

BOC Port Kembla

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) Website Report

BOC Limited Port Kembla, herein referred to as BOC, is located at 147 Five Islands Road, Cringila NSW 2502.

The facility operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. BOC holds Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 10095. The Scheduled Activities in the EPL include Chemical Production and Chemical Storage.

The following Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) is a modified version completed in accordance with the *Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) (General) Amendment (Pollution Incident Response Management Plans) Regulation 2012*, Chapter 7 part 3A. This modified website version of the PIRMP has been modified to be available to the public on our website in line with POEO requirements. A copy of the full PIRMP is maintained at the premises in Five Islands Road, Cringila NSW.

The objectives of BOC's PIRMP are to:

- *Ensure comprehensive and timely communication about a pollution incident to staff at the premises, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), other relevant authorities specified in the Act (such as local councils, NSW Ministry of Health, WorkCover NSW, and Fire and Rescue NSW) and people outside the facility who may be affected by the impacts of the pollution incident*
- *Minimise and control the risk of a pollution incident at the facility by requiring identification of risks and the development of planned actions to minimise and manage those risks*
- *Ensure that the plan is properly implemented by trained staff, identifying persons responsible for implementing it, and ensuring that the plan is regularly tested for accuracy, currency and suitability.*

Authority Contact Details

If the emergency is an environmental incident which causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment or human health, BOC is to firstly call 000 if the incident presents an immediate threat. Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police and the NSW Ambulance Service are the first contacts, as they are responsible for controlling and containing incidents.

If the incident does not require an initial combat agency, or after the 000 call has been made, BOC is to notify the relevant authorities in the following order. The 24-hour hotline for each authority is given when available.

If the emergency is an environmental incident which causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment or human health, the following authorities will be informed **immediately**:

- Appropriate Regulatory Authority (ARA) is the EPA (131 555)
- The Ministry of Health (02 4221 6700)
- WorkCover NSW (13 10 50)
- Wollongong City Council (02 4227 7111)
- Fire and Rescue NSW 1300 729 579

Procedure for Notification of Incident to Surrounding Areas

In the event of an environmental incident causing or threatening material harm, it is the responsibility of BOC's Production Manager to notify emergency services and where the incident has potential to spread beyond site boundaries, notify people living or working in neighbouring areas.

Neighbouring Businesses and Residents

In the event of a spill or chemical release from BOC or a neighbouring site, BOC will attempt to identify the nature of the spill and call emergency services. If in doubt as to the nature of the spill the area will be cleared of all personnel. If required the BOC facility will be shut down and personnel evacuated to a safe area. Any instructions given by the emergency services will be followed.

Once this has been done, all emergency and evacuation procedures including the notification and evacuation of neighbours are the responsibility of the emergency services.

The site handles a range of inert, flammable, and oxidising gases whose inherent characteristics have the potential to cause a major incident. The scenarios that have the potential to affect neighbours include:

- Release of a flammable gas which, if ignited, could result in an explosion
- Release of an oxidizing gas which would increase the potential for fires
- Release of a cryogenic liquid which would vaporise and cause a dense fog

BOC has provided neighbours with emergency contact details, potential risks, and information regarding how the Major Hazard Facility Regulations have been addressed, and outlines information to minimise harm in the event of an emergency with off-site impacts. These instructions are provided in a pamphlet and fridge magnet, and include the following recommendations:

- Go indoors immediately
- Close external doors and windows
- Turn off air conditioners and exhaust fans
- Do not attempt to evacuate unless directed to do so by Police or Emergency Services
- Leave children at school where they will be cared for
- Do not use the telephone except for emergency calls
- Doors and windows should only be opened to restore ventilation when advised to do so

Emergency Services

The Emergency Plan and procedures were developed in conjunction with the Emergency Services and have been approved by SafeWork NSW as part of requirements for Major Hazard Facilities.

Familiarisation visits by the Emergency Services have been completed. Information sought by the Emergency Services when dealing with various incidents were considered during the formulation of the Emergency Plan.

It has been mutually agreed that:

- The Emergency Services are expected to arrive on the site in less than 25 minutes after being called
- The Emergency Services will take control of the situation after they arrive including neighbourhood evacuation and restricting access to the affected areas.