

## Environment Information Incident Response and Reporting

Sydney Metro Airports (SMA) tenants and operators have an obligation to prevent and minimise environmental impacts associated with their operations. While undertaking operations on site an accident or incident may occur that impacts upon the environment.

**As such all tenants and operators are required to have an Incident Response Plan for all environmental risks associated with their operations. All staff should be trained in the implementation of this plan.**

This ensures that an incident can be effectively managed in a timely manner and in accordance with the requirements of the *Airport (Environment Protection) Regulation 1997*. Further information on these requirements can be obtained from Environment Information - Airport Operator Environment Management Responsibilities.



**In addition to ensuring we respond to environmental incidents they are all to be reported to the Airport Environment and Heritage Manager using the Environmental Incident Notification Form available on the Sydney Metro Airports website.**

SMA will review and analyse this information to determine how to avoid or minimise similar incidents in the future.

This applies to all environmental incidents that occur on airport or incidents with the potential to impact the airport including those resulting in;

<b>Soil pollution</b>	Most often caused by chemical, paint, oil or fuel spills; but sometimes caused by disposal of metal filings or sand blasting wastes to soil.
<b>Water pollution</b>	Most often caused by chemical, paint, oil or fuel spills but also caused by release of aircraft or vehicle wash water to stormwater drains.

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<b>Air pollution</b>	Normally caused by emissions of noxious or hazardous vapours from industrial processes or chemical storage facilities, but also includes the generation of significant quantities of dust.
<b>Noise Pollution</b>	Abnormally loud or sustained loud noise most often caused by aircraft ground engine running in inappropriate locations on the airport.
<b>Illegally dumped materials</b>	Includes dumped materials of any nature.
<b>Fire damage</b>	Particularly in natural vegetated areas (such as bushland areas on airport) or in chemical stores.
<b>Harm or damage</b>	To environmentally significant areas including vegetation or wildlife, natural ecosystems, items or buildings having heritage significance

At Sydney Metro Airports the most common environmental incidents are those associated with spills and leaks. Further information on this risk can be obtained from Environment Information - Spill Response.

Incidents involving a spill of greater than 5 litres, and/or spills that enter a waterway or damage an environmentally significant area should be reported immediately to the Duty Airport Operations Officer on 0419 294 432 and notification to the Sydney Metro Airports Environment and Heritage Manager on 02 8709 9409 as soon as practicable thereafter.

### Penalties for environmental impact

In addition to ensuring we prevent or minimise impact on the environment and human health as a result of our operations Incident Response and Reporting is also important to ensure that Sydney Metro Airports and our operators or tenants do not receive penalties resulting from environmental harm.

For example in 2015 the NSW Land and Environment Court fined a tugboat operator and the employee in connection with a diesel fuel spill in Newcastle Harbour. At the cessation of a shift, the employee forgot to turn off a transfer pump resulting in overflow and 8,000litres of diesel fuel was spilt into Newcastle Harbour. This required an extensive and costly three day clean up.

This highlights the importance for operators to ensure that all environmental and safety management systems and plans are up to date and staff have received appropriate training.

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