

Environmental Management Plans A Regulator's Perspective

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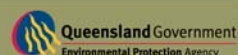
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Presentation Outline

- EMP's – what they are and what they aren't
- What the EPA expects them to contain
- How they should be applied
- Benefits of effective implementation



- Statutory EM Plans, as described in legislation, may be required as part of an Environmental Impact Statement and as part of applications for Mining or Petroleum environmental authorities.
- An EM Plan is NOT an Environmental Management Program.

Non-statutory EM Plans may be prepared to:

- Support an application for Development Approval; and/or
- Comply with a condition of a Development Approval; and/or
- Form part of a management system to minimise environmental risk

EM Plans are not **approved** by the EPA

EM Plans should contain:

- **Commitments and Objectives**
- **Responsibilities** of management and staff
- **Risk** identification
- **Standards** to be complied with
- **Actions** to be applied, including **what, how, when and who**

Plan contents continued...

- **Monitoring** to be carried out
- **Reporting**, including non-compliance to regulators
- **Auditing** of the Plan, and the application of the Plan
- **Corrective Actions** to be applied, especially for foreseeable events

More important than the actual contents is recognition that...

- EM Plans belong to the person responsible for the activity
- They should be tailored to their circumstances and complement existing any management system
- Generic Plans will not be easily applied on site

Application of EM Plans

- Used for planning work programs
- Used as management tool on a day to day basis
- For the training of staff
- Should be a living document, reviewed, amended and continually improved
- Amendments should reflect changes to work practices and the environment, as well changing standards

Benefits of developing and applying EM Plans

- Minimise impact on the environment
- Compliance with statutory requirements
- Demonstration of practice of “due diligence” to minimise potential for legal action

Summary

- Most EM Plans prepared are non-statutory and do **not** get formal approval from the EPA.
- They are though an essential management tool to ensure environmental impacts are minimised.
- They need to be developed specifically for the situation and then actively applied to ensure risks are managed.