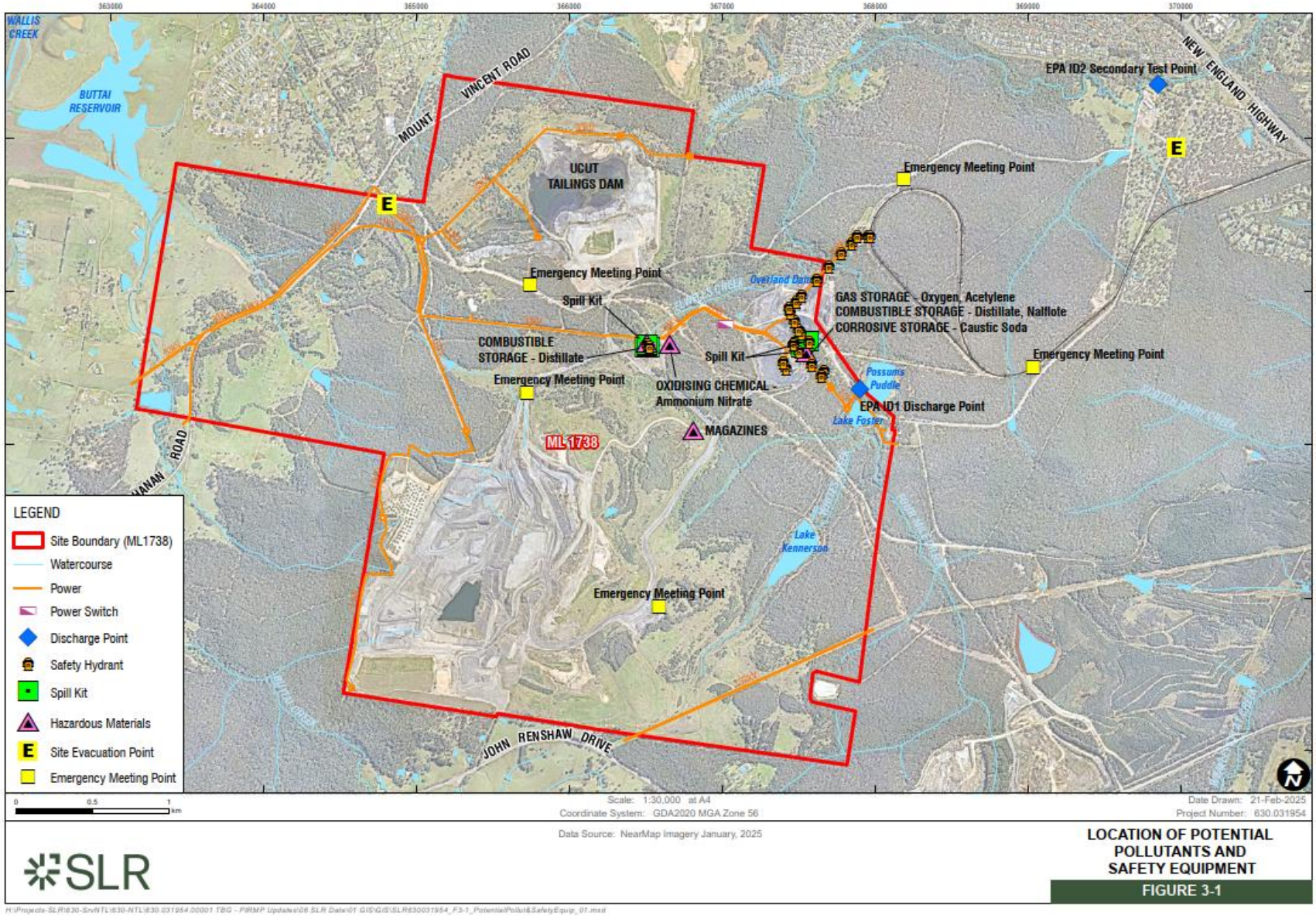
Potential Pollutant	Maximum Volume	Location
Distillate – C1	140, 000 litres	Open Cut Workshop
Distillate – C1	15,000 litres	CHPP
Oil C2	55,000 litres	Open Cut Workshop
Gas- O2, Acetylene	1,000m^3	CHPP
Nalfote – Flammable – 3 III	20, 000 litres	CHPP
Caustic soda	18,000 litres	CHPP
Explosive Detonators	10,000 units	Magazine
Explosive Boosters	5,000 kg	Magazine

Potential Pollutant	Maximum Volume	Location
Ammonium Nitrate	32,000 kg	Reload Bin
Coal tailings	1,400 Kt	Open Cut
Mine Water/Process Water	260 M litres	Storage Dams
Sewerage/Effluent	4000 litres	Minor storage adjacent to administration buildings and bath houses

Given the volume of substances listed in Schedule 15 of the Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 2011.

Figure 3-1 illustrates the Chemical, Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods Area Plan for the Bloomfield Colliery. This figure provides a detailed map of the site, highlighting the specific locations where various chemicals and hazardous substances are stored. Figure 3-1 also highlights the storage locations of high-risk dangerous goods

Figure 3-1: Location of Potential Pollutants and Safety Equipment



3.5 POTENTIAL HAZARDS

This section addresses the requirements of Section 72 of the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation (POEO(G) Regulation) 2022. Table 3-4 provides a summary of potential hazards identified at Bloomfield Colliery. It includes details on conditions or events that could increase the likelihood of these hazards occurring.

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 *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 3-4 below.

The purpose of this risk assessment was to identify the potential major hazards and/or risk(s) posed by the operation, the controls in place to effectively mitigate and/or manage these risks and the key pollution response measures. The identified hazards, along with the conditions or events that could elevate the risk, have been meticulously evaluated to ensure effective management and mitigation strategies are in place. This proactive approach is crucial for minimizing potential environmental impacts and ensuring the safety of all stakeholders.

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.

Table 3-4: Hazard Likelihood

Operation	Risk Category	Potential Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Events that could increase likelihood
Open Cut Mining	Water	Unlicensed release of mine-water (pit-water storage)	High (Major/Possible)	*Extreme weather events like flooding Equipment failure*
Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	Water	Unlicensed release of mine-water (separators, drains & lines)	High (Major/ Possible)	*Extreme weather events like flooding*
Coal Processing	Water	Unlicensed release of process water (dams)	High (Major/ Possible)	*Equipment failure*
Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	Noise	Noise pollution	Significant (Major/ Remote)	*Increased operational activities, lack of noise control measures*
Exploration & Construction/ Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/ Maintenance	Spill	Hydrocarbon Spill (Bulk Storage/ Service Truck/Delivery to site)	Significant (Major/ Remote)	*Improper handling, storage, or transport of chemicals*

Operation	Risk Category	Potential Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Events that could increase likelihood
Open Cut Mining	Air Quality	Blasting (noise, vibration, dust, NOx)	Significant (Major/ Remote)	*Inadequate blast design* *Adverse weather conditions*
Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing	Air Quality	Spontaneous Combustion (Spon Com)	Significant (Major/ Remote)	*Poor stockpile management*
Open Cut Mining/ Coal Processing/Maintenance	Visual	Night lighting impact	Significant (Major/ Remote)	*Adverse weather*

3.6 PRE-EMPTIVE ACTIONS

Pre-emptive actions to be taken to minimise or prevent a risk of harm to human health or the environment arising from potential or actual pollution events are included in Sections 4.2 for each potential incident.

3.7 SAFETY EQUIPMENT

A range of safety equipment is available at the Site to minimise health and safety risks during operations and in response to incidents. The inventory of safety equipment, along with their descriptions, locations, and maintenance schedules, is detailed in Table 3-5.

Table 3-5: Inventory of Safety Equipment

Equipment or Resource	Location	Maintenance Responsibility
Spill Kits	Workshops and hydrocarbon storage facilities	Environmental Advisor
Earthmoving plant (e.g. grader, backhoe)	Open cut	Operations Manager
Camera and sampling equipment	Environmental Storeroom	Environmental Advisor
Spare (or hire) pumps and polypipe line	Approx 1,000m spare polypipe line in open cut lay down area. Pumps hired as needed	Pump Crew
Vacuum truck (hire via waste contractor)	Offsite	Environmental Advisor
SDS Register	Online	Group Procurement Manager
Firefighting equipment	Workshops, CHPP, fuel storage facilities and on vehicles/plant	Area Supervisors

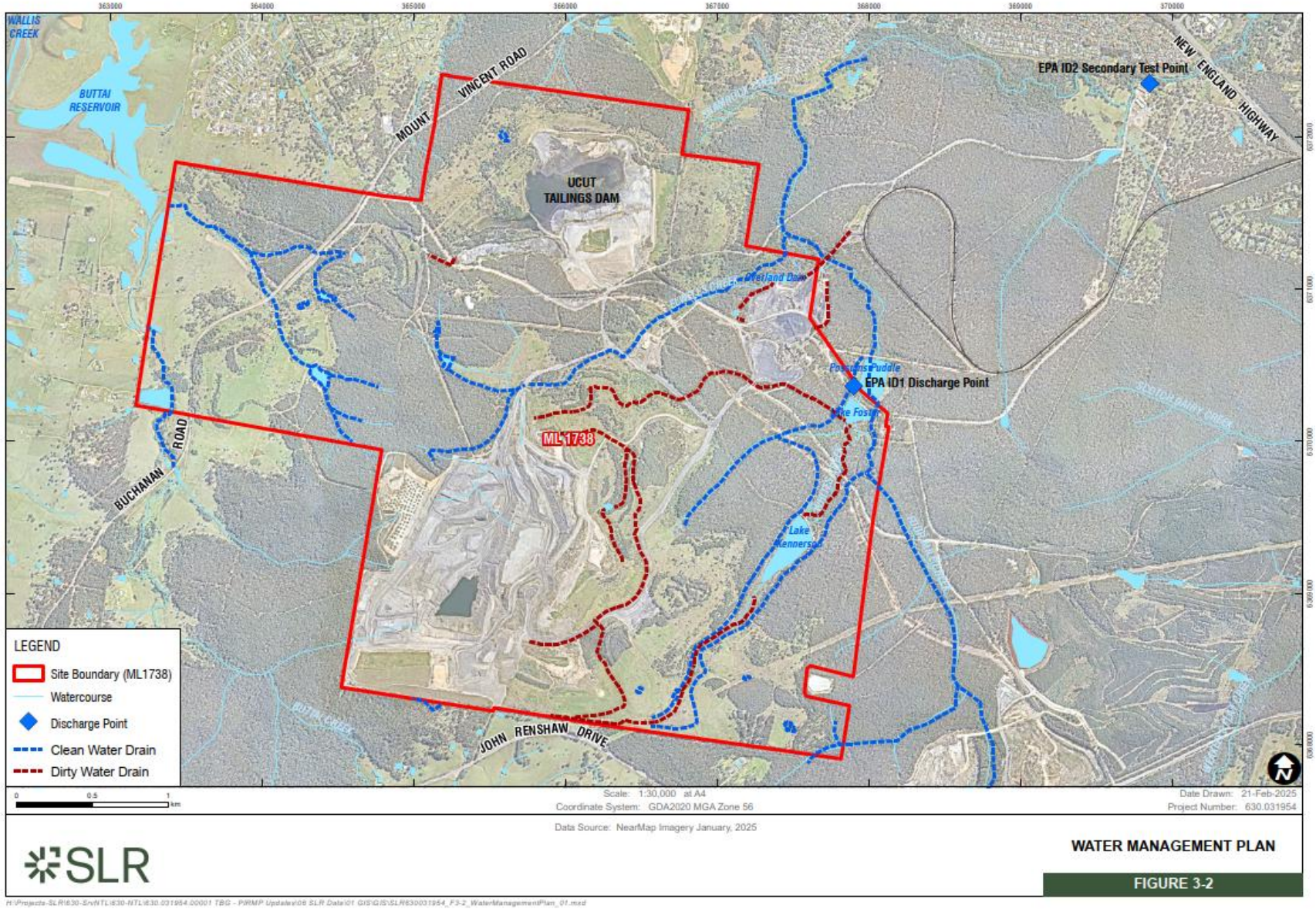
Figure 3-2 indicates the location of any stormwater drains on the premises. All safety equipment is checked/serviced by a contractor every 3 or 6 months and immediately after use. For the specific locations of fire safety and first aid equipment within the complex, refer to Figure 3-1 above.

3.8 EMERGENCY PLAN

An Emergency Plan has been prepared and is communicated and made available to all personnel entering the premises. This Emergency Plan is based on recognised emergency management and risk management principles that comply with the relevant mine safety regulations and standards.

This PIRMP forms part of an integrated response in the event of an emergency at the facility. The PIRMP will be initiated concurrently where appropriate in response to incidents that threaten or cause to threaten material harm to the environment.

Figure 3-2: Water Bodies and Discharge Locations



4. Incident Management

4.1 IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION

If an actual or potential incident that threatens or causes to threaten material harm occurs, Bloomfield Colliery Management will immediately initiate the PIRMP.

If there is an immediate threat to life or property:

- An emergency will be declared.
- Fire and Rescue (000) will be contacted first.
- Emergency Plan will be enacted.
- Fire and Emergency Evacuation will be enacted (Figure 3-1).

Table 4-1 lists the contact details for the regulatory authorities that will be notified in the event of a pollution incident at the site. Bloomfield Colliery Management will provide the following information to agencies:

a. Exact location of incident.

b. Date, time, and nature of incident.

c. Extent of incident.

d. Actions taken.

e. What emergency services are required or have been contacted.

Table 4-1: Regulatory Authorities Contact Details

Relevant Authority	Key Contact	Notification Process
NSW Police Fire and Rescue NSW NSW Ambulance	000 or 1300 729 579	To be contacted **first** if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property and emergency services are required.
NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Pollution line	131 555 info@environment.nsw.gov.au	This will result in the incident being recorded and the appropriate person being contacted. Record the EPA event ID provided as it is required for other notifications.
NSW Health (Public Health Unit – Newcastle)	Office (02) 4924 6477 Fax 02 49246490	Ask for Public Health Officer on call (Open 24 hours). Provide EPA event record ID if requested.
NSW Health	(02) 9391 9000	Local public health unit
Safe Work NSW	131 050 contact@safework.nsw.gov.au	Select option for notification of reportable incident. Provide EPA event record ID if requested.

Relevant Authority	Key Contact	Notification Process
		Record notification reference number if provided.
State Emergency Services	(02) 6572 4669 or 132500	For emergency help in floods, storms and tsunami call NSW SES at any time on 132 500 In a life-threatening emergency call 000 (triple zero).
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	65 753400 or 1300 305 695 and compliance@ planning.nsw.gov.au	compliance@ planning.nsw.gov.au / Submissions to the NSW Planning Portal
Department of Regional NSW Resources Regulator WHS and Environment	1300 814 609 and nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com	If there is a serious injury or illness, a death or a dangerous incident, you must report it to us immediately by calling **1300 814 609 option 1 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)**. You will then need to log in to the Regulator Portal to access the incident lodged by the Resources Regulator and provide further information as required. Should you require a user account set up for the portal or to add a mine you operate to your existing user account then please submit a request to add a PCBU or operator. For other types of notifiable incidents, complete the notify resources regulator form on the Regulator Portal as soon as possible (and not later than 48 hours for incidents that result in an injury or illness, or 7 days for all other incidents).
Local Government - Maitland - Cessnock	02 4934 9700 02 4993 4100	24 hrs, 7 days/Wk 24 hrs, 7 days/Wk

4.2 ACTIONS DURING A POLLUTION INCIDENT

During a pollution incident, Bloomfield Colliery will respond promptly to prevent or reduce any adverse environmental impact. Actions taken during Pollution Events will be completed in accordance with the Site Emergency Plan and generally involve:

- Where possible and safe to do so, immediate action should be taken to prevent, stop, contain and/or minimise the environmental impact of the incident.
- Undertake notification procedure.
- Undertake investigation into the cause of the incident, gathering information and photos.
- Assess need for additional (response) controls and remedial works.
- Review information from investigation and identify ongoing actions.
- Ongoing consultation with agencies or stakeholders.

It is imperative that an honest assessment of the situation is carried out and documented to minimise the potential for similar events in the future. On this basis, every environmental incident is to be recorded in the appropriate Environmental Management System and be maintained for at least four years.

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 **Error! Reference source not found.**. A summary of the management measures in place to minimise the likelihood of the incidents, and the relevant management system documents, are also presented.

4.2.1 General Incident Management Response

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. 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.

4.2.2 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.

Table 4-2: Incident Management Unlicensed Release of Mine Water

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Measures outlined in the *Site Water Management Plan* implemented, including: • Mine planning to reduce unnecessary capture of clean water. • 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 Advisor, Pump crew
Regular inspection and, if required, maintenance of water management structures and equipment, such as pumps, polypipe lines, drains and dam walls.	Environmental Advisor, Pump Crew
Release of mine water as allowed under EPL, in accordance with the Environmental Water Management System.	Environmental Advisor
Fully welded and/ or flange-jointed polypipe lines High risk pipelines are fitted with flow monitoring equipment.	Mine Manager, Pump Crew
Response Actions	
Report incident	See Section 4.1
Take action to stem the flow of mine water: • Failed polypipe line - shutdown pump and engage contractors to repair line. • Drain failure – shutdown pump, close valve or reduce water level on overflowing storage. Use earthmoving plant to install temporary bypass or reinstate drain. • Dam failure or overtop - increase pumping capacity to reduce water levels.	Mine Manager, Pump Crew
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 (considering possible damage to natural drainage lines).	Mine Manager, Pump Crew
Evacuate any downstream work areas that may be impacted by released mine water.	Mine Manager, Pump Crew
Implement water sampling program to characterise discharge water quality for the duration of the discharge and assess potential downstream impacts.	Environmental Advisor
Inspect integrity of other mine water management structures that may have also been impacted.	Environmental Advisor, Pump Crew
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Mine Manager

4.2.3 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.

Tailings emplacement volume at Bloomfield Mine is increased through constructed dam walls (note: Approved Tailings Dam designed to Dam Safety Committee Specifications). 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.

Table 4-3: Incident Management Unlicensed Release of Process Water

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Measures outlined in the *Emplacement Area Management Plan* and *U-Cut Operation and Maintenance Manual*, implemented including: • Annual inspection of dam integrity by qualified civil engineer. • Long-term mine planning to ensure adequate tailings storage volume for life of mine. • Surveyor's Monitoring Plan of tailings and decant water levels • 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.	Tech Services Manager
Protective intercept drains adjacent to tailings line.	Tech Services Manager
Fully welded and/ or flange-jointed polypipe lines High risk pipelines are fitted with flow monitoring equipment.	Tech Services Manager
Response Actions	
Report incident	See section 4.1
Take action to stem flow of tailings/decant water: • Failed polypipe line – shutdown pump and engage contractors to repair line. • Dam failure or overtop – stop pumping tailings. Increase decant water pumping capacity to reduce water levels. • Use earthmoving plant to temporarily reinstate or raise • emplacement wall.	Tech Services Manager
Where possible, prevent tailings from leaving site. Excavate sump or drain to intercept and pump tailings/ water back to alternative storage. (considering possible damage to natural drainage lines).	Tech Services Manager
Implement downstream water sampling and visual inspection program to characterise impact on water quality and delineate migration of tailings particulate matter.	Environmental Advisor
Inspect integrity of the remainder of the emplacement and transfer line.	Tech Services Manager
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Mine Manager

4.2.4 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.

Table 4-4: Incident Management Hydrocarbon Spill

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
The Mine Transport Management Plan (Roads or Other Vehicle Operating Areas) 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.	Group Manager Asset Management
Regular inspection and, if required, maintenance of hydrocarbon storage facilities.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Advisor
Maintenance of spill kits at high-risk sites, such as workshops and hydrocarbon stores.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Advisor
Response Actions	
Report incident	See Section 4.1
Employ the 3 Cs spill response actions to contain, contain and clean up released hydrocarbons: • 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.	Tech Services Manager
Ensure all contaminated waste products are disposed of in accordance with *Site Waste Management Procedures*, and spill kits are replenished, as required.	Environmental Advisor
Inspect the integrity of the remainder of the hydrocarbon storage facility.	Maintenance Engineer, Environmental Advisor
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Mine Manager

4.2.5 Blasting (Noise, Vibration, Dust, Nitrous Oxide)

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 Airborne Dust Management Plan).

Table 4-5: Incident Management Blasting

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Blast design in accordance with Explosives Principal Control Plan to minimise offsite impacts.	Blasting Supervisor
Monitoring of meteorological conditions, and review of blasting forecast model (ENVMET), to plan blasting schedules, and model potential fume impacts.	Blasting Supervisor
Blast monitoring to record offsite ground vibration and air blast overpressure impacts.	Environmental Advisor
Blast fume is managed in accordance with the Blast Fume Management Strategy which forms part of the Integrated Management Systems under MOMS.	Blasting Supervisor
Response Actions	
Report incident	See section 4.1 4.1
• *Complaints Management Protocol* • *Group Incident Investigation Procedures*	Environmental Advisor, Mine Manager

4.2.6 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.

Table 4-6: Incident Management Noise Pollution

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Planning and management of nighttime operations to meet development consent/ EPL noise limits.	Mine Manager, Mining Supervisors
Noise and meteorological monitoring programs Daily review of noise forecast model (ENVMET)	Environmental Advisor
Installation of noise mitigation measures on permanent infrastructure such as CHPP and conveyors.	Tech Services Manager, Environmental Advisor
Community Consultative Committee meetings to obtain community feedback about offsite mine impacts, and modification of site operations in response to that feedback.	Environmental Advisor
Response Actions	
If complaint is received, Mining Supervisor will inspect noise levels and possible noise sources, and modify open cut operations, if required.	Mining Supervisors
Report incident	See Section 4.1
• *Complaints Management Protocol* • *Group Incident Investigation Procedures*	Environmental Advisor, Mine manager

4.2.7 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).

Table 4-7: Incident Management Spontaneous Combustion

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Preventative Actions	
Identification of high potential Spon Com coal ahead of mining (during resource definition investigations).	Mine Manager
Dump design and scheduling to ensure Spon Com prone material is not concentrated during dumping.	Mine Manager
Procedures for handling and stockpiling of Spon Com prone materials.	Mine Manager/ Tech Services manager

Incident Management	Responsible Person
Spontaneous Combustion Principal Mining Hazard Management Plan.	Mine Manager
Response Actions	
Report incident	See section 4.1
Separation, isolation and irrigation of Spon Com material to extinguish combusted material and prevent the spread of combustion.	Mine Manager/ mining Supervisors
Group Incident Investigation Procedures	Mine Manager

4.2.8 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.

Table 4-8: Incident Management Night Lighting Impact

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, Environmental Advisor
Inspection of mobile lighting tower positioning to minimise offsite impacts of obtrusive lighting with specific regard to minimising the impact for residents in neighbouring suburbs.	Mining Supervisors
Community Consultative Committee meetings to obtain community feedback about offsite mine impacts, and modification of site operations in response to that feedback.	Environmental Advisor
Response Actions	
If a complaint is received, the Mining Supervisor will inspect the positioning of lighting towers. Offsite inspection may also be required, if offending lighting plant is not immediately obvious.	Mining Supervisors
Report incident	See section 4.1
• *Complaints Management Protocol* • *Group Incident Investigation Procedures*	Environmental Advisor, Mine Manager

4.3 MINIMISING HARM

All staff and contractors must complete an induction and training before working on-site. The induction covers procedures for preventing pollution incidents, notification processes, incident management, and post-incident actions. Training records are kept on-site.

During a pollution incident, minimising harm to persons on-site is the top priority. If evacuation is necessary, actions will follow the Emergency Plan and the Fire and Emergency Evacuation (Figure 3-1). In the event of an evacuation:

- The Site Manager contacts emergency services if needed.
- The Site Manager (or their nominee) coordinates with emergency services.
- Employees stop work immediately and move to the nearest emergency assembly area, staying there until instructed otherwise.
- The Site Manager conducts a roll call.
- Employees return to work only after the Site Manager gives the all-clear.

Staff are informed of Emergency Assembly Areas through inductions, signage, and ongoing training. Key aspects of the PIRMP will be shared with staff and contractors. The PIRMP will be tested annually, as detailed in Section 5.2.

4.4 COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

In the event of a pollution incident, Bloomfield Colliery has established the following processes for contacting the local community:

4.4.1 Consultation with Regulatory Authorities

- Site Manager will consult with regulatory authorities to determine if the community should be notified.
- The most appropriate communication strategy will be discussed with the authorities (e.g., media release, direct contact with potentially impacted individuals).

4.4.2 Determining the Response and Notification Process

- All aspects of the pollution event will be considered, such as the type and extent of pollution.
- Notification strategies may include door knocking, letter drops, phone calls, SMS, or email (where contact details are available), and notifications via social and mass media, as appropriate.

4.4.3 Identified Properties

- Nearby receptors have been identified as potentially affected in the event of an environmental incident. These receptors and their contact information are provided in Table 4-19.

Table 4-9: Contact Details of Nearby Properties

Receptors	Contact Details	Phone Number

Note: Personal details and contact information must not be published on the Bloomfield website version as it contains personal information held under the Privacy Act. Note this is in accordance with Section 74 (4) of the POEO (General) Regulation 2022. **This nearby receptor contact information must be available within the internal version of this document. (MOMS).**

4.4.4 Actions During and Following a Pollution Incident

- **Notification of Neighbouring Properties:** Based on risk, considering the materiality of the event, incident type, and prevailing conditions, Site Manager will determine if and how to notify neighbouring properties.

4.4.5 Notification Methodology

- **Immediate Contact:** Neighbours at risk of downstream or flow-on impacts will be contacted immediately during an incident.
- **Early Warnings:** Same-day telephone notifications will be given to landholders who may be affected within the next 24 hours.
- **Updates:** Follow-up phone calls will be made to all landholders who received initial early warnings.

4.4.6 Broad Community Updates

- Updates will be provided to the broader local community in affected areas via information sheets or newsletters, the Bloomfield Colliery website, media statements, or other appropriate strategies.
- Information provided will include:
    - Type of incident.
    - Type of pollutant.
    - Prevailing winds.
    - Magnitude of the emission.
    - Likelihood of the pollutant reaching ground level.
    - Potential impacts on sensitive receptors, local landholders, and the community.
    - Site contact details.
    - Advice or recommendations based on the incident type and scale.

4.5 ACTIONS FOLLOWING A POLLUTION INCIDENT

Following a pollution incident, a detailed incident investigation will be completed by the Site Manager (or delegate) and a report will be sent to the Bloomfield Colliery Managing Director.

A detailed incident report will be sent to the EPA and relevant agencies[2],within 7 days of the incident, which outlines the following:

- date, time, and nature of the pollution incident.
- identifying the cause (or likely cause) of the pollution incident.
- describing what action has been taken to date.
- describing proposed measures to address the pollution incident.

Bloomfield Colliery will also participate in any external investigation processes, if required.

Within a month following a pollution incident, the PIRMP will be reviewed and tested. Bloomfield Colliery will continue to liaise with the relevant authorities to reduce the likelihood of incident recurrence.

All staff and contractors will receive the necessary refresher training and the key outcomes of the incident investigation will be reported to staff and contractors

[2] *Other Government Agencies will also require this report (DPHI, MEG, RR)*

5. Training, Testing and Communication

5.1 TRAINING

All staff and employees will be trained on the contents, process, and requirements of the PIRMP. The objective of this training is to inform employees of the PIRMP and ensure all staff and contractors are aware of the key steps required to respond to and manage a pollution incident. As a minimum, the following will be undertaken:

- Staff and Employees will be informed of the PIRMP, its role and its function within site inductions.
- Specific training will be provided to key personal, detailing methods of incident notification and response as well as responsibilities under the PIRMP.

Training will be delivered through one or more of ways (inductions, toolbox talks, formal site training, exercises).

Refresher training will be provided within 30 days of the following:

- Pollution Incident.
- PIRMP Tests.
- PIRMP Updates / Revisions.

Training in the procedures contained in this document will be implemented as per the schedule presented below in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

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

Table 5-1: Training Schedule

Role	Format	Frequency
Mine Managers	Formal training & assessment/ participation in annual testing	Annual
Supervisors	Formal training	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

5.2 TESTING

The Environmental Advisor will coordinate PIRMP testing to ensure the plan's accuracy, currency, and effective implementation. Routine testing will be conducted annually or within 30 days of any pollution incident and can be carried out through the following methods:

- Incident response.
- Simulated environmental emergency.
- Desktop simulations.

Records of the testing dates and the names of the staff members conducting the tests will be maintained.

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. Where necessary Fire and Rescue NSW can be invited to participate and observe the testing of the PIRMP.

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 Environmental Advisor 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.

The test and revision register example can be found in **Appendix A.**

5.3 REVIEW

Reviews will be undertaken regularly to ensure the PIRMP is current and fit for purpose. Reviews will be coordinated by the Site Manager with the following objectives:

- Identify and consider changes to site (infrastructure, processes, practices).
- Identify and consider changes to the strategic and statutory context (DPHI Guidance).
- Identify and consider changes to ownership / development status of neighbouring properties.
- Identify and consider opportunities for improvement in the Plan.

PIRMP Reviews will be undertaken on event and time-based triggers.

5.3.1 Event Based

Events which may trigger a review of this Plan, or its associated documents include:

- Activating the PIRMP (within 30 days).
- Completing PIRMP Testing (within 30 days).
- Change of operations including significant increase of production capacity, significant new plant and equipment is installed or upgraded and when the layout of the site is changed (e.g., relocation of a chemical storage area), requiring a new risk assessment (prior to operation of the change).
- Modification/Improvement to site processes (prior to operation of the change).

5.3.2 Time-Based

As a minimum, the PIRMP will be reviewed every 12 months and recorded in the Test Register, located in **Appendix A.**

5.3.3 PIRMP Revisions

Where PIRMP Reviews identify elements that require the PIRMP to be updated, revisions will be undertaken within 30 days of completing the review. The version number and date of the PIRMP is to be updated within the revision record and documented within the Test Register.

5.4 AVAILABILITY OF THE PIRMP

A copy of this PIRMP will be kept in written form at Bloomfield Colliery and will be made readily available to all personnel responsible for implementing the PIRMP and to any authorised officer (as defined in the POEO Act), upon request.

The PIRMP will be made available to the public via https://www.bloomcoll.com.au/sustainability/environmental-management/bloomfield-assessments/environment-protection-licence within 14 days of endorsement by the Operations Manager.

In accordance with Section 74 of the POEO (G) Regulation the following information is available on The Bloomfield Group web site 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 Section 4.4.

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 Bloomfield Colliery Main Office.

6. References

Environment Protection Authority (2022) Guideline: Pollution Incident Response Management Plans.

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (SLR) 2018

Environment Management Policy

Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 No 156

Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022

Environmental Emergencies Risk Assessment Report 300712

Emergency Management Response Plan

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

Roads or Other Vehicle Operating Areas Principal Hazard 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

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

7. Acronyms and Abbreviations

DA	Development Application
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
CHPP	Coal Handling and Processing Plant
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPL	Environment Protection Licence
LGA	Local Government Area
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
NEH	New England Highway
NSW	New South Wales
PA	Project Approval
PIRMP	Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
POEO	Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
TBG	The Bloomfield Group of Companies

Appendix A Test and Revision Register

Revision	Details of Test / Review	Date Tested	Drawn By	Approved By
18	Review and Test of revised Plan (new guideline update). (Desktop Test and review conducted by CK, GL, DW, BD)	23/5/2025	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
17	Annual Review & Test conducted by Mine Manager, OCE, Environmental Manager and Environmental Advisor, removal of COVID-19 section as it is now business as usual.	19/12/2024	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
16	Annual Review & Test conducted by Mine Manager, OCE, Environmental Manager and Environmental Advisor	15/12/2023	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
15	Annual Review & Test conducted by Mine Manager, OCE, Environmental Manager and Environmental Advisor	21/12/2022	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
14	Post Incident Review – Overland Dam passive release on 5/7/2022	05/09/2022	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
13	Annual Review & Test conducted by Mine Manager, Environmental Manager and Environmental Advisor	23/12/2021	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe
12	Legal Review by Minter Ellison- Post incident water discharge from historic underground workings at Rix's Creek	12/08/2021	Simon Ball	Chris Knight
11	Post Incident Review (Rail Loader passive spill) occurred on 23/02/2021.	16/02/2021	Chris Knight	Chris Knight
10	Annual Review & Test conducted by Mine Manager, Environmental Manager, Open Cut Examiner and Environmental Advisor.	11/12/2020	Greg Lamb/ Chris Knight	Geoff Moore
9	Update to include COVID-19 Requirements	06/05/2020	Chris Knight	Geoff Moore
8	Annual Review conducted by Mine Manager, Environmental Manager,	11/12/2019	Chris Knight	Brad Donoghoe

Revision	Details of Test / Review	Date Tested	Drawn By	Approved By
	Open Cut Examiner and Environmental Advisor			
7	Periodic Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	12/12/2018	Greg Lamb	Brad Donoghoe
6	Incident Related Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	10/11/2017	Greg Lamb	Brendon Clements
5	Update to format, document reference names and contacts	22/02/2017	Amy Cameron	Brendon Clements
4	Incident Related Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	28/01/2016	Greg Lamb	Brendon Clements
3	Incident Related Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	19/05/2015	Greg Lamb	Brendon Clements
2	Incident Related Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	04/06/2014	Greg Lamb	Brendon Clements
1	Periodic Review conducted by Mine Manager and Environmental Advisor	28/11/2013	Greg Lamb	Brendon Clements
0	Original Issue	03/10/2012	Max Geyer	Garry Bailey