

Junee Shire Council
Belmore St (PO Box 93)
Junee, NSW 2663



Pollution Incident Response Management Plan

Junee Waste Facility

Environment Protection Licence 6005

Revision 8

27/04/2022

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Document Control

Revision	Author	Amendments	Date of Issue
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2	R. Tambasco		April 2014
3	W. Barton	Amendments from Plan test conducted Dec-15	January 2016
4	W. Barton		May 2017
5	C Davis	Updated information	October 2018
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Definitions

Airspace	The freeboard between the water surface in an impoundment and the level at which it spills
FDI	Fire Danger Index
Flood Watch	A 'heads up' warning issued on a catchment wide basis by the Bureau of Meteorology
Leachate	Water that has percolated through the current or an old landfill cell and leached out some of the constituent chemicals, heavy metals or salts
Piezometer	A device used to measure the depth of groundwater

1 Introduction

This Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) has been developed to document the processes required to prepare for and respond to pollution incidents for the Junee Waste Facility as licenced by Environment Protection Licence 6005. It is to ensure that hazards to the environment, human health and safety are reduced and, where it is achievable, eliminated.

It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009*.

A test of the PIRMP was undertaken in December 2021 by the Environmental Officer of Junee Shire Council and the Landfill Operator.

1.1 Scope

This PIRMP aims to ensure there is:

- comprehensive and timely communication about a pollution incident to staff at the premises, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), other relevant authorities specified by the Act, and people outside the facility who may be affected by the impacts of the pollution incident.
- control of risk in a pollution incident at the facility by requiring identification of risks and the development of planned pre-emptive actions to minimise and manage these risks; and
- a plan properly implemented by trained staff, identifying persons responsible for implementing it, and ensuring that the plan is regularly tested for accuracy, currency and suitability.

The Junee Waste facility covers an area of approximately 8.1 ha extending across lots 111, 180 & 183 DP 751399.

The landfill commenced operation in 1986 and has been continuously operating since its development. Council restricted access to the site in 1996 when they introduced specific opening hours.

In 1997 the EPA introduced a licencing system for controlled waste facilities. The Junee Waste Facility was issued with a licence under section 46 of the Waste Minimisation and Management Act, 1995 after being classified as being in an environmentally sensitive area because the nearest residence was 250 metres away.

In 1999 Council developed a contract for the Supervision of the Junee Landfill site. Although the contractor has changed, the site remains supervised during opening hours.

2 Description of activity

The Junee Waste Facility is controlled by an Environmental Protection Licence under section 55 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997. The Licensee of the premises is Junee Shire Council.

The scheduled activity of the premises is waste disposal (application to land). However, all putrescible domestic waste is deposited into three 30 cubic metre skips, which are emptied by a Wagga Wagga Waste Disposal Contractor and the waste is taken to Gregadoo Waste Management Facility in Wagga Wagga.

Since the last review the landfill site has incorporated organic kerb side collection which is composted on the landfill site. The Council is also part of the REROC project providing a Community Recycling Centre.

Potential hazards to the environment include:

- Fires
- Leachate overflow
- Contamination of groundwater
- Contamination of surface water

3 Pre-emptive Measures

Table 3-I outlines hazards and the pre-emptive measures taken to protect against the occurrence of those hazards.

Table 3-I Existing Pre-emptive Measures

Hazard	Pre-emptive measure(s)
Fire Note: Refer to A1 Fire Mitigation and Response Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site Supervision (FDI threshold) • Annual vegetation management strategy (mechanical & chemical) • First-response trailer mounted unit • Smoking prohibited on-site - installed signs • Separation of grass clippings & putrescibles from landfill face • Remain open during high fire danger periods • Maintain tyre stockpile below Licence threshold
Leachate overflow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piezometer monitoring • Routine monitoring of leachate pond • Assess capacity of leachate pond in the event of a “Flood Watch” being issued for the Murrumbidgee Catchment and drawdown to create airspace
Contamination of surface and ground waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leachate collection • Piezometer monitoring

4 Incident Response

Under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 all pollution incidents must be reported to the EPA, NSW Health, Fire and Rescue NSW and Work Cover NSW. The NSW EPA requires immediate (promptly, without delay) reporting of pollution incidents that may cause material harm to the environment.

Information that may be required to be reported to the EPA could include:

- Time, date, nature and location of the incident
- Estimated quantity and pollutants involved
- Cause and circumstances of the incident
- Action taken or intended action

Incident reporting forms will be kept on-site, with this Plan, and will be used for the reporting of any incident.

4.1 Notification of a Pollution Incident

Notification of an incident may be received from a member of the public, the site supervisor or staff may become aware of the incident. During business hours, notification from the public may be received by either staff on the Junee Shire Council administration office, the site supervisor or Junee Shire Council works staff.

If there is an immediate threat to human health or safety, call triple zero (“000”). “112” may be used if using a mobile telephone.

In the event that the incident is verified, refer to section 4.2. If the incident cannot be verified after investigation, the person making the notification should be contacted and informed of that outcome.

4.2 Incident Response

The following process is to be followed in the event of an incident that the results in or is likely to result in actual or potential harm to the health or safety of the community or that threatens potential or material harm to the environment.

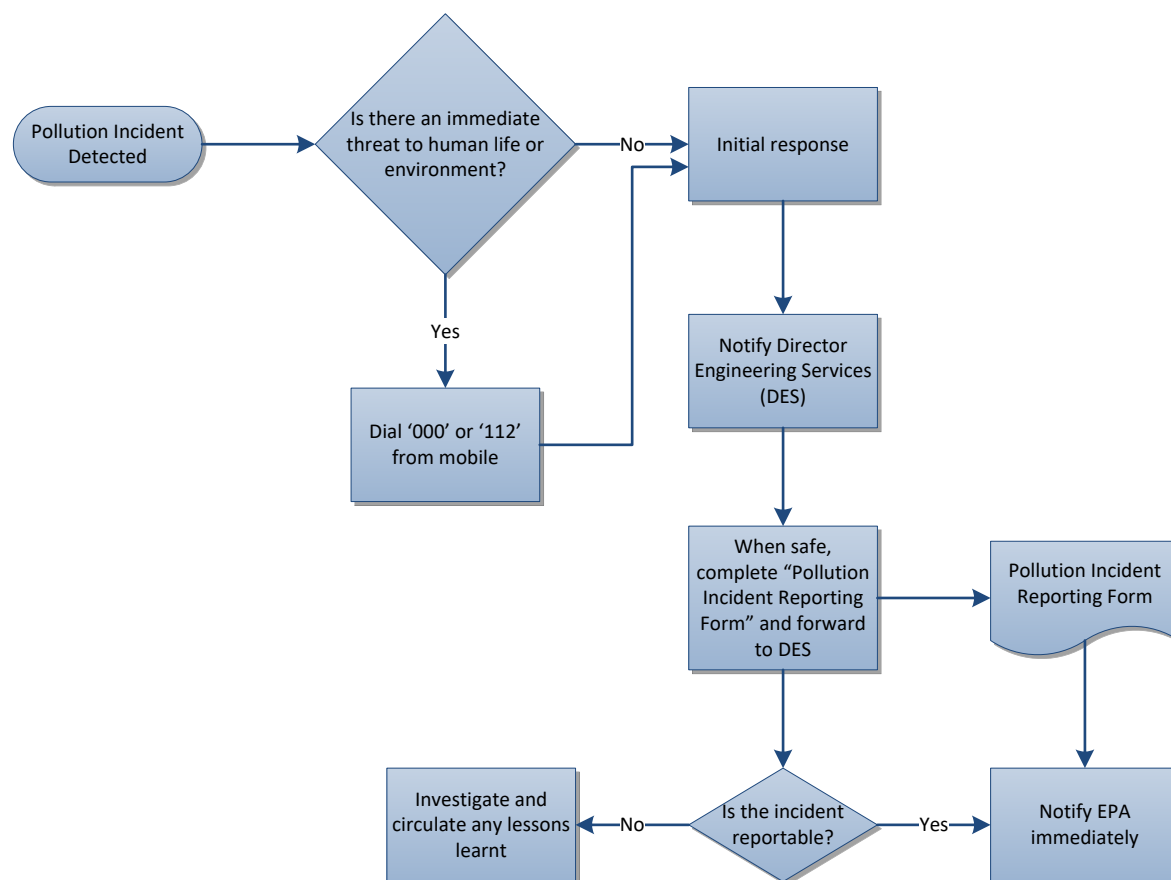


Figure 1 Pollution Incident Response

4.3 Contact Details

The contact details of key staff are outlined in Table 4-I. Contact details for key agencies are outlined in Table 4-II

Table 4-I Internal Contact Details

Position	Name	Contact Phone Number
Director of Engineering Services	Heinz Kausche	0400 998 938
Environmental Officer	Mason Schembri	0404 501 074
Junee Shire Council Office		(02) 6924 8100

Accurate at the time of publication of this plan.

Table 4-II External Agency Contact Details

Agency/Stakeholder	Contact Phone Number
Fire & Rescue NSW	000
Ambulance	000
Environment Protection Authority	131 555
Ministry of Health - Goulburn Public Health Unit	(02) 4824 1837 (02) 6080 8900 (After hours contact)
Work Cover NSW	13 10 50
Junee Waste Facility	0438 683 285

If there is an immediate threat to human health or safety, call triple zero (“000”). “112” may be used if using a mobile telephone.

5 Community Notification of Incidents

Communication methods will vary depending on the circumstances of the environmental incident. In all situations, Junee Shire Council will attempt to provide as early a warning to the affected community as is practicable by any means deemed appropriate. Methods of communication may include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Telephone/SMS
- Doorknocks/letter drops
- Media releases
- Social media announcements
- Warning signs – signs updated with the establishment of the CRC e.g. HAZCHEM

When and where necessary, warning signs will be placed to alert the community of any risk in the area. The wider community will be advised depending on the nature and scale of the incident via media releases. Council will continue to provide notification, updates and information during and after the incident to keep the community up to date and ensure notification when the incident is no longer of concern or the situation has been restored to normal.

A1. Fire Mitigation and Response Plan

A fire, either being lit in the Junee Landfill or arising out of spontaneous combustion, is the most significant environmental, social and financial risk faced by Junee Shire Council in its operation of the Junee Landfill. It is for this reason that a specific plan has been developed to address this risk.

The Fire Mitigation and Response Plan is divided into two sections: to address the pre-emptive mitigation measures employed to lessen the risk of a fire starting or, to lessen the risk of a fire spreading beyond the limits of the landfill; and to address the response to the ignition of a fire on the landfill site.

A1.1. Pre-Emptive Measures

Pre-emptive measures revolve around a number of strategies namely:

- Hazard reduction – reducing the available fuel
- Ignition management – reducing the opportunity for ignitions
- Preparedness – actions taken to prepare to respond quickly to ignitions
- Education – education of staff, contractors, community and users of the landfill

The measures are listed in Table 5-1

Table 5-1

Pre-emptive measure	Description	Threshold
Hazard Reduction	Chemical spraying of HRZ1	To achieve residual vegetation height <100mm
Hazard Reduction	Slashing of HRZ2	Grass is >600mm in height and >60% cured
Hazard Reduction	Slashing of HRZ3	Grass >400mm in height and >50% cured
Ignition Management	Prohibit smoking on the site	All times
Ignition Management	Separate vegetation waste from landfill face	All times
Ignition Management	Supervise landfill	Total Fire Ban declaration on Monday or Thursday when the landfill is not open to public a staff member is available onsite.
Ignition Management	Remain open during scheduled operating days	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Preparedness	Maintain trailer mounted ICB and pump	During fire danger period – at start of bushfire danger period test all equipment
Preparedness	Connect trailer mounted ICB and pump to vehicle	If, during operation, FDI is at High or greater. Or if supervising during Total Fire Ban
Hazard Reduction	Reduce tyre stockpile	<50t of tyres stockpiled at any one time and that stockpiled tyres be kept separate and away from tipping face
Education	Review Fire Mitigation and Response Plan	Annually

Education	Induct staff and contractors to Fire Mitigation and Response Plan	October 31 annually
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Figure 2 Junee Landfill Hazard Reduction Zones Map

A1.2. Fire Response

A fast and effective response to the ignition of a fire is critical in limiting the spread and ultimately the extent of a fire.

However, any response is to have, at its core, the safety of employees and contractors. And although basic firefighting equipment is provided at the facility, the decision to use it in combating an ignition has to be at the discretion of the supervisor, considering prevailing conditions, location, and their own abilities.

What is incumbent on the supervisor on the other hand is diligence in supervision and reporting of any ignitions.

In the event of an ignition, the following response is to be followed.

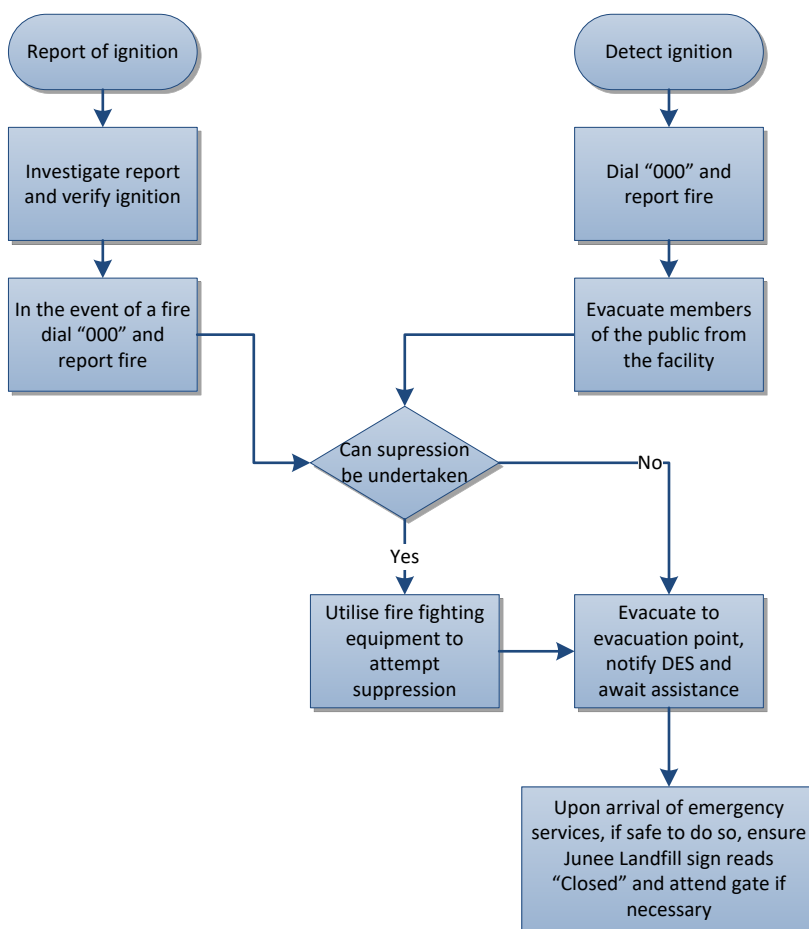


Figure 3 Fire Response

Develop evacuation plan/procedure and establish evacuation point.