

Environmental Emergency Management Plan Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewerage Network

Approved by: Manager Water

Version 1.0

Division: Section: File Reference: Historical Reference: Community and Natural Resources
Water

TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL | TOGETHER FORWARD

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1 Introduction

This Environmental Emergency Management Plan (EEMP) for Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) applies to the Hastings Point facility and the sewerage network. The entire scheme is operated by Tweed Shire Council under a NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Environment Protection Licence No. 3618 (downloadable from EPA website). As a licence holder, and in accordance with requirements set by NSW Government agencies, Council is required to prepare and implement a number of management plans to minimise the risk of harm to human health or the environment arising from the licensed activities. They are:

- 1. Operation Environmental Management Plan
- 2. Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
- 3. Emergency Management Plan

Council has produced a single consolidated document called an Environmental Emergency Management Plan (EEMP), which satisfies the requirements of each of the three required plans and assists with the operation of the Sewerage Network and Wastewater Treatment Plant.

1.1 EEMP Requirements

The relevant legislative requirements and guidelines administered by NSW authorities for the preparation of the EEMP are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Legislative Context for the Preparation of an EEMP

| NSW Government Agency | Applicable Legislation | Management Plan Required | Guideline |
|---|--|---|--|
| NSW Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (DIPNR) | ■ Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EPAA Act) (Parts 4 and 5) | Operation Environmental Management Plan | Guideline for the Preparation of Environmental Management Plans (NSW DIPNR, 2004) |
| NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) | ■ Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011 ■ Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act) (Part 5.7A) ■ Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009 | Pollution Incident Response Management Plan | Preparation of Pollution Incident Response Management Plans (NSW EPA, 2012) |
| WorkCover NSW | Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act 2011 Work Health and Safety Regulation | Emergency Management Plan | Emergency Management Plan Checklist (WorkCover NSW) Guidelines for Emergency Plans at |
| | 2011 • Explosives Regulation 2005 | | Sites having Dangerous Goods, Explosives and Major Hazard Facilities (NSW Fire Brigades, 2010) |

1.2 Organisational Policy

Council has adopted the Health Safety Environment Management System (HSES) to establish an effective systematic process and framework for the overall management of Council's operational activities in relation to work health, safety and the environment.

The requirements of this system apply to all Council workers (fulltime, temporary, casual, contractors, volunteers and relevant stakeholders).

This management plan is a core element of the HSES, providing a site-specific framework for the management of health, safety and the environment at each of Council's Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Council also has a Workplace Environmental Management Policy and Chemical Management System called ChemAlert. ChemAlert is a proprietary web-based package that is used to manage chemicals on site. The system provides online access to safety data sheets, dangerous goods and hazardous substances registers, chemical storage volumes and product information.

Council's commitment to work health and safety is detailed further in the WHS Responsibility, Authority and Accountability Protocol.

1.3 EEMP Objectives

The objectives of the EEMP are to:

- Provide site specific information relating to environmental management and emergency / incident response, which satisfies requirements under the relevant legislation.
- Ensure integration with Council's existing policies and procedures.
- Promote best practice environmental management across site operations, and compliance with Environment Protection Licence conditions.
- Ensure comprehensive and timely communication about a pollution incident to employees, the EPA, other relevant authorities, and community members who may be affected by the impacts of the pollution incident.
- Minimise and control the risk of a pollution incident or emergency situation by requiring identification of risks and development of planned actions to minimise and manage those risks.
- Ensure the plan is properly implemented by trained staff, identifying persons responsible for implementing it, and is regularly tested and reviewed for accuracy, currency and suitability.

2 Site Description

The Hastings Point Sewerage Scheme is a combined gravity sewage collection and transport system with a dedicated wastewater treatment plant (Figure 1). It consists of the following components:

- Reticulated Sewage Pumping Stations (SPS)
- Reticulated Sewage Gravity Mains (SGM)
- Reticulated Sewage Rising Mains (SRM)
- Transport SRM
- Household pressure pumping systems
- Hastings Point WWTP

The sections below describe the site and its activities in more detail, with particular focus on operations at Hastings Point WWTP.

2.1 Location

The Hastings Point WWTP is located at 139 Round Mountain Road, Round Mountain 2484 (Figure 2). This is approximately 1.3 km from the intersection with Tweed Coast Road. It is situated on a 17 hectare property (Lot 3 DP 601993) owned by Council.

Sewerage network services the suburbs of Bogangar to the north and Hastings Point and Pottsville to the south. The sewage sources are mainly residential, commercial and tourist accommodation.

2.2 Environs

The Hastings Point WWTP is located within the floodplain of a Christies Creek. Surrounding the WWTP are low-lying wetlands that are periodically inundated. The entire site was originally wetland which has been filled in and constructed to a higher level for flood immunity. The existing WWTP infrastructure is built up with an embankment down to the natural ground level. Survey of the site indicates that the main IDEA tank is at 6.7m Australian Height Data (AHD), while the areas around the perimeter of the WWTP are generally less than 3 m AHD. The 1 in 100 Flood level is 2.9AHD. The site of the WWTP is bounded by Melaleuca and Swamp She-Oak forests (Figure 3).

Council's acid sulfate soil (ASS) planning map indicates that the Hastings Point WWTP is located on Class 2 lands.

Under the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000, the Hastings Point WWTP is zoned 5(a) – Sewage Treatment. Surrounding land is zoned 7(a) Environmental Protection and 8(a) National Parks.

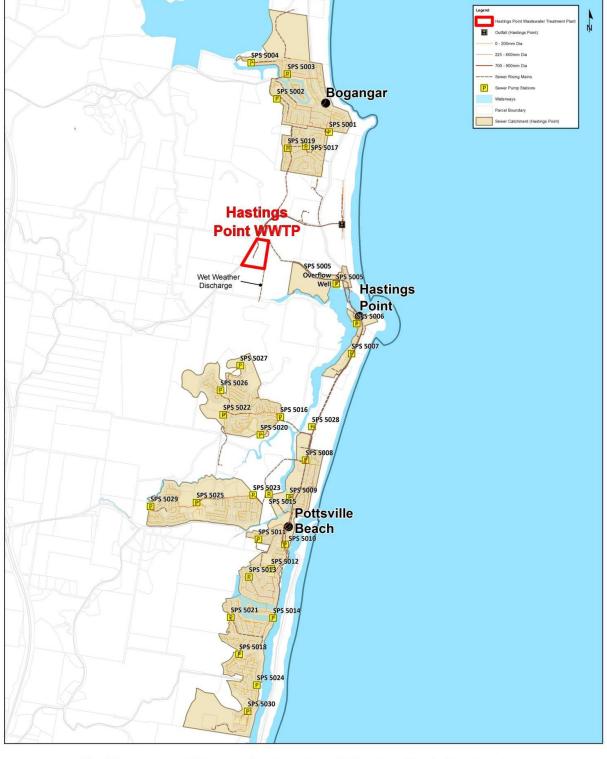


Figure 1: Hastings Point WWTP Sewerage Network

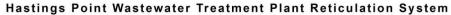
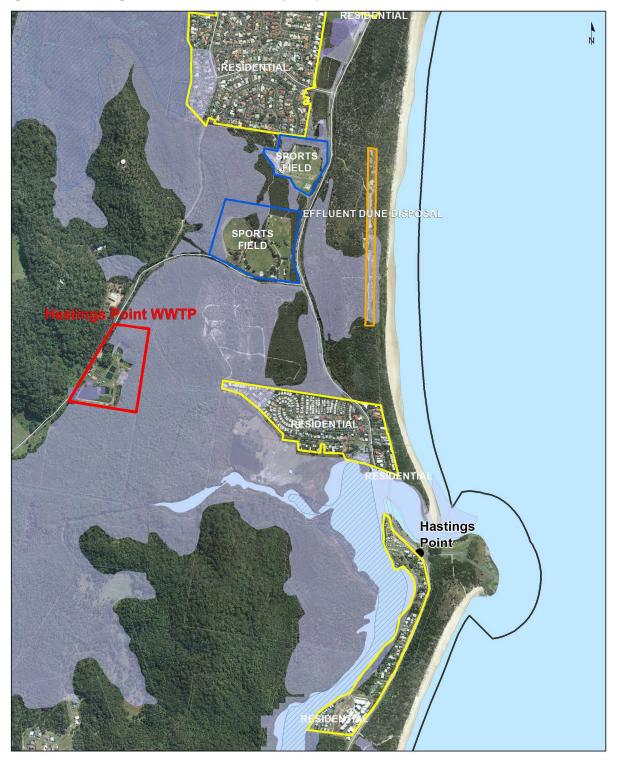




Figure 2: Hastings Point WWTP Locality Map – Wetland Surrounds



Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Wetland Surrounds



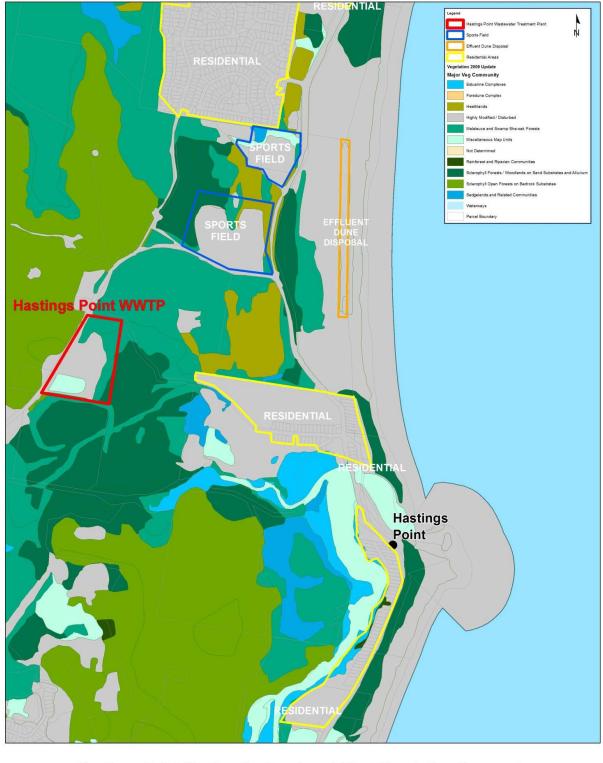
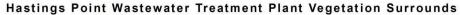


Figure 3: Hastings Point WWTP Locality Map - Vegetation Surrounds





2.3 Processes

The Hastings Point WWTP is a 18,000 EP treatment plant using two IDEA tanks.

All flows up to 3 xADWF are fully treated and flows >3xADWF to 7xADWF are partially treated. Effluent is tertiary treated and then disposed to Sand Infiltration trenchs near the beach approximately 2km from the plant. When flows are >3 x ADWF effluent overflows into a storm lagoon and the effluent is latter returned to the inlet works. If the high flows continue due to extended wet weather then effluent overflows through a licensed discharge point into Christies Creek.

A summary of the wastewater treatment process, plant and equipment is provided below. A complete description of equipment and operation and maintenance is provided in the Operation and Maintenance Manual:

Table 2: Wastewater Treatment Processes, plant and equipment

| WWTP Process Unit | Description |
|--|--|
| Preliminary Treatment Screening and Grit Removal | A mechanical step screen located in the inlet channel achieves screening of the inflow. A screenings conveyor dewaters the screenings to approximately of 40 % dry solids. In case of mechanical screen malfunction the sewage level in the channel upstream of the screen will rise. Sewage will enter the screen by-pass channel where a manually raked bar screen is installed for removal of gross screenings. |
| | Sewage then flows into two vortex grit removal tanks in which relatively heavy grit particles are settled and removed while lighter organic material is kept in suspension. Grit is collected by a grit pump and de-watered in the grit classifier. |
| Odour Control | The odour control system is designed to minimise odour emissions from the inlet works. |
| | Foul air is drawn continuously from the inlet works and is blown by electric fan into the deodorisation bed. |
| Aeration Tanks | Flow entering the secondary flow divider is spilt and is fed to the twin intermittently decanted extended aeration (IDEA) tanks. |
| | The secondary treatment is an activated sludge process for treatment of the sewage liquid and partial stabilisation (or digestion) of the sewage solids. |
| | The IDEA tanks are of a twin, vertical wall, above ground box arrangement. The decant mechanism is 12.5 m long and located at 2/3 of the length of the tank. Aeration is by two floating surface aerators in each tank. |
| | Anoxic conditions are obtained during the settle and decant phase of each cycle providing a suitable environment for nitrogen removal. |
| | Alum is dosed into each tank during the aeration phase for the removal of phosphorus. |
| Balance Tanks and Effluent Ponds | Two balance tanks, the first being a vertical wall concrete structure and the second a rubber lined pond provides |

| WWTP Process Unit | Description |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| | storage for decants and allows water to gravitate to the disc filter. |
| | During wet weather events when large decants occur secondary treated effluent overflows a weir in the rubber lined pond and enters the storm lagoon. |
| Filtration (Tertiary Treatment) | A disc filter provides polishing of the effluent prior to discharge to the effluent pump station. The filter is designed to remove suspended solids that would otherwise accumulate in the dune effluent disposal system. |
| Effluent Pumping Station | The effluent pumping station is supplied by a gravity pipeline from the filter. Two variable speed pumps deliver treated effluent to the dunes effluent disposal area. Liquid chlorine is dosed (flow paced) into the effluent main to prevent biological fouling in the dunes effluent disposal system. |
| Dune Disposal (Effluent) | Approximately 2 km of pipeline conveys effluent from the effluent pumping station to the dune infiltration disposal trench. |
| Sludge Lagoons and Drying Beds | Sludge produced by the activated sludge process is stabilised by a minimum of 6-month lagooning in two concrete lined sludge lagoons. The effective volume of each is approximately, 2,200 m3. |
| | Sludge from the lagoons is pumped to two sludge drying areas. The sludge drying beds consist of a sand-based area underlain by agricultural drains. |
| | Filtrate from the drying beds is returned to the inlet via the filtrate pump station. |
| Storm Lagoon | During wet weather periods large decants will cause the level in the balance pond to rise and flow over a weir to the storm lagoon. The storm lagoon is designed to catch these events and has a pump station that enables this secondary treated effluent to be returned to the inlet works during low flow periods. |
| | The storm lagoon has an overflow outlet that directs water to the environment. |

2.4 History

The Hastings Point WWTP was originally commissioned in 1984 for a capacity of 8,000 EP. The plant was augmented in 2002 to a capacity 18,000 EP.

2.5 Bulk Chemical Storage

A detailed listing of chemicals is contained in the Chemalert database.

A summary of bulk chemicals stored at Hastings Point WWTP is provided in Table 3. Their location is shown on the site plan (Appendix A)

Table 3: Summary of bulk chemicals at Hastings Point WWTP

| Substance | Classification under the ADG Code | Quantity / Storage Details (Maximum Capacity) | WorkCover Requirement |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Alum (Aluminium Sulphate)* | None allocated UN No: Nil | 24,000 L capacity bulk tanks (sg 1.31 kg/L) | Not listed in Schedule 11 of NSW Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011. No notification to NSW Work Cover required. |
| Sodium hypochlorite | 1791 | 10,000L capacity bulk tanks | Notifiable quantity |

2.6 Pollutants Inventory

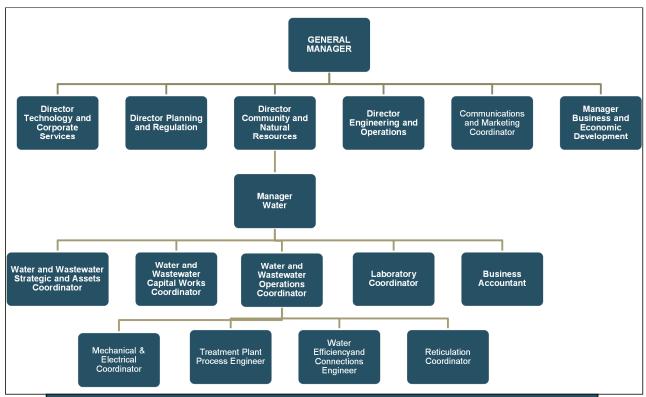
Table 4: Summary of Pollutants at Hastings Point WWTP

| Substance | Location | Maximum quantity |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Screenings and grit | Screenings Bin | 6m ³ |
| Raw sewage | Inlet works | 3 kL |
| Raw sewage | Grit Arrestor | 10 kL |
| Mixed Liquor | Bioreactors | 4200kL |
| Effluent | Effluent tank | 520kL |
| Effluent | Effluent pond | 1000 kL |
| Effluent | Storm Lagoon | 21400kL |
| Effluent | Tertiary filter | 6 kL |
| Effluent | Effluent pump station | 48 kL |
| Effluent | Dune disposal system | No |
| | | storage |
| Sludge | Sludge lagoons | |
| Biosolids | Drying beds | 2000 m ³ |
| Oil | Storage Shed | 300L |
| Grease | Storage Shed | 3L |
| Degreaser | Storage Shed | 20L |
| Hydrochloric acid | Storage Shed | 5L |
| Detergent | Storage Shed | 20L |
| Roundup herbicide | Storage Shed | 20L |
| Unleaded petrol | Storage Shed | 30L |

3 Operation Structure and Responsibilities

The Council organisational structure is provided in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Council Organisational Structure – Community and Natural Resource



Staff: Water Supply Services; Wastewater Services (Operations Staff); Laboratory Services; Mechanical and Electrical Services

Roles, responsibilities and communication pathways are illustrated in Figure 5.

Council defines, documents and communicates the areas of accountability and responsibility of all personnel involved in the implementation, maintenance and review of the HSES through the following:

- WHS Risk Management Protocol
- WHS Responsibility, Authority and Accountability Protocol
- Position descriptions
- Risk registers
- Safe Work Method Statements
- Standard Operating Procedures

Requirements for management of contractors are detailed in the Contractor and Services Health and Safety Management Protocol.

Figure 5: Roles, Responsibilities and Communication Pathway

NSW EPA

Role: consulting with the Environment Protection Licensee, ensuring it has no adverse environmental or human health implications



Scheme Director (Director Community & Natural Resources)

Role: consulting with agencies and any further risk management to ensure no adverse human health or environmental implications

Contact Name: David Oxenham



Scheme Manager (Water Manager)

Role: Oversee the scheme on a senior management level. Receive critical operational reports, coordinate communication between other levels and help with any crucial decision making processes to ensure no adverse human health or environmental impacts.

Contact Name: Anthony Burnham



Scheme Coordinator (Water and Wastewater Operations Engineer)

Role: Coordinating and reviewing monitoring and reporting. Ensure operation in accordance with the EEMP (in conjunction with the HSES and other Council procedures) to prevent adverse human health or environmental impacts.

Contact Name: Peter Haywood



Scheme Supervisor (Treatment and Process Engineer)

Role: Undertaking a general supervisory role to ensure implementation of EEMP actions. Maintaining effective and efficient operation of the EEMP (in conjunction with the HSES and other Council procedures) to prevent adverse human health or environmental impacts.

Contact Name: Marty Hancock



Scheme Operator (Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator)

Role: Undertaking tasks in accordance with the EEMP on a daily supervision basis Facilitating communication between levels, ensuring appropriate operation and ensuring no adverse environmental or human health implications.

Contact Name: Kevin Nelson

3.1 Working Hours and Employment Structure

Council provides a 24 hour service for every scheme. Standard working hours for WWTP's operators are Monday - Friday, 7:00AM to 4:00PM. Routine inspections take place on weekends and public holidays between 6:00AM and 10:00AM.

Three full time operators are based at Kingscliff WWTP and visit Hastings WWTP each day. Mechanical and electrical services are provided by the Water Unit as required.

3.2 Maintenance

Routine maintenance is scheduled through Council's asset management system (MEX). All assets are recorded in this system and maintenance schedules are generated. Scheduled maintenance is then undertaken by the Water Unit, Mechanical & Electrical section. Critical assets are monitored remotely and staff are assigned to react to alarms.

4 Approvals, Licensing and Reporting

The following approvals and licences are in place for Hastings Point WWTP:

- Environment Protection Licence under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (Licence No. 3618)
- Acknowledgement of Notification of Dangerous Goods on Premises (for Sodium Hypochlorite)

Licence conditions include requirement to monitor effluent quality and volume at the discharge point. Effluent quality concentration limits are provided in Table 4:

Table 5: Hastings Point WWTP Effluent Concentration Limits

| Parameter | 90 Percentile | 100 Percentile |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Biochemical Oxygen Demand | 10 mg/L | 20 mg/L |
| Total Suspended Solids (TSS) | 15 mg/L | 30 mg/L |
| Total Nitrogen | 10 mg/L | 20 mg/L |
| Total Phosphorus | 1 mg/L | 2 mg/L |
| рН | n/a | 6.5 – 8.5 |
| Oil & Grease | 5 mg/L | 10 mg/L |

Council reports to the NSW EPA. Reporting requirements include the following:

4.1 Annual Return

As an Environment Protection Licence holder, Council must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return comprising:

- · statement of compliance with Licence
- monitoring and complaints summary
- details of any environmental incidents and the incident response implemented
- system performance report

An Annual Return must be prepared and submitted annually to the EPA within 60 days of the reporting period. The reporting period commences on the anniversary date of the licence.

4.2 Performance Monitoring Data

Council must within 14 days of obtaining monitoring data (for the last sample for that period), make any of the monitoring data that relates to pollution, and the licensee's name, publicly and prominently available on their website. This is to allow the public to access results of all pollution monitoring in a meaningful format.

Data required to be published includes:

- a summary of the monitoring data collected on at least a monthly basis.
- information regarding when and to what extent the pollutant discharge limits specified in the licence were not met and why.

The published monitoring data is available on Council's website.

4.3 Pollution Complaints

The EPA requires Council as an Environment Protection Licence holder to keep a record of all complaints made in relation to pollution arising from any activity to which the licence applies.

Council operates a 24-hour telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises e.g. odour, noise. The Council Complaints Line is (02) 6670 2400 or 1300 292872 and 1800 818 326 for after hours emergency calls.

All pollution complaints and resulting actions are registered in Council's document registration system and/or customer request system.

4.4 Notification of Environmental Harm

The POEO Act requires the occupier of premises, the employer or any person carrying on the activity which causes a pollution incident to immediately notify each relevant authority if there is a risk of 'material harm to the environment'.

Council must notify the EPA of incidents causing or threatening material harm to the environment immediately after Council becomes aware of the incident to ensure that the appropriate agencies have the information they need to respond within an appropriate time.

Notifications must be made immediately by telephoning the NSW EPA service on 131 555. Council must subsequently provide written reports as directed by EPA.

5 Training and Induction

All plant operational staff are trained to a Certification Level III in Wastewater Industry Operations and have at least a competent understanding of the industry. General training requirements are managed through the Council's Human Resources Unit.

Training records and competencies are recorded and maintained utilising Council's corporate human resource system.

5.1 Staff Training

Training is provided to Council employees as part of site inductions, specialised skills and technology (e.g. ChemAlert, Aurion), and annual workplace health and safety and emergency response training. This includes a review of the responsibilities of staff and an update of procedural and legislative changes.

The site specific induction will include:

- Environmental Management e.g. environmental hazards of substances handled, pollution prevention (spill management and overflow management), odour control, waste and stormwater management.
- Health and Safety e.g. physical hazards of the workplace and activities, health and hygiene hazards, personal protective equipment, incident and near miss reporting.
- Emergency response (see below) and pollution incident response procedures.

Emergency response training is delivered annually and includes:

- Emergency Warden evacuation drills
- the communication procedure in the event of an emergency / incident;
- the location of emergency contact details;
- practicing a mock spill clean-up procedure including where to find emergency equipment and how to use it;
- ensuring staff are aware of their obligations in the event of an actual or potential emergency;
- ensuring staff are aware of the responsibilities and roles of other key staff members in the event of an emergency.

5.2 Inductions

The Council HSE Management System states that all employees are required to undertake the following inductions prior to commencing work:

- Corporate WHS Induction
- Workgroup Activity Induction
- Site Specific Inductions

6 Hazards and Risks

6.1 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment workshop was undertaken to identify operational risks to the environment and public health for the WWTP and sewerage system (Appendix B). This assessment included identifying and addressing measures to control risks.

This risk assessment is reviewed annually or if any major changes to network or WWTP are undertaken, or following a major incident.

6.2 Environmental Management Activities and Control

Management activities and operational controls are in place to manage the identified hazards and risks. They aim to provide clear instruction of activities undertaken so they

comply with HSES requirements and minimise hazards and potential environmental impacts.

Key management activities and operational controls include:

- Appropriate design of Infrastructure including fenced compound, Building code regulations, Control building BCA certified and smoke alarm system connected to 24 hour call service, SCADA telemetry and alarms and stormwater system including bunding and isolation valves
- Site security
- Maintenance of vegetation buffer zones
- Daily site inspections by site operators
- Trained operators
- Good Housekeeping
- Work instructions (eg. Chemical Handling)
- SOPs eg. Sewerage Environmental Incident
- Emergency Plan and Procedures including
 - Evacuation procedures
 - Hydrant location/s displayed
 - Training for fire/emergency wardens
 - Back-up generator
- Pollution Incident Response Procedures
- Liquid Trade Waste Policy and management.
- Biosolids management plan
- Dangerous Goods Register (SDSs): Flammable and combustible liquids are stored in accordance with AS1940-2004. All are registered in ChemAlert
- WHS audits
- Maintenance program and procedures
- Monitoring programs
- Complaint register
- Annual inspection of fire safety equipment
- Annual emergency evacuation drills
- Business continuity plan (BCP)

7 Emergency Management

Council's HSES requires potential emergency situations to be identified and procedures documented (Emergency Preparedness and Management Protocol).

The Protocol provides an effective systematic process for the management of emergency situations across all Council operations and response to protect life, property and the environment.

The HSES documents other processes and procedures to assist in the communication and implementation of emergency response procedures:

- Council has an established Emergency Planning Committee that meets twice yearly.
- Employees shall receive training in emergency response procedures appropriate to allocated emergency response responsibilities and degree of risk. In addition, emergency procedure drills shall be conducted annually.
- A central register detailing locations, wardens, training, drills, procedures, maps shall be maintained by the WHS Section.

The Emergency Plan is contained as Appendix A. It has been prepared to complement and interact with TSC HSES.

8 Pollution Incident Response Management

A pollution incident may include:

- plant malfunction
- sewer overflow
- mains break or blockage
- Illegal trade waste disposal
- other occurrence that has the potential to cause public health or environmental harm.

8.1 Pollutant Incident Notification Requirements

The POEO Act requires the occupier of premises, the employer or any person carrying on the activity which causes a pollution incident to immediately notify each relevant authority when material harm to the environment is caused or threatened.

The POEO Act defines 'material harm' as:

- a) harm to the environment is material if:
 - (i) it involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial, or
 - (ii) it results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (or such other amount as is prescribed by the regulations), and
- b) loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment.

8.2 Incident Response

Council's Sewerage Environmental Incident Standard Operating Procedure describes the procedures for the prevention and mitigation of environmental and public harm as a result of an incident in the sewerage scheme. As part of this procedure Council has an Environmental Incident Report which details the notification procedures and all actions taken.

8.3 Level of Response

The level of severity of the incident will dictate the appropriate response to the incident. It is essential that when the incident occurs, Council site personnel are able to categorise the relative severity of the incident so that the appropriate actions and plans can be adopted, including communication of the incident both internally and externally.

Incidents are categorised as follows:

| Incident Category | Incident Description |
|---|--|
| Minor Incident (Category 1): | Incidents with no or little public health or |
| No notification required | environmental effects |
| | There is no risk of material harm to humans |
| | or the environment |
| Moderate Incident (Category 2): | Incidents with limited public health impact or |
| Notify NSW EPA and Local Public Health | limited and non-permanent impact on the |
| Unit only | environment |
| | There is a risk of pollution or material harm |
| | to the environment |
| | Clean-up can be completed without |
| | assistance |
| Major Incident (Category 3): | Incidents with major impact on Public |
| Notification required – Notify NSW EPA, | Health or major and irreversible impact on |
| Local Public Health Unit, WorkCover and | the environment |
| Fire & Rescue | Potential or actual harm to humans and the |
| | environment |
| | Assistance is required with clean-up from |
| | other agencies |

8.4 Initial Response

Firstly, call 000 if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property. Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police and the NSW Ambulance Service are the first responders, as they are responsible for controlling and containing incidents.

If the incident does not require an initial combat agency, or once the 000 call has been made, notify the relevant authorities in the following order. The following contacts are included in the Sewerage Environmental Incident Standard Operating Procedure:

| EXTERNAL ALERT CONTACT NUMBERS | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--|
| Fire | 000 | |
| Ambulance | 000 | |
| Police | 000 | |
| SES | 132 500 | |
| NOTIFYING RELEVANT AUTHORITIES | | |
| NSW EPA (Environment Line) | 131 555 | |
| Local Public Health Unit | 149 377 | |
| WorkCover Authority | 13 10 50 | |

The Environmental Incident Report should be completed for all incidents above Category 1. The form should be forwarded to the relevant authorities for all Category 2 and 3 incidents.

8.5 Communication with Neighbours and the Local Community

Community notification shall be undertaken at the determination of the Scheme Manager. The main risk that could potentially impact neighbouring properties to the WWTP and in the sewerage network is a release of raw, partially treated sewage or significant odour.

Council's GIS system will be used to assist in identifying local groups to be notified in the event of a disaster or major incident. If required, impacted property owners will be notified by door knock, generally by the first response crew. If the incident is a waterway, signage will be placed in public areas that may be used for recreational activities until the waterways is deemed clear of contamination.

Council's Communications and Customer Service section will coordinate media releases, responses to journalists, and general media related inquiries.

9 Auditing, Improvement and Record Keeping

9.1 Auditing Requirements

Documented procedures detailing audit and inspection programs are detailed in the WHS Workplace Inspections and Audit Protocol.

The Sewerage Scheme will undergo an annual internal audit to ensure:

- Council is meeting their obligations as an EPA Environment Protection Licence holder, and under any other relevant legislation, policies, standards and guidelines; and
- this EEMP is being fully implemented and maintained; and any incident reported as per this EEMP.
- any potential risk exposures or incidents on site are being adequately investigated and management practices developed.

External audits will only be undertaken if directed by NSW EPA.

9.2 Corrective Action

Incident investigation, corrective actions and review are detailed in:

- Incident Injury Hazard Near Miss Reporting and Investigation Protocol
- WHS Risk Management Protocol

A central register detailing all incidents, investigations and corrective actions shall be maintained by the WHS Seciton.

Relevant personnel shall be trained in incident investigation.

All corrective actions shall be reviewed to ensure effectiveness and that controls have not introduced further hazards or risk.

9.3 Plan Review

This plan is to be reviewed annually to ensure it is up to date and allows for any major changes in the network, the treatment plant, to neighbouring or downstream land users, external legislative changes or corporate systems procedures.

There must also be a revision of Council personnel roles and responsibilities and initial/external emergency contact details. The review will correspond with the annual audit.

The plan review process may include the following actions:

- Review responsibilities and staff contacts are current.
- Check the targets identified in the plan and identify which have been achieved.
- Review any complaints or lack of compliance with monitoring targets.
- Identify any new risks to human health or environment and include in the updated Risk Assessment section.
- Determine new actions from the above and include in the updated Control Measures section.
- Determine any new monitoring requirements from the above process and include in the Monitoring section of the plan.
- Undertake either desktop simulation or practical exercise to test pollution incident management specific components of plan.
- Determine any new training requirements and include in the Training section of the plan.
- Assess any upgrades or major works planned at the site.
- Provide updated copies of this document to authorities (e.g. EPA, WorkCover NSW, NSW Fire and Rescue etc.)

Appendix A: Hastings Point WWTP Emergency Plan

A1 Introduction

This document forms part of the Hastings Point WWTP Environmental Emergency Management Plan and has been developed to meet the requirements for a WorkCover Emergency Management Plan for sites with notifiable quantities of Dangerous Goods.

A2 Aims

The purpose of this document is to provide site specific incident management information:

- to control and mitigate the effects of minor or major leaks / spills arising from an incident focusing on safe and environmentally aware outcomes
- to facilitate emergency response and provide assistance on site as is appropriate to the situation
- to ensure that vital information is communicated to relevant external agencies
- to facilitate the reorganisation and recovery operations
- to meet the requirements of applicable legislation
- to detail the emergency response incidents for bulk dangerous goods

A3 Attachments

- 1. Site Plan
- 2. Emergency Escape Plans
- 3. Emergency Services Information Package

A4 Initial Response

Treatment Plant Emergency Personnel

Emergency Coordinator

Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Kevin Nelson

Secondary Emergency Coordinator

Acting Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Glenn Molloy and Richard Phillips

When the Emergency Coordinator is on leave the Acting Senior Operator will also act as the Emergency Coordinator.

First Aid Officer

Kevin Nelson

Emergency Coordinator Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Emergency Coordinator to determine the nature and extent of the incident and to implement relevant emergency procedures. The Emergency Coordinator shall assume the role of emergency services liaison officer should the incident require response from external emergency services.

After hour alarms shall be routed through to the relevant emergency coordinator's mobile for attendance on site, investigation and determined actions.

Emergency Instructions

Specific instructions applicable to various buildings and sections of buildings shall be available to both employees, visitors, contractors through the display of emergency evacuation maps and procedures in the form of emergency procedures flip charts.

All employees, visitors, contractors and other Council workgroups shall be inducted in relation to site emergency procedures.

Manufacturers SDS shall be displayed at the relevant storage and or handling location.

A5 Incident Response Principles

Key principles and duties of the Emergency Coordinator are:

- 1. Containment (if safe to do so)
- 2. Rescue (if safe to do so)
- 3. Raise the Alarm
- 4. Evacuation
- 5. First Aid

In many cases the above principles and duties will be conducted simultaneously and always at the direction of the Emergency Coordinator.

A6 External Emergency Response

The Emergency Services Information Package (ESIP) (attached) shall be located at the front gate in a prominently labelled weather proof container secured with a 003 lock and shall include:

- A Council letter head with full business contact details, two emergency contacts (names, position titles, business and after hours contact numbers), date prepared and the location of any manifests, emergency plans and SDSs held on site.
- Two copies of scaled Manifest Site Map (A3 minimum) showing assembly points, dangerous goods ventilation points and containment (e.g. bundings), drain isolation and discharge points.
- A copy of site hydrant system block plan (if applicable)
- A concise list detailing location, quantity, class and names of notifable quantities of dangerous goods

A7 Early Warning Alarms and Systems

Security

The entire treatment facility perimeter is chainmesh fenced. The fence has a padlocked gate which is locked out of normal working hours and provides access to the visitor car park. In an emergency the lock will have to be cut. There is an alternate entrance through a padlocked gate to the North of the main entrance.

The control building is connected to a security system which will call out to a 24 hour call centre. If an alarm is activated the call centre will contact the on-call operator with the details of the alarm. If the on-call operator can not be contacted there is an escalation hierarchy that the call centre will follow until a Council officer is contacted. It is Councils responsibility to call emergency services should they be required.

The Security Monitoring Centre contact is 07 55640088.

Fire

A fire panel is fitted in the control building and is connected to the security system. It is Council's responsibility to call emergency services should they be required.

Prior to conducting an evacuation drill, the Security Monitoring Centre must be contacted.

Raising the Alarm

On initial discovery of a perceived or actual emergency occurrence the 'on duty' plant attendant is to notify immediately by direct contact or telephone communication the Emergency Co-ordinator.

The 'on duty' plant attendant shall determine the nature and extent of the incident and implement relevant emergency procedures including raising the alarm and notifying emergency services, if required.

Minor or Moderate Incident - Site Alert

This shall be activated by verbal communication

Major Incident – Site Alert and External Alert

Ring 000 – Fire Ambulance Police

This shall be conducted by the Emergency Coordinator or their nominated representative.

The information to be supplied is as follows:

What assistance is required: Fire, Ambulance or Police

Name: Tweed Shire Council – Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant

Contact name: Caller

Directions:

HPWWTP - from Tweed Coast Rd

- Turn into Round Mountain Rd (for 1.3 km)
- Turn left into HWWTP

Phone No: Your number, or as appropriate

Type of Emergency and Details: Fire, explosion, major leak and details of hazards/ risks present

Injury / Casualty Details: Types of injuries and number of casualties

Note: Ask the emergency service to repeat back the details before hanging up, particularly the directions

A8 Emergency Contact Details

| INITIAL ALERT - COUNCIL EMERGENCY COORDINATOR | | |
|--|---|--|
| Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – Kevin Nelson | (02) 6671 2920 Mobile - 0408 368358 | |
| Acting Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – Glenn Molloy | (02) 6671 2920 Mobile – 0420 962 406 | |
| EXTERNAL ALERT CONTACT NUMBERS | | |
| Fire | 000 | |
| Ambulance | 000 | |
| Police | 000 | |
| SES | 132 500 | |
| NOTIFYING RELEVANT AUTHORITIES | | |
| NSW EPA (Environment Line) | 131 555 | |
| Local Public Health Unit | 149 377 | |
| WorkCover Authority | 13 10 50 | |

| Type of Emergency | Emergency Service Agency Responsible |
|---|---|
| Fire, Explosion, Chemical Spills/ Leaks, rescue at heights/ confined spaces/ entrapment | NSWFB |
| Casualties, injuries | Ambulance |
| Civil disorder, bomb threat | Police |
| Evacuation of people outside site boundaries (neighbours) | Police |

A9 Safety and Containment

Power Isolation

| Building/Functional Group | Power Isolation Location |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Individual Drives/Processes | Local Emergency Stops and Isolation Switches |
| Office/Amenities Building | Main Switch Room |
| Main Switch Room | Main Switch Room |
| Switch Room 2 | Main Switch Room |
| Chemical Building | Main Switch Room |
| Treatment Processes | Main Switch Room and Switch Room 2 |

Equipment

Safety Data Sheets are located near the chemical dosing area. SDS's are also available through Council's chemical database, 'Chemalert', accessed from the Intranet.

PPE is kept onsite in the control building.

Personal gas monitors are only required for Confined Space Entry and are kept in Council's Confined Space Trailer which is brought to site when required. Only personnel who have been Confined Space Trained may undertake confined space work.

- Fire hydrant
- Fire extinguishers
- Chemical spill kit
- Chemical bunding
- First aid kits
- First aid officers
- Trained plant operators
- Backup generator

Spills and Leaks of Dangerous Goods

- 1. Notify the emergency co-ordinator of the incident
- 2. Arrange for two people with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to attend the leak/spill
- 3. Isolate valves to stop the leak
- 4. Turn off pumps as appropriate
- 5. Consult SDS for clean up procedures
- 6. For major spills arrange for a waste cartage contractor to remove

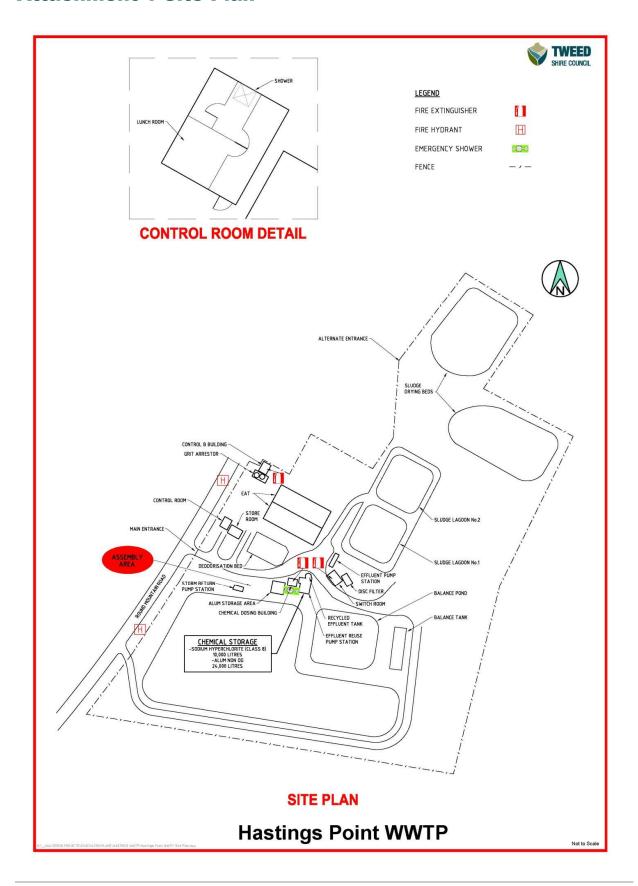
A10 Terminating an Emergency

Once the emergency services incident controller designates that their role is complete, control of the site will then be handed back to the Council emergency coordinator. The emergency controller will then need to facilitate reorganisation and reconstruction activities so that normal operation of the site can resume. This will be done with assistance from relevant Council Engineers and other parties as identified by Council.

A11 Post Emergency

As part of Council's Emergency Preparedness and Management Protocol all emergencies are reviewed, investigated and the effectiveness of system assessed. Where appropriate the system is amended as part of the continuous improvement process.

Attachment 1 Site Plan



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Customer Service | 1300 292 872 | (02) 6670 2400

tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au www.tweed.nsw.gov.au

Fax (02) 6670 2429 PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Please address all communications to the General Manager

ABW: 90 178 732 496

Emergency Services Information Package Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant 139 Round Mountain Road, Round Mountain NSW

Emergency Services Information Package

1 Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Emergency Personnel

Emergency Coordinator

Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Kevin Nelson 0417627087; 02 66712920

Secondary Emergency Coordinator

Acting Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Glenn Molloy 0420962406, 02 66712920

Address of Site:

139 Round Mountain Road, Round Mountain

2 Dangerous Goods Manifest

| PRODUCT | UN No | DG CLASS | | PG | HAZCHEM | MAXIMUM QUANTITY |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----|---------|---------------------|
| Нуро 12.5 | 1791 | 8 | CORROSIVE | III | 2R | 10,000L |

3 SDS Location

All SDS located at chemical storage.

4 Site Plans (two A3 copies attached)

Appendix B: Risk Assessment

| | TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL How danger | WHS & ENVIRO | | SK MATRIX | | |
|---|---|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| PROBAB | ILITY | Very Likely | Likely | Possible | Unlikely | Very Unlikely |
| WHS Severity / Consequence | Environmental Severity / Consequence | | - | | | |
| Major injury / illness / death | Catastrophic environmental event. | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Long term or serious injury / illness (greater than 5 days lost time) | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | |
| Short term injury / illness (less than 5 days lost time) Moderate environmental event. | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Minor injury (first aid treatment required) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | |
| Insignificant event | Insignificant environmental event | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 Extreme Risk – Do not comme | ence work and contact WHS Section | on and Unit Manager. | Secure site as re | quired. | | |
| 2 High Risk – Immediate action | required to reduce risk. | | | | | |
| 3 Medium Risk – Urgent action | required to reduce risk. | | | | | |
| 4 Low Risk – Ensure adequate of | control measures are implemented | 1 . | | | | |
| 5 Negligible Risk - Manage app | ropriately. | | | | | |
| If you feel a WHS / | Environmental risk fits two or m | nore categories, alw | ays treat the risk | at the higher leve | l as a precautior | 1. |

| Activity | Hazard | Consequence | Existing Measures to Control Risks | Risk Rating |
|----------|---|--|--|----------------|
| WWTP | Fire damage On-Site / Off-Site Caused by: | Damage to machinery and equipment causing overflow Treatment process failure Injury to workers Smoke to neighbouring community | Annual inspection of fire safety equipment Annual fire drills Maintenance of vegetation buffer zones Fenced compound Building code regulations Control building BCA certified and smoke alarm system connected to 24 hour call service SCADA telemetry and alarms Daily site inspections by site operators Good Housekeeping Sewerage Incident Response SOP Environmental Emergency Management Plan Evacuation procedures BCP Hydrant location/s displayed Training for fire warden/s Dangerous Goods Register: Flammable and combustible liquids are stored in accordance with AS1940-2004. WHS audit Bulk treatment chemicals are non flammable | Mod/U=4 |
| WWTP | Flood damage Damage caused by: Inundation of WWTP structures Potentially escalated by: Failure of telemetry and operational access | Release of partially treated effluent to the environment Equipment damage Odour | Plant has been designed for flood scenario of Q100 Remote SCADA operation Telemetry connection with LAN microwave link with standby digital radio link. | Mod/U=4 |
| WWTP | Sewage spill Failure of normal flows due to : Operator error Accident Structural / pipe failure Mech/elec failure Environmental factors Vandalism | Release of sewage to the environment Odour Health risks to the workers | Appropriate design Trained Operators Back-up power (Generator – off site) Sewerage Incident Response SOP Site security Daily site inspections Telemetry and alarming | Mod/VU=5 |
| WWTP | Raw Sewage High Inflow Caused by high rainfall and infiltration | Release of partially treated effluent to the environment Odour | Plant designed to hydraulically handle peak pumping capacity from SPSs Trained operators Storm lagoon capacity returned to inlet works post event SOAS Sewerage Incident Response SOP | Min/P=4 |

| Activity | Hazard | Consequence | Existing Measures to Control Risks | Risk Rating |
|----------|---|--|---|----------------|
| WWTP | Stormwater contamination from site runoff Caused by: Biosolids mishandling Chemical leaks Fuel leaks Treatment process line leaks Screenings and Grit | Release of potential contaminants to the environment | Site inspections Trained operators Operators to clean up Biosolids and other spills Spill kit | Min/VU=5 |
| WWTP | Odour nuisance Caused by: Septicity in the sewerage network Failure of treatment processes Failure of odour control facility Overflows or lagoon storage Trade waste/industry discharge to sewer Dewatering plant Potentially escalated by: Weather conditions Maintenance work | Complaints from the community | Odour control unit on Inlet Works Maintenance procedures Trained Operators Trade waste policy and management Complaint register | Min/P=4 |
| WWTP | Noise nuisance Caused by: Operational noise Maintenance works Truck movements Potentially escalated by: Emergency power (back-up generator) Mechanical failure (pump bearings) | Complaints from the community | Restricted work hours Maintenance program Site inspections | I/VU=5 |

| Activity | Hazard | Consequence | Existing Measures to Control Risks | Risk Rating |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------|
| WWTP | Pollution to the environment (effluent/biosolids/solid waste) Failure to meet licence conditions due to: Failure of treatment processes Operator error Accident Mech/elec/civil failure Weather Vandalism Trade waste/industry discharge to sewer Incorrect disposal of Biosolids/solid waste | Release of potential contaminants to the environment | Appropriate design Trained Operators Back-up power (Generator off site) Site security Daily site inspections Telemetry and alarming Daily operator monitoring Weekly compliance monitoring by NATA approved laboratory Maintenance program Trade waste policy and management Contractor compliance with Biosolids Management Guidelines | Mod/U=4 |
| WWTP | Chemical spill Caused by: Rupture of tank/bund Operator error Handling error Failure of lines Vandalism Potentially escalated by: Flood / mixing with water | Release of potential contaminants to the environment Injury to workers (irritant, corrosive chemicals) | Appropriate design (AS3780) including signage Trained Operators WI for chemical handling Chemical register MSDS on site (includes disposal and PPE) Daily site inspections Maintenance program Environmental Emergency Management Plan | Mod/U=4 |
| Effluent Dune Disposal | Pollution to the environment Failure of treatment processes Operator error Accident Vandalism Blinding of trench and overflow to dunes and beach | Release of potential contaminants to the environment Damage to dunes and vegetation Human contact with effluent | Exfiltration trench management plan – includes operations and maintenance plan, monitoring and sampling plan Access roads are gated and locked Unauthorised access signage Manholes locked | Mod/U=4 |

| Activity | Hazard | Consequence | Existing Measures to Control Risks | Risk Rating |
|----------|--|--|--|----------------|
| SPS | Fire damage Caused by: Accidental Electrical Fire Bushfire Lightning strikes Arson Potentially escalated by: Fire risk associated with standby generators (fuel) for some SPSs | Damage to machinery and equipment causing overflow Odour Injury to workers Smoke to neighbouring community Fire spread | Annual inspection of fire safety equipment Maintenance of vegetation buffer zones Building code regulations Locked building/electrical panels SCADA telemetry and alarms Routine site inspections by operators Sewerage Incident Response SOP BCP Dangerous Goods Register: Flammable and combustible liquids are stored in accordance with AS1940-2004. Waste Transport company contract (emergency pump out truck) | Mod/VU=5 |
| SPS | Raw sewage spill Damage caused by: • Flood inundation of SPS structures Potentially escalated by: • Failure of telemetry and operational access | Release of raw sewage to the environment Equipment damage Odour | Flood overlay map (Enlighten) Switch boards located above Q100 Remote SCADA operation Telemetry Submersible pumps BCP Notification procedures to EPA and community Waste Transport company contract (emergency pump out truck) | Min/P=4 |
| SPS | Raw sewage spill Failure of SPS due to : Accident Mech/elec failure Environmental factors Vandalism | Release of raw sewage to the environment Equipment damage Odour | Remote SCADA operation Telemetry (Automatic daily alarm report on exceptional pump starts or pump run times) Duty standby pumps Notification procedures to EPA and community Sewerage Incident Response SOP Trained operators Routine inspections Maintenance procedures Waste Transport company contract (emergency pump out truck) Critical electrical and control equipment spares parts are maintained | Mod/U=4 |
| SPS | Odour nuisance Caused by: Septicity in the sewerage network Trade waste/industry discharge to sewer Potentially escalated by: | Complaints from the community | Odour modelling of major SPS Maintenance procedures Trained Operators Trade waste policy and management Complaint register | Min/P=4 |

| Activity | Hazard | Consequence | Existing Measures to Control Risks | Risk Rating |
|--|---|---|---|----------------|
| | Weather conditions Maintenance work | | | |
| SPS | Noise nuisance Caused by: Noise at SPS | Complaints from the community | Submersible pumps Complaint register Maintenance procedures | I/VU=5 |
| Single Private Pump Station (SPPS) | Raw sewage spill Failure of SPS due to : Accident Mech/elec failure Environmental factors | Release of raw sewage to the environment Equipment damage Odour | Local alarm Sewerage Incident Response SOP Trained operators Routine inspections Maintenance procedures Waste Transport company contract (emergency pump out truck) | Min/U=5 |
| Sewer | Raw sewage spill Failure of pipes due to: Accidental breakage eg excavation Blockage Environmental factors eg ground conditions, tree roots Vandalism Pipe or manhole corrosion/failure Potentially escalated by: | Release of raw sewage to the environment Equipment damage Odour | Monitoring of SPS Telemetry Sewerage Incident Response SOP Trained operators Routine inspections Maintenance procedures Relining replacement program Complaint register Dial Before You Dig Waste Transport company contract (emergency pump out truck) | Mod/P=3 |
| | Proximity to waterways | | | |

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