



PARAWAY
PASTORAL CO.

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan

Website version

Nullamanna Feedlot
Nullamanna Road
Nullamanna NSW 2360

Background

This document has been prepared to comply with Paraway's obligations under the Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011 (POELA Act) and Environmental Protection Licence No. 20901.

Under the POELA Act Licence holders are required to prepare, keep, publish, test and implement a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP). The objectives of the plan are to:

- Enable timely communication about a pollution incident to staff at the premises, Environment Protection Authority (EPA), other relevant authorities specified in the act (including local councils, NSW ministry of Health, Work Cover NSW, and Fire and Rescue NSW) and any other persons outside the facility who may be affected by the impacts of a pollution incident.
- Minimise and control the risk of a pollution incident at the facility by requiring identification of risk and development of actions to minimise and manage those risks.
- Ensure that the plan is properly implemented by training staff, identifying persons responsible for implementing it, and ensuring that the plan is regularly tested for accuracy, currency and suitability.

A 'pollution incident' is an incident or set of circumstances 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 does not include an incident or set of circumstances involving only the emissions of any noise (EPA, 2012).

Incidents that cause or threaten the material environment harm are required to be notifiable environment incidents under the PIRMP.

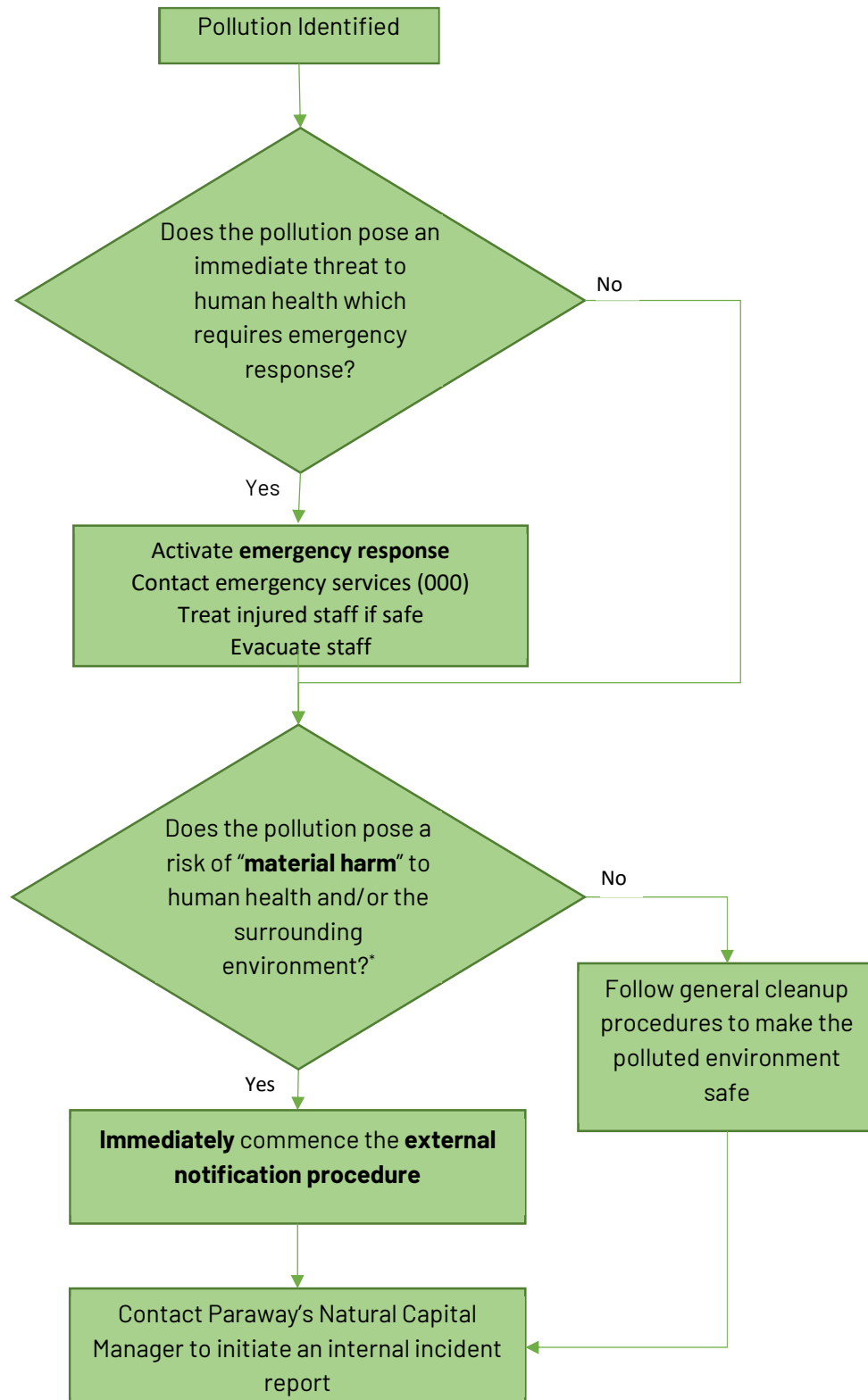
Pollution Incident Response Procedure

Industry is now required to report pollution incidents immediately to the EPA, and where relevant, NSW Health, Fire and Rescue NSW, WorkCover NSW and the local Council. 'Immediately' means promptly and without delay.

If in the case of a pollution incident, the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property the site must immediately contact 000 prior to any other action.

Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police and the NSW Ambulance Service are the first responders, as they are responsible for controlling and containing incidents. If the incident does not pose any threat to human health or property, concurrently with contacting 000, all possible actions should be taken to control the pollution incident and minimise health, safety and environmental consequences.

See flow chart and explanatory notes below. Highlighted terms are explained below the chart.



Emergency Response

The steps to follow in an emergency include:

- Identify if the risk poses a threat to human health
- Notify the station manager immediately
- Ensure all staff and visitors are safe
- If needed call 000

Material Harm

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

- (a) harm to the environment is material if:
- (i) it involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial, or
 - (ii) it results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (or such other amount as is prescribed by 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.

Immediate Notification

There is no definition of 'immediately' in the amended *POEO Act*. However, *the Second Reading Speech of the Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Bill*, and guidance on the changes to the *POEO Act* provided on the Office of Environment and Heritage website, state that the term immediately means '**promptly and without delay**'.

External Notification Procedure

When all personnel are deemed safe in an emergency, it is the responsibility of the designated person to contact the relevant external contacts.

During all pollution incidents the following persons must be contacted:

Position	Name	Mobile
Site Manager	Gavin O'Neill	0428 255 648
Natural Capital Manager	Paul McDougall	0414 344 464
Regional Manager	Brent Old	0400 473 290

The above contacts will advise which of the following will need to be contacted:

- EPA on 131 555
- NSW Health via the Tamworth Public Health Unit on (02) 6764 8000 (after hours call John Hunter Hospital on (02) 4924 6477 and ask for the Public Health Officer on call
- SafeWork NSW on 131 050
- Fire and Rescue NSW on 000
- Inverell Shire Council on (02) 6728 8288
- Disease watch hotline 1800 675 888

Any neighbouring properties that may be impacted must be contacted.