

Thomas Foods International – Tamworth

Pollution Incident Response Management Plan



1 Purpose and Background

To satisfy obligations under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and associated *Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011* (POELA Act) for licensed facilities, the Thomas Foods International Tamworth (TFIT) meat processing plant has in place a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP).

In accordance with Part 3A clause 98D of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Amendment (Pollution Incident Response management Plans) Regulation 2012* the following sections of the plan have been made publicly available

2 Scope

This document covers TFIT's meat processing plant. It applies to all activities, products and services on the Tamworth site located in the Glen Artney industrial estate in Westdale Tamworth

3 Legislative Requirements

Specific legislative requirements for the development and implementation of the PIRMP are provided in the following table. Part 5.7A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act)
Part 5.7A of the *Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Act 2011* (POELA Act)
the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Amendment (Pollution Incident Response management Plans) Regulation 2012*
New South Wales Environmental Protection License (EPL) 1461

4 Requirements for Notification of a Pollution Incident

4.1 What must be notified

A pollution incident is required to be immediately notified if there is a risk of '*material harm to the environment*', defined under section 147 of the POEO Act as:
harm to the environment is material if:

- it involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial, or
- 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
- 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

4.2 Responsibility to Notify

Under Section 148 of the POEO Act, the following people have a duty to notify a pollution incident occurring in the course of an activity that causes or threatens material harm to the environment:

- The person carrying on the activity;
- An employee or agent carrying on the activity;
- An employer carrying on the activity;
- The occupier of the premises where the incident occurs.

Notification must be given immediately, i.e. promptly and without delay, after the person becomes aware of the incident.

4.3 Emergency Response

If a pollution incident occurs, all necessary action should be taken to minimise the size and any adverse effects of the release. If the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property, Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police and the NSW Ambulance Service should be contacted first for emergency assistance (phone 000). The other response agencies must still be contacted after that to satisfy notification obligations.

4.4 Contaminated Land

Persons whose activities have contaminated land and owners of land who become aware, or ought reasonably to be aware, that the land has been contaminated, must notify the EPA as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the contamination, if the contamination meets certain criteria. The duty to notify is a requirement under section 60 of the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997* (CLM Act).

5 TFI Tamworth Site Notification & Communication Procedures

5.1 Notification and Contact Details for Relevant Authorities

In response to requirements under changes to 5.7 of the POEO Act regarding pollution incident notification, the following specific information and contact details are provided for Thomas Foods International Tamworth in the event of an environmental incident.

If an environmental incident is determined to have caused or threatened material harm to the environment at the Tamworth site, the following relevant authorities must be contacted immediately, in alignment with internal notification and escalation procedures, in the order detailed below: Order

Authority	Contact Phone Number	Non Emergency Number
NSW Ambulance	000	
Fire & Rescue NSW	000	67662319
Environment protection Authority	131 555	
WorkCover Authority	13 10 50	
Tamworth Regional Council	(02) 6767 5555	

Complying with these notification requirements does not remove the need to comply with any other obligations for incident notification, for example, those that apply under other environment protection legislation or legislation administered by WorkCover NSW

5.2 Communicating with the local community

Communication and updates regarding pollution incidents will be undertaken in accordance with existing emergency response procedure, dependent upon the nature and scale of an incident.

5.2.1 Immediate Neighbours

In the event of a notifiable pollution incident, and dependent upon nature and scale, immediate neighbouring properties will be contacted under the direction of Emergency Services with immediate response information.

5.2. 2 Thomas Foods International Tamworth Contact Details

Phone **02 6764 9900** 24 Hrs.

Address

51 -89 Phoenix Street
Glen Artney Industrial Estate
Westdale
Tamworth
NSW 2340

Correspondence to

The Manager
P O Box 7078 NEMSC
New South Wales 2348

Emergency Phone Numbers

Plant Manager	0438 614 687
Engineering Manager	0402 462 636