

BOC Sydney Operations Centre (SOC)

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) Website Report

BOC Limited SOC, herein referred to as BOC, is located at 428-440 Victoria Street Wetherill Park, New South Wales 2164.

The facility operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. BOC holds Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 6679. 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 website version of the PIRMP has been modified to be available to the public on our website in 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 will first 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 will notify 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 NSW EPA (131 555)
- The Ministry of Health (02 9391 9000)
- WorkCover NSW (13 10 50)
- Fairfield City Council (02 9725 0222)
- Fire and Rescue NSW 1300 729 579

In the event of an environmental incident which causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment or human health, it is the responsibility of BOC's Emergency Controller to ensure notification of emergency services and people living or working in neighbouring areas.

BOC Safety

Safety, health quality and care for the environment are foundational principles of our business.

BOC design, construct and operate our facilities in a safe, secure and environmentally responsible way and continuously improve our performance and actively manage risk in our business.

It is BOC practice to ensure:

- Robust hazard identification and risk assessment are conducted
- Control measures are in place to prevent a major incident occurring
- In the unlikely event of an incident occurring, controls are in place to mitigate the incident and prevent it from escalating.

BOC Operations

The site handles a range of inert, flammable, toxic 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
- Release of a toxic substance with the potential to cause illness or injury

In the event of a spill or chemical release from BOC, 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 Emergency Plan and procedures were developed in conjunction with the Emergency Services.

Communicating with Neighbours

In the event of an emergency that has the potential for off-site impact, BOC neighbours can be notified by telephone. A list of contacts is held for this purpose with security personnel.

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