

RISK MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

It's the law. Are you in compliance?

Did you know that all EPA Victoria licence holders must have a Risk Management and Monitoring Program (RMMP)*? EPA Victoria licence holders must:

- Identify and manage ALL risks of harm to human health and the environment.
- Define clear environmental and risk control performance objectives.
- Document and maintain robust systems for assessing, monitoring, and mitigating risks to ensure environmental protection.
- Provide evidence of compliance with the General Environmental Duty through a structured RMMP that
 must be available for EPA review upon request.

Your RMMP must be specific to the activities and risks of your site. The EPA does not accept generic RMMPs.

*Environment Protection Act 2017 (EP Act 2017) and EPA Victoria's guidelines

5 Key Steps for Developing an RMMP

Step 1 - Review of Existing Company Policy and Procedure

- Undertake an internal review of your existing environmental management system. Often businesses will have existing plans and procedures in place that can be highlighted in the RMMP (e.g. Environmental Policies, Emergency Management Plans and Spill or Incident Response Procedures).
- Clearly identifying existing documentation can reduce time and effort by summarising rather than reproducing this
 information within the RMMP.

Step 2 - Inspection of Current Operations and Engagement with Staff

- Complete an inspection of current site operations detailing potential environmental aspects that may cause discharges to land or waters (surface water/ stormwater/ groundwater), emissions to air (dust, noise, chemical vapours) and wastes.
- List existing controls in place to prevent discharges and emissions and appropriate waste treatment. Example controls
 can include operating hours, bunding, operating undercover, spill kits, fire prevention systems, dust extraction systems.

Step 3 - Risk Assessment

- Assessing and controlling risks to human health and the environment from your business operations in a structured, documented way is the cornerstone of compliance with the EP Act 2017 and sub-ordinate legislation.
- EPA Victoria provides the following guide to assist which is available on their website: EPA Publication 1695 Assessing and controlling risk: a guide for business.

Step 4 - RMMP Document Preparation

• The RMMP document should be prepared consistent with the following guidelines provided by EPA Victoria on their website: Developing and implementing your Risk Management and Monitoring Program (RMMP).

Step 5 - Staff Training and Review

- Incorporate the RMMP into existing training and induction programs and set a training refresher timeframe.
- The RMMP should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis (e.g. every two years or during any significant changes to site operations).

Need assistance? We take the headache and cost out of compliance.