



**AGNICO EAGLE**

ACN 136-525-990

**ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR  
NORTHERN TERRITORY MINING  
OPERATIONS PTY LTD**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

This Plan forms part of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the mine and is considered a working document. It will be updated following formal assessment by Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DITT) as part of the mining authorisation process.

The Northern Territory Mining Operations (NTMO) Cosmo Howley mine site has been under operation for 32 years. The mine site is located 130 kilometres (km) south east of Darwin, between Adelaide River and Pine Creek. The Northern Territory (NT) has a sub-tropical climate with distinct wet and dry seasons. A number of creeks and/or rivers are located within the mining lease. The area surrounding the mining lease is rural and sparsely populated. The Stuart Highway, the main arterial road in the region, is located to the east of the mine.

## 1.1 Purpose

The Emergency Response Management Plan (ERMP) has been prepared to provide a response framework to specific environmental emergencies at the NTMO Cosmo Howley Project Area (CHPA).

The NTMO policy commits to conducting business in a manner that minimises any potential environmental impacts. This ERMP is designed to provide strategic direction to guide response efforts to fulfil this policy commitment.

NTMO commits to operate in accordance with this ERMP should implemented mitigation measures at the site fail by notifying relevant stakeholders and regulators as detailed in this document.

The ERMP forms part of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Mine Management Plan (MMP). However, the document has been developed as a standalone plan to facilitate responses to emergencies. It covers the operation activities phase and its purpose is to:

- Provide a process for identifying, assessing and managing emergencies to minimise impact to human health and surrounding environment.
- Provide internal and external reporting requirements for emergencies.
- Review and assess historical and/or industry specific incidents to inform future management of emergencies (subsequent ERMP revisions through the MMP process).

NTMO has procedures relating to specific aspects of emergency response and this document provides an overarching plan for the coordination and strategic management of effort embedded in those individual plans.

## 1.2 Objective

The NTMO strategic objective for managing environmental emergency response is to ensure the safe response to incidents whilst minimizing any impact to the environment.

The ERMP outlines standardised responses to ensure emergency situations are captured sufficiently. The main objectives of the ERMP are:

- Outline potential emergency situations.
- Identify initial responses (emergency response).
- Provide communication requirements.
- Establish requirements for site representatives.
- Provide statutory reporting requirements.
- Provide investigation framework (where applicable).

This ERMP applies to all personnel and work activities conducted under the direction of NTMO at all sites. The hazards that would result in an emergency are considered possible across all NTMO sites only the nature and likelihood are likely to change.

### **1.3 Reporting and Performance Review**

NTMO has provided performance results against the EMPs and MMP commitments / requirements for the period (2021-2022) within the MMP. Any non-compliance found in this performance report is discussed, analysed with corrective and preventative actions identified and implemented through the periodic reviews of the MMP and EMPs.

The ERMP will be reviewed and updated annually. A review may occur sooner consequent to a material change in risk, legal requirements or an incident triggering an environmental emergency response.

NTMO considers the Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely (SMART) method when considering annual objectives and targets. A review and status of environmental performance against these targets are provided to the Department of Primary Industry & Resources (DITT) in the Operational Performance Report (OPR) and/or MMP.

NTMO have set two key targets to drive and measure performance towards achieving the overarching strategy/objective:

- Regular review of the risk register.
- Emergency Response Team (ERT) training.

As part of continual improvement, NTMO reviews and assesses performance against these targets.

## 2 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

### 2.1 Emergency Situations

The 2018 Risk Register review identified that the most likely emergency situations pertaining to activities throughout the Life of Mine (LOM) are:

- Severe weather.
- Fire/explosion – building/machinery, environment.
- Human health – injured person.
- Human health – fatality.
- Sacred site / Restricted Works Area interference.
- Structural failure.
- Hazardous substance release.
- Uncontrolled release of water.
- Wildlife injury / entrapment.
- Vehicle incident.
- Rescue from heights.

### 2.2 ERMP Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities regarding the implementation and maintenance of this management plan is shown in Table 1.

**TABLE 1 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS ERMP**

Task Description	Employees & Contractors	Environmental Officers	Environment & Community Manager	Health & Safety Manager	General Manager	All Managers
Review environmental risk register		R	A		I	
Ensure environmental risk register is reviewed annually		C	R		A	
Ensure employees and contractors are appropriately trained in the requirements of this management plan.	I		R	R	A	
Ensure hazardous substances register is up to date		I		R	A	
Report any damage to storage facility, hazardous material spills and/or incidents to appropriate Managers	R	R	I	I	A	R
Report any non-compliance with the hazardous materials management requirements through the event/incident reporting system.	R	R	I	I	A	

R	Responsible	Person working on activity
A	Accountable	Person with decision authority, ultimately responsible of failure
C	Consult	Key stakeholder who should be including in decision
I	Inform	Person that needs to know of decision/action/outcome

## 2.3 Emergency Response Team Structure and Responsibility

The emergency response process will be managed by the site ERT which will consist of dedicated staff. All personnel within the ERT will undergo regular training and participate in regular mock and desktop exercises. The ERT includes members who are currently situated on site. A summary of the roles and responsibilities are provided in Table 2.

**TABLE 2 EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

Emergency Team Position	Responsibilities
Emergency Response Team Coordinator	<p>The ERT Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of the ERP and the ERT. The ERT Coordinator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure sufficiently trained resources are available on-site to deal with potential and actual emergency situations.</li> <li>• Monitor site radio communications for emergency situations.</li> <li>• Communicate with ERT members and/or Field Team Member.</li> <li>• Implement the ERP and capture all information relating to the situation.</li> <li>• Provide the 'All Clear' over UHF and to Muster Points.</li> <li>• Undertake and/or manage investigations into emergency situations or remedial works.</li> <li>• Maintain up to date ERT members rosters and associated contact details.</li> <li>• Provide training to ERT members.</li> <li>• Provide summary of incidents, actions and responses to the HSE Manager</li> <li>• Provide tool-box talks as required to summarise emergency responses and details of any historical and/or industry specific incidents which have occurred and management measures used.</li> <li>• Review and approve modifications to the ERMP annually and/or after an emergency situation.</li> </ul>
Emergency Response Team	<p>The ERT will often be the first response for the majority of emergency situations. The ERT responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First response coordinator to capture emergency and/or commence response.</li> <li>• Communicate with ERT Coordinator.</li> <li>• Provision of first aid to injured site personnel.</li> <li>• Safety of all site personnel (including employees, subcontractors and visitors) within their areas.</li> <li>• Undertaking a roll call at Muster Points.</li> <li>• Provide accurate updates to all site personnel.</li> </ul>
Medical Services Provider	<p>The Medical Services Provider (MSP) will provide immediate first aid as required and establish additional measures required (i.e. external emergency response).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MSP will provide tool-box talks on topical issues as required.</li> </ul>
Site Personnel	<p>All site personnel including employees, subcontractors and visitors are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complying with Site Induction requirements and ERT instructions; and</li> <li>• Ceasing activities and leaving work areas in a safe condition as required; and</li> <li>• Reporting to local Muster Points and returning to work when the 'all clear' instruction is provided.</li> </ul>

## 2.4 Measuring and Monitoring

NTMO will undertake the measurement processes to assess performance as specified in Table 3. Management strategies specific to risk scenarios are addressed in the corresponding EMPs.

**TABLE 3 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE STRATEGIES**

Strategic Objective (What)	Specific		Measurable			Achievable	Timely	Relevant	
	Actions (How)	Explanation (Why)	Time Frame (When)	Responsibility (Who)	Measurement (Deliverable)	Targets	Target Date	Key Performance Indicators	Non Conformance and Corrective Action
Ensure safe response to incidents and minimising any environmental impact.	Review risk registers	To amend activities and infrastructure in-line with changes	Annual	Health & Safety Manager	Updated risk registers.	Update risk register with new activities, infrastructures and reflect change in risks	Annual	All current and planned activities captured in risk registers.	A review of reporting systems and process will be undertaken.  Items not addressed will be re-evaluated for their priority status and updated into the MMP commitments.
	ERT Training	To ensure ERT have skills required to respond appropriately.	Training on an on-going basis, ERT members to attend regular on-site training.	Health and Safety Manager	Certificates of competency for required skills.	Functioning ERT equipped with required skills and equipment to be able to respond to emergency situations. Training delivered to upskill members and deem competent with expected tasks to be conducted.	Annual	ERT attendance registers and certificates of competency. Equipment to adequately respond to an incident. e.g. Chemical spill response kit, functioning fire appliance etc.	



## 3. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### 3.1 Education and Training

NTMO will ensure that emergency response personnel receive appropriate emergency response training and this will continue throughout the LOM. Records of training content and attendance will be maintained by the OH&S Manager.

#### 3.1.1 SITE INDUCTION

All personnel entering the sites will be required to complete a site induction. Elements relating to emergency response that personnel need to be aware of and are incorporated in the site induction include:

- Summary of potential emergency situations.
- Site personnel requirements.
- Detail of muster points.

#### 3.1.2 SAFETY ALERTS

A Safety Alert will be produced following any significant incident at the mine project areas (including near misses with significant potential) by Area Supervisors with assistance from the OH&S team members. The safety moment will include a summary of events leading up to the incident, primary cause of the incident, a photograph of the incident where relevant, and any future management measures or recommendations.

#### 3.1.3 TOOLBOX TALKS

The OH&S Officers will provide tool-box talks to the workforce as required. The tool-box talks will summarise emergency responses and details of any historical and/industry specific incidents which have occurred and management measures implemented.

#### 3.1.4 TASK SPECIFIC PROCEDURES AND JOB SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Operational personnel will be trained in area specific procedures and job safety assessments (JSAs) to ensure emergency response requirements for some tasks are identified e.g. work at heights, confined space entry. Procedure and JSA training will also include aspects of emergency response.

#### 3.1.5 ROUTINE TRAINING

ERT members will undertake regular training covering key emergency situations such as fire, vehicle incidents, height rescue, structural failure, hazardous substances and advanced first aid or medical treatment associated with emergency situations that may occur at the site. The training will be on-going for all team members. ERT members are to attend regular on-site training.

The ERT Coordinator will be responsible for scheduling training and ensuring ERT members meet minimum competency requirements. Training will be delivered to upskill members and deem competent with expected tasks to be conducted. Certificates of competency for required skills are to be maintained by the Health and Safety Manager and Environment and Community Manager.

Desktop and mock exercises will be conducted to test ERP procedures, processes and personnel roles. Desktop exercises can nominally be carried out every 6 months with a mock exercise carried out annually.

## 3.2 Emergency Communications

Mobile phone reception is poor in some part of the operation. Generally emergency communication will be through Ultra High Frequency (UHF) radio (with booster relays where required) using a dedicated emergency channel (Channel 12) or nominated by the emergency response coordinator.

## 3.3 Emergency Protocol

The sections below outline the protocol to follow in case of an emergency.

### 3.3.1 EMERGENCY RAISED

When an emergency is raised via the emergency channel /alarm the information provided requires to be clear and concise stating the following:

- Your name.
- Location of the incident.
- Description of the incident scene.
- Best route to be used to approach the incident location.
- If safe to do so, render assistance or first aid if required until the ERT have arrived.
- Once the ERT have arrived, evacuate the location and assemble to Muster Point(s) or to a safe location.

### 3.3.2 ASSESS INCIDENT

Each work area will have a dedicated ERT Member who will be appropriately trained to assess incidents and undertake required protocols in accordance with this plan. Incidents will be assessed and investigated as per Section 3 of this document.

### 3.3.3 ALL CLEAR

The ERT Coordinator is responsible for closing out incidents and providing the 'All Clear' radio call to all site personnel and Muster Points effected.

### 3.3.4 RE-ENTRY

Once the all clear signal has been given, personnel may return to their work areas. In most situations a debrief will be held following the incident.

### 3.3.5 DEBRIEF

The ERT Coordinator will schedule and undertake a debrief meeting following the incident. The meeting shall include ERT and site personnel directly involved with the incident. The debrief meeting will be undertaken to:

- Assess response times and effectiveness.
- Undertake a step-by-step assessment of individual's actions and appropriateness.
- Identify additional management measures and/or responses for future incidents.

The ERT Coordinator will update the ERMP and provide a briefing to the Project Management Team.

## 3.4 Emergency Contacts

Where phone reception is unobtainable, communication at the site will be undertaken via UHF radio (with booster relays where required) throughout the LOM. A summary of external emergency contacts are detailed in Table 4.

**TABLE 4 SUMMARY OF EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Contact	Number	Assistance
Fire / Police / Ambulance	000/112	Priority response to emergencies
Katherine Police Station	131 444 / 8973 8000	Non-urgent enquires
Pine Creek Police Station	8976 1255	Non-urgent enquires
Katherine Fire Brigade	8973 8014	Non-urgent enquires
Adelaide River Fire and Emergency Response Group	0419 828 694	Non-urgent enquires
Katherine Hospital Emergency	8973 9188	Medical assistance
Royal Flying Doctors / Care Flight	000/112	Medical Evacuation

### 3.5 Remote Journey Management

A check-out / check-in board is established at the mine site to assist in logging the locations of remote site work. Remote locations are areas visited that are outside of the mine site.

Prior to a remote journey, a trip plan will be submitted to the team Supervisor and Safety Officer a minimum of 24 hours if possible before departure.

The trip plan will contain the following:

- Itinerary – estimated departure and arrival time.
- Communications Procedure – call-in scheduled communications.
- Nominated Job Safety Contact – call in contact.
- Map of Locality – including locations to be visited and estimated times of arrival.
- Vehicle Information – registration, type and model.
- Personnel Information – names and skills (first aid training).
- Communications Details – satellite phone, mobiles, spot (if using), pastoralist or roadhouse.

Once the information is received, the Safety Officer must make sure they are briefed on all aspects of the trip plan. The communications procedure and emergency response procedure should be explained to all personnel going into the field with any queries or questions brought up at this briefing.

### 3.4 Remote Communications Procedure

Remote communications are managed using the NTMO Standard Operating Procedures:

- NTMO-ES-SOP042 Spot Messenger GPS
- NTMO-ES-SOP006 Remote Work

A summary of the remote communications procedure is detailed in Table 5. The procedure outlines the processes to be undertaken throughout remote works and if communications are not maintained.

**TABLE 5 REMOTE COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE**

Step	Details
Step 1	<p>If a scheduled call in is not received within 30 minutes (remote area) the Job Safety Contact must undertake the following procedure.</p> <p>Attempt to call the nominated contact number. If contact made, Job Safety Contact is to confirm the location and status of the person and the estimated time of arrival at destination. The Job Safety Contact is to confirm a time for the person to call when they arrive at destination or confirm next call in time and details. The Job Safety Contact must record the actions taken in the Safety Call In Escalation Log (template in Appendix A).</p> <p>If no contact then proceed to Step 2.</p>
Step 2	<p>Job Safety Contact to call the persons nominated contact number.</p> <p>If contact is made, inform the person of missed call in, establish a reason for missed call in, establish estimated arrival time at destination and establish a call in schedule. The Job Safety Contact must record the actions taken in the Safety Call In Escalation Log.</p> <p>If no contact made, try alternative number if travelling in a group. The Job Safety Contact must record the actions taken in the Safety Call In Escalation Log.</p> <p>If no contact is made after three consecutive attempts then inform the Safety Officer and proceed to Step 3.</p>
Step 3	<p>Job Safety Contact and Safety Officer to work together and:</p> <p>Contact next of kin and/or all other persons who may know whereabouts of person and establish last known contact.</p> <p>Establish potential location of team from trip plan and/or last call in.</p> <p>The Job Safety Contact must record the actions taken in the Safety Call In Escalation Log.</p> <p>If unable to establish location and safety of person then proceed to Step 4.</p>
Step 4	<p>If the team cannot be located then the Safety Officer is to inform the OH&amp;S Manager and relevant department Manager. The OH&amp;S Manager to inform the Mine Manager/General Manager who is to contact the Police providing details of the estimated location based on information gathered during Step 3. NTMO to liaise with Police and Emergency Services to establish and provide emergency response personal to join a search and rescue team. The Job Safety Contact must record the actions taken in the Safety Call In Escalation Log.</p>

### 3.6 Muster Points

During emergencies and emergency training exercises, personnel will be required to evacuate to a place of safety. Designated areas are established across the site based on being the least hazardous in the event of an emergency.

In the event of an evacuation, all personnel will cease work immediately; leave all equipment in a safe condition, before walking calmly and quickly toward the nearest muster point.

### 3.7 Incident Reporting

All incidents will be reported in one form or another. Notifiable incidents will be reported to the Regulators and non-reportable incidents will managed through internal processes.

#### 3.3.6 SAFETY INCIDENTS

Under the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 it is a requirement to notify NT Worksafe if certain incidents occur in the workplace. Notifiable incidents that are reportable under the WHS Act (2011) are:

- The death of a person – whether an employee, contractor or member of public;
- A serious injury or illness; or

- A dangerous incident required to notify NT WorkSafe immediately after becoming aware a notifiable incident in their workplace.

The operator is required to notify NT WorkSafe immediately after becoming aware a notifiable incident in their workplace.

### 3.3.7 ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

All environmental incidents on site will be reported to DITT as per the requirements of Environmental Incident Reporting under Section 29 of the *Mining Management Act 2015*. Any environmental incident deemed to be of any significant nature will be detailed in a formal Incident Report and submitted to the DITT. Under Section 29 an incident must be reported as soon as practicable.

As a minimum, NTMO internal policy prescribes reporting within 12 hours of identification of the incident and submission of a Section 29 report to DITT within 24 hours. All environmental incidents off site, that are associated with NTMO's activities at the mine sites will be reported to the NT Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under Section 14 of the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*. Notification must be received by the EPA within 24 hrs. A written response must be received by the EPA within 7 days.

Reporting of incidents and non-compliances will be reported in accordance with the NTMO ES – SOP031 Incidents and Notification Reporting and in the Cosmo Howley Project Area Operational Performance Report (OPR) and/or Mining Management Plan (MMP).

A summary of incident reporting requirements are provided in Table 6 below.

**TABLE 6 REGULATORY BODY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Entity	Trigger	Timeframe and Contact Details	Incident Reporting Details
<p>NT Environmental Protection Authority (NT EPA)</p>	<p>An incident which causes, or is threatening or may threaten to cause pollution resulting in material environmental harm or serious harm.</p> <p>Qualifying triggers requiring submittal of a Section 14 Incident Report to the NT EPA are any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is not trivial or negligible in nature; and/or</li> <li>• Consists of an environmental nuisance of a high impact or on a wide scale; and/or</li> <li>• Results, or is likely to result in \$50,000 or more in taking action to prevent or minimise environmental harm or rehabilitate the environment; or results in actual or potential loss or damage to value of \$50,000 or more of the prescribed amount (whichever is the greater).</li> </ul>	<p>&lt;24 hrs post incident  <a href="mailto:ntepa@nt.gov.au">ntepa@nt.gov.au</a>  <a href="mailto:pollution@nt.gov.au">pollution@nt.gov.au</a>                      Written response to the EPA within 7 days.</p>	<p>Section 14 Incident Reporting Form requires the following details and is included in Appendix B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</li> <li>• Date &amp; time</li> <li>• How the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur</li> <li>• Attempts made to prevent, reduce, control, rectify, investigate and/or clean up the pollution or resultant environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused by the incident</li> <li>• Operator details</li> <li>• The form is to be signed by the HSEC Manager and/or General Manager for submission.</li> </ul>
<p>Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DITT)</p>	<p>An incident which causes minor environmental impact with some minor actual or potential harm to the environment.</p>	<p>As soon as practicable.  <a href="mailto:mineral.info@nt.gov.au">mineral.info@nt.gov.au</a>.</p>	<p>The Section 29 Notification of Environmental Incident Form requires the following details and is included in Appendix C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site and operator details</li> </ul>

Entity	Trigger	Timeframe and Contact Details	Incident Reporting Details
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location occurred and area impacted (GPS coordinates)</li> <li>• Date and time</li> <li>• Description of incident</li> <li>• Emergency and remedial actions taken</li> <li>• Nature of impact and severity</li> <li>• Current situation</li> <li>• Details of sampling undertaken</li> <li>• Notification status internally and externally</li> <li>• The form is to be signed by the HSEC Manager and/or General Manager for submission.</li> </ul>
NT WorkSafe	Incident which results in either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death of a person;</li> <li>• Serious injury or illness; or</li> <li>• Dangerous incident.</li> </ul>	Notification to NT WorkSafe immediately. Tel: 1800 019 115 <a href="mailto:ntworksafe@nt.gov.au">ntworksafe@nt.gov.au</a> <u>u</u> . Notification form submitted within 48hrs	The NT WorkSafe Incident Notification Form requires the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person submitting details;</li> <li>• Incident details including date, time and human injury details;</li> <li>• Work activity being undertake at the time of incident;</li> <li>• Witness(es) details;</li> <li>• Details of injured / deceased persons;</li> <li>• Summary of injury or illness;</li> <li>• Future remedial actions; and</li> <li>• The form is to be signed by the OH&amp;S Manager and/or General Manager for submission.</li> </ul>

Entity	Trigger	Timeframe and Contact Details	Incident Reporting Details
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority	Entrance and/or damage of sacred site or restricted works area.	As soon as practicable. Tel:(08) 8999 5511	No standard notification form is available. However, the following should be provided within the initial notification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location of the site (grid reference);</li> <li>• AAPA certificate pertaining to the site;</li> <li>• Summary of damage;</li> <li>• Name and organisation of discoverer;</li> <li>• Type and method of interference (exposed and/or damaged); and</li> <li>• Photograph of damage.</li> </ul>
Heritage Branch	Discovery or damage to items of heritage value.	As soon as practicable Tel: (08) 8999 5039	Seek advice from the Heritage Council.



## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

Several of the most likely emergency situations have the potential to cause environmental impacts to soil, surface water and/or groundwater. Investigations into the extent of the impact and recommendations for remediating areas will be determined in accordance with the following environmental investigation framework.

Environmental investigations will be undertaken to a level that is representative to the environmental risk (i.e. not all investigations will include the sampling of groundwater) and significance or consequence level in line with mine site incident reporting and risk management system.

### 4.1 Sample, Analysis and Quality Control

The Environmental Officer will develop a Sampling, Analysis and Quality Plan (SAQP). However, in incidents which involve discharge and / or spills into flowing watercourses initial sampling will be undertaken as a priority.

The SAQP will contain sufficient information to undertake an investigation to assess the presence and nature of contamination. The document will be designed to provide detail to a sufficient level that can be understood and audited by a third party. The contents of the SAQP will include:

- Introduction
  - Incident summary
  - Investigation objectives
- Environmental Setting
- Location and extent
  - Vegetation
  - Geology
  - Surface Water
  - Groundwater
- Data Quality Objectives
  - Basis of assessment
  - Adopted investigation levels
- Sampling, Analysis and Quality Programme
  - Soil
  - Groundwater
  - Surface water

The quantity of sampling locations will be determined with reference to industry documentation for the investigation of contaminated land as detailed below:

- NEPC (2013) National Environmental Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure (NEPM) Amendment No. 1 - Schedule B1, Guideline on Investigation Levels for Soil and Groundwater (NEPM 2013)
- Australian Standard AS 4482.1–2005. Guide to the investigation and sampling of sites with potentially contaminated soil - Part 1: Non-volatile and semi-volatile compounds
- Australian Standard AS 4482.1–1999. Guide to the sampling and investigation of potentially contaminated soil - Part 2: Volatile substances

The investigation of surface water and groundwater requires a baseline and / or up gradient position to assess if changes in water or groundwater quality have occurred. If the impact is detected outside of the investigation locations, additional sample locations will be supplemented into the investigation.

Incident investigations will adopt assessment criteria relevant to the location and/or receptor(s). The investigation levels will be developed with reference to the following:

- Northern Territory Environmental Protection Authority (NTEPA), Northern Territory Contaminated Land Guideline (DRAFT), September 2016, Version 1.0.
- NTEPA, Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Environmental Issues, January 2013.
- Australian Standard AS 4482.1-2005. Guide to the investigation and sampling of sites with potentially contaminated soil - Part 1: Non-volatile and semi-volatile compounds.
- Australian Standard AS 4482.2-1999. Guide to the sampling and investigation of potentially contaminated soil - Part 2: Volatile substances.
- CRC CARE (2011) Health Screening Levels for petroleum hydrocarbons in soil and groundwater. Technical report series No. 10. Cooperative Research Centre for Contamination Assessment and Remediation of the Environment (CRC CARE). Friebel, E. and Nadebaum, P, 2011.
- NEPC (2013) National Environmental Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure (NEPM) Amendment No. 1 - Schedule B1, Guideline on Investigation Levels for Soil and Groundwater (NEPM 2013).

## 4.2 Site Investigation

Personnel who have sufficient experience and knowledge of contaminated land sampling and quality control / quality assurance will undertake the site investigation. Sufficient information will be collected throughout the site investigation and development of the SAQP to facilitate an assessment of the impact can include field notes, bore/soil logs, photographs and equipment calibration certificates.

## 4.3 Site Investigation Report

The Incident Assessment Report (IAR) will provide a summary of the SAQP, site investigation and provide analysis and interpretation of environmental risk. The report will summarise recommendations to address potential ongoing environmental risk and classify wastes if soils are to be removed from the Project. The contents of the IAR will be incident specific and generally will include:

- Introduction
  - Incident Summary
  - Investigation Objective
- Environmental Setting
  - Location and Extents
  - Vegetation
  - Geology
  - Surface water
  - Groundwater
- Data Quality Objectives
  - Basis of Assessment
  - Adopted Investigation Levels
- Sampling, Analysis and Quality Programme
  - Soil
  - Groundwater
  - Surface water
- Field Investigation(s)
  - Fieldwork Methodology
  - Laboratory Analysis Program
- Results
  - Soil

- Groundwater
  - Surface Water
  - QA/QC
- Discussion
- Recommendations

## 5. SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

This section provides an overview of the processes in place for spill prevention and response on site in order to minimise impacts on the surrounding environment. This includes the spill of hydrocarbon and chemicals (caustic and cyanide) during transport, storage and use. NTMO have applicable Dangerous Goods Licences.

### 5.1 Relevant Legislation and Guidelines

Applicable legislation to hazardous materials storage and use in the project area includes:

- *Mining Management Act*
- *Dangerous Goods Act*
- *National Environment Protection Council (Northern Territory) Act*
- *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*
- *Environmental Offences and Penalties Act*

Guidelines applicable to the storage, use and disposal of chemicals and hydrocarbons include:

- Australian Standard AS 4452 The Storage and Handling of Toxic Substances
- Australian Standard AS 2187.1 Explosives – Storage, transport and use
- Australian Standard AS 1940 The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

### 5.2 Preventative Controls

- All supervisors and personnel working directly with chemicals and hydrocarbons will undertake training in spill prevention and response on site.
- Construction machinery and equipment will:
  - Have the appropriate licence and certificates
  - Be checked daily by the operator before using, as part of the Daily Plant Inspection Checklist (pre starts) to identify any leakages
  - Be accompanied by a service and maintenance record
- Portable equipment such as generators must be placed on drip trays with rain protection, which will be checked and cleaned on a regular basis
- All hazardous chemicals and dangerous goods should be stored appropriately as per the Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances Management Plan
- If cracked hydraulic hoses are identified, operation shall be suspended immediately until hoses can be replaced
- Regular maintenance of plant and equipment should only be carried out in designated servicing locations

### 5.3 Managing Spills

The management of spills on site will be determined by the spill the severity of the event. In the event of a spill, the following spill response steps will be undertaken; Figure 1 will be a guide to determine the classification of a spill.

- The workers present at the time of the spill will respond immediately by contacting their direct supervisor and minimising the area of contamination by containing the spill.
- If necessary, personnel are to report to the muster location.
- The supervisor will notify the Environmental Department (on the same day for Level 1 spills and immediately for all Level 2 and 3 spills).

- All Level 1 spills should be cleaned up immediately by the responsible work area. Clean up measures for Level 2 and 3 spills may need to be coordinated by the Emergency Response Coordinator.
- Where the spill is reportable, Incident Reports shall be completed as per time frame outlined in Section 3.7.
- Spill kits shall always be fully stocked and placed in appropriate locations around the mine site, including hazardous materials storage areas, waste management areas, vehicle and equipment wash down areas, equipment servicing areas and fuel delivery and handling areas.
- Spillages must be cleaned up using dry methods that minimise the release of wastes or contaminants.
- Spill clean-up materials will be classified as regulated waste and will be disposed of appropriately.
- Conduct investigation of the primary cause and contributing factors to enable appropriate corrective actions to be implemented to prevent reoccurrence.

It is important to consider the following:

- Risk to health and safety; e.g. fire or explosion (refer to Hazchem Code of each material for more details).
- Toxicity or concentration of the spilt material.
- Volume of material spilt.
- Ease of recovering the spilt material.
- Duration of the harmful effect of the spill.

The NTMO site specific Hazardous Materials EMP and procedure ES-SOP021 Spill Response provide further detail on managing spills. Other NTMO procedures which may provide relevant advice include:

- ES - SOP017 General Waste Disposal
- ES - SOP018 Bioremediation (in development)
- ES - SOP020 Waste Oil and Grease Disposal
- ES – SOP022 Chemical and Hydrocarbon Management (in review)

		Spill (L)		
		<20 L	20–200 L	>200 L
<b>Hydrocarbon</b>		<20 L	20–200 L	>200 L
<b>Sewage</b>		<1000 L	1000–10 000 L	>10 000 L
<b>Non-hazardous chemical</b> e.g. many paints and detergents		<20 L	20–200 L	>200 L
<b>Hazardous chemical</b> as per Safe Work classification		<2 L	2–20 L	>20 L
<b>Contaminated water</b> <i>where water quality exceeds Discharge Criteria</i>		<1000 L	1000–10 000 L	>10 000 L
<b>Receiving environment</b>	Bund or contained impervious area	Not reportable*	Not reportable*	Level 1
	Compacted or sealed surface ( <i>hardstand, road or work area</i> )**	Not reportable*	Level 1	Level 2
	Permeable surfaces or retention pond/sump (land based)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Nearshore, shoreline, waterway, marine environment ( <i>not sensitive</i> )	Level 2	Level 2	Level 3
	Sensitive ecosystem*** ( <i>reef systems, intertidal range, seabird habitats, creeks</i> )	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3

FIGURE 1 OIL SPILL CLASSIFICATION

## 5.4 Monitoring

The Environmental Checklist will be used to monitor all dangerous goods and hazardous substances storages on the project site and outlines any spill incidents. Spill response equipment is to be monitored on a weekly basis to check they are adequately equipped.

## 5.5 Corrective Actions

Should an incident requiring corrective action occur the following will be undertaken:

- The E&C Manager and Contractor will be verbally notified pending more detailed analysis and written confirmation.
- The environmental team will raise an Incident Report and undertake a detailed investigation commenced by the E&C Manager to determine the cause of the problem and necessary remedial measures to prevent its recurrence.
- When determined, remedial measures will be implemented and the Incident Report closed out by the E&C Manager with reporting according to Section 3.7.
- Toolbox talks and environmental alerts will be used to communicate the incident and the corrective action to workers. Where necessary, training will be undertaken to address the issue and prevent recurrence.

## 5.6 Basic Reporting Requirements

Any Incident Report compiled as a result of a spill will contain the following information for the staff member or contractor:

- Name of the person reporting the spill and their contact information
- Time of spill
- Time of detection of spill
- Type of product spilled
- Amount of product spilled
- Location of spill and area affected
- Source of spill
- Medium affected (soil, surface water)
- Type of accident (collision, rupture, overflow)
- If the spill is contained and, if not, where it is flowing
- Clean-up efforts already underway
- Action taken or to be taken to prevent future occurrence (with target dates)

The NTMO Standard Operating Procedure applicable to the basic reporting requirements for a spill is ES – SOP031 Incidents and Complaint Notification and Reporting.

## 6. INCIDENT RESPONSE PROCESS

Emergency response actions have been prepared to facilitate the management of incidents at the mine site. Incidents may include one or more response plans and they should be used in unison as required. The responses covered include:

- Fire – Wildfire, building, machinery or explosion (Section 6.2)
- Human health – injured person (Section 6.3)
- Human health – fatality (Section 6.4)
- Cultural Heritage Site Interference Emergency Response (Section 6.5)
- Structural failure (Section 6.6)
- Hazardous substance spill (Section 6.7)
- Vehicle incident (Section 6.8)
- Falling from height (Section 6.9)
- Severe weather (Section 6.10)
- Uncontrolled release of water (Section 6.11)

The emergency response flow chart actions are detailed below.

### 6.1 Fire/Explosion Emergency Response

This scenario includes wildfire approaching NTMO sites from surrounding area and the escape of fire from NTMO controlled burning activities threatening assets or offsite migration into wildfire. On report of these situations the ERT will provide first response with fire appliance and/or fire response unit.

The response process to follow is outlined in the flow chart (Figure 1) below.

Refer to BoM for prevailing wind direction, current warnings, fire danger ratings and North Australia Fire Information (NAFI) for fire information.



## 6.2 Fire and/or Explosion Emergency Response Flow Chart

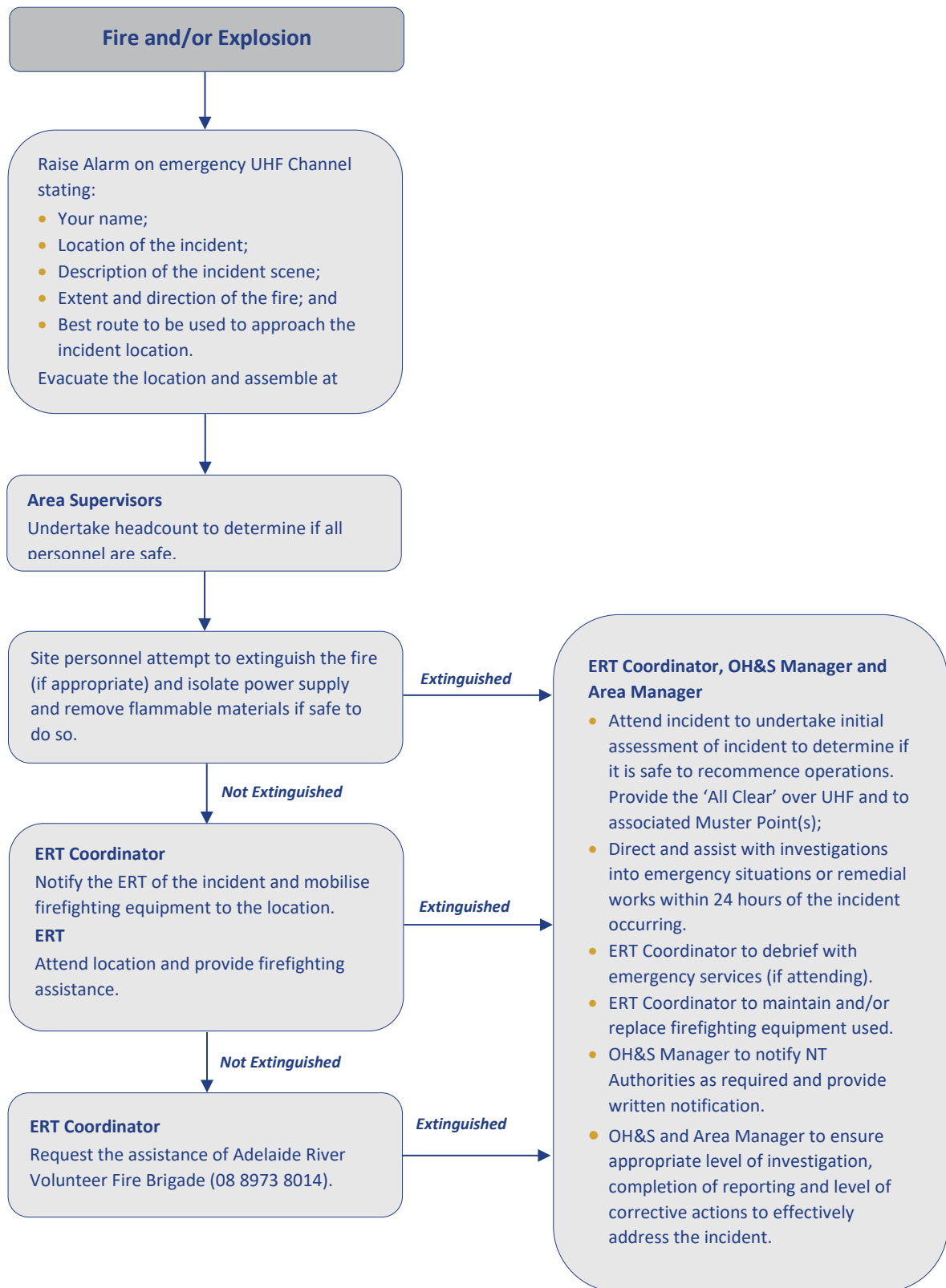


FIGURE 2 FIRE AND/OR EXPLOSION EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART

### 6.3 Human Health - Injured Person Emergency Response Flow Chart

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding human health (injured person) are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 2) below

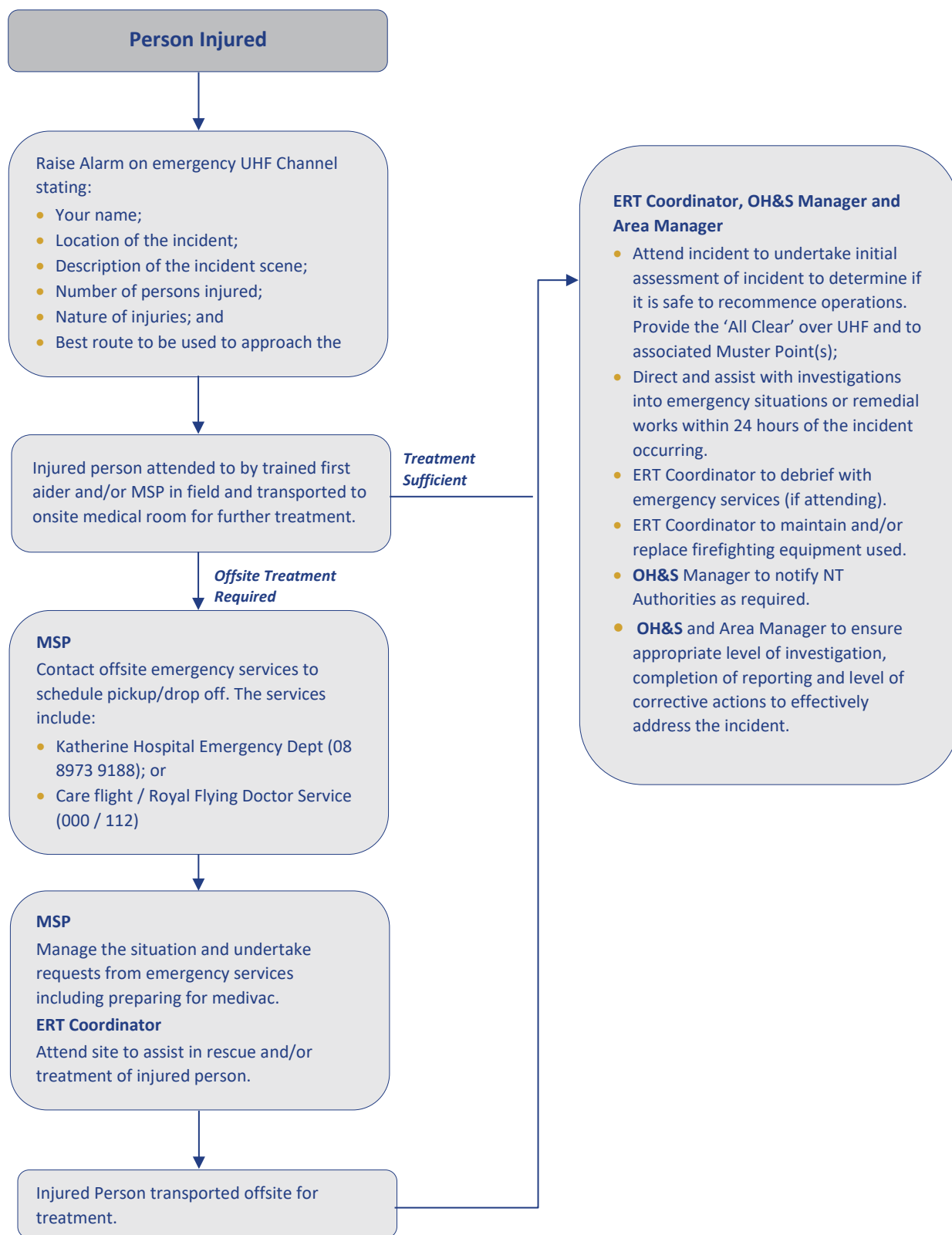
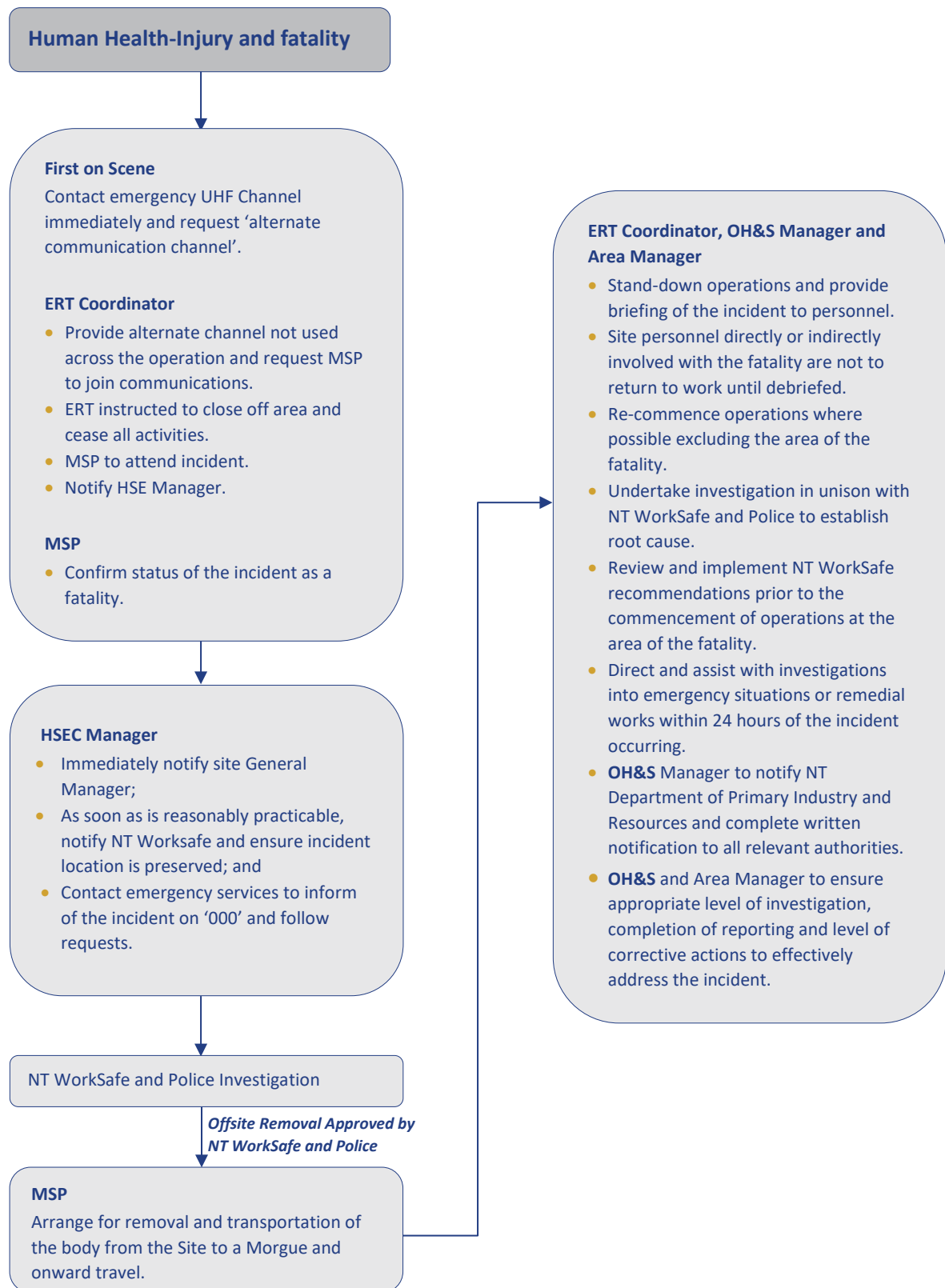


FIGURE 3 HUMAN HEALTH - INJURED PERSON EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART

## 6.4 Human Health - Fatality Emergency Response

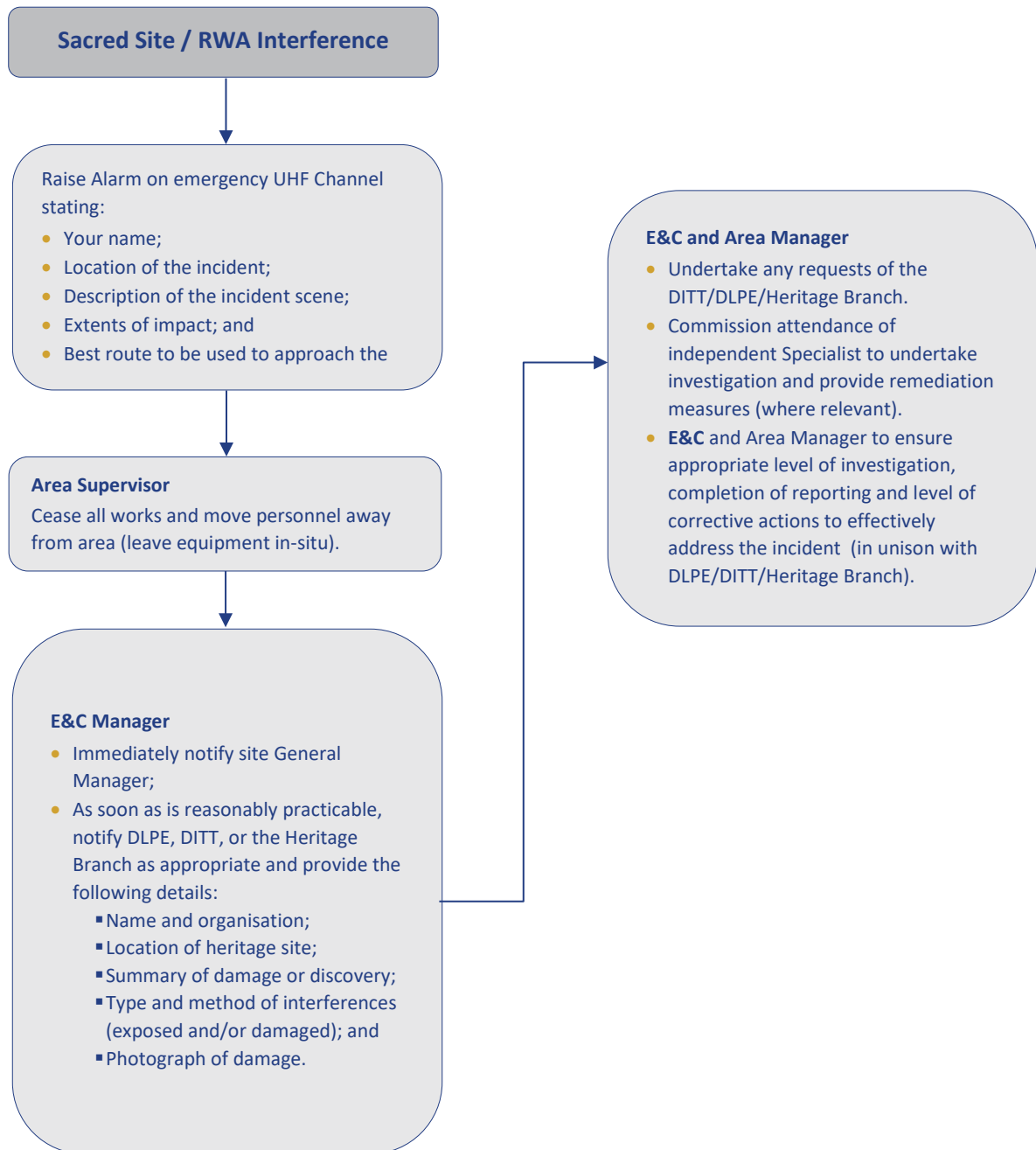
The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding human health (fatality) are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 4) below.



**FIGURE 4 HUMAN HEALTH – FATALITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART**

## 6.5 Cultural Heritage Site Interference Emergency Response

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding cultural heritage sites and/or no go zones are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 5) below.

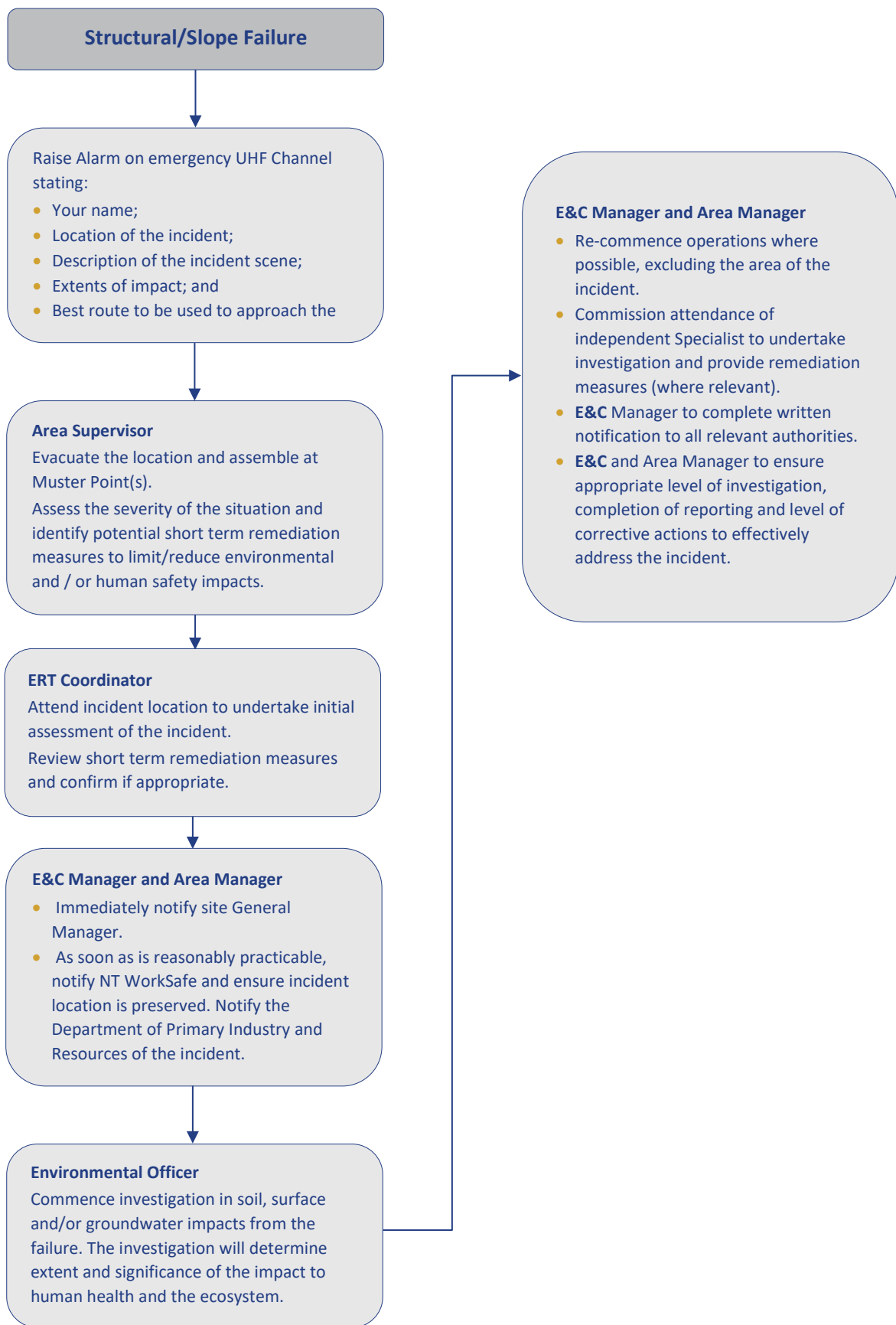


**FIGURE 5 CULTURAL HERITAGE SITE INTERFERENCE EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

## 6.6 Structural/Slope Failure Emergency Response

This scenario can include water storage facility walls, waste rock dumps, stockpiles and have the potential to threaten onsite or offsite impacts. These impacts could include uncontrolled release of water (covered in Section 4), injury to fauna, impact to flora, sedimentation of waterways and dust generation. Most engineering controls have been implemented through the planning and construction phases for these structures. Elimination and engineering controls include location, design, material, compaction, integrity, size, stability, etc.

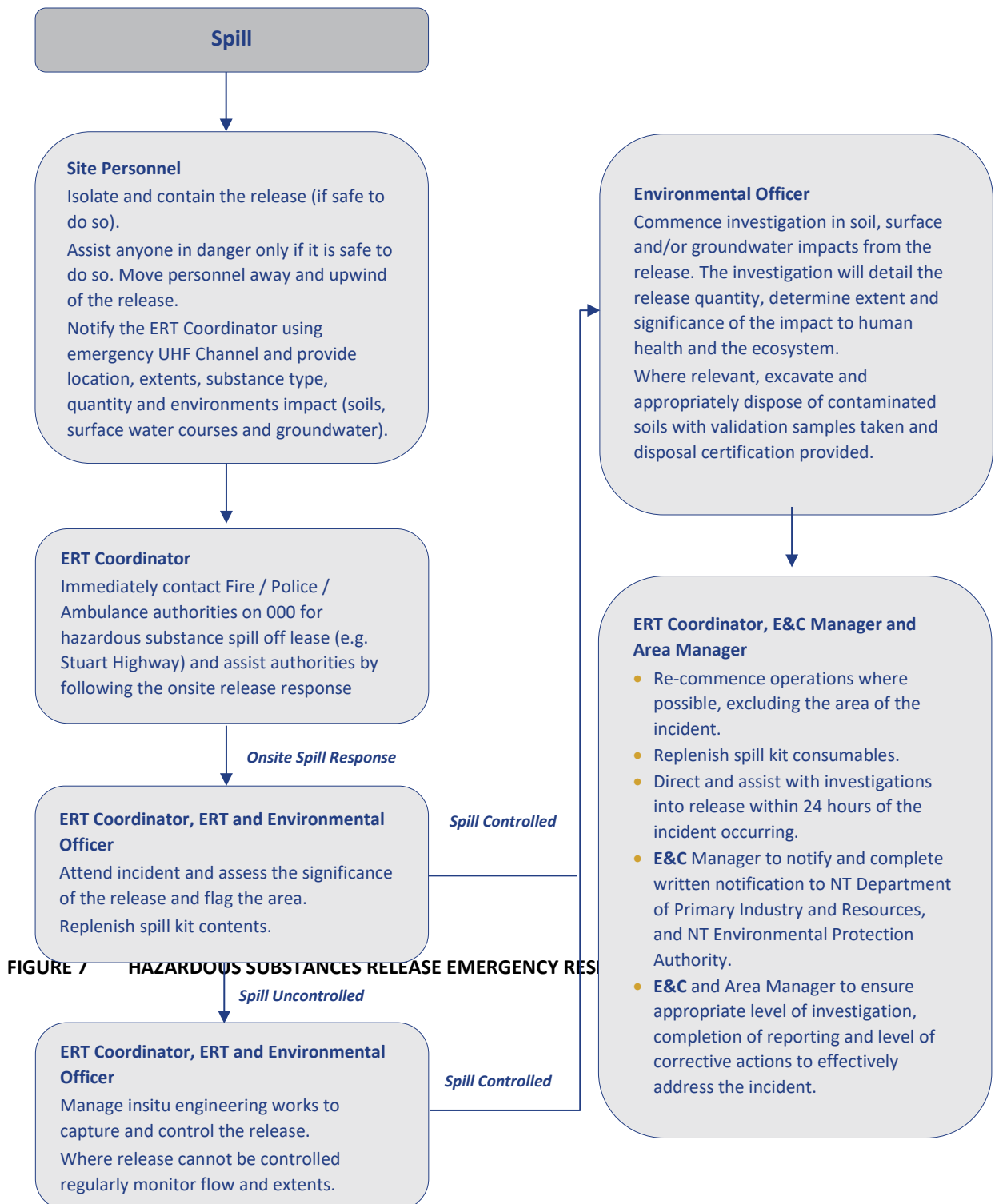
The controls implemented at NTMO sites during regular operation phases vary depending on the operational phase, activities, water/stockpile volumes, capacity/volume of water storage facilities, placement/stability history. Generally, controls for these structures are managed by the Geology/Mining Departments, and are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 6) below.



**FIGURE 6 STRUCTURAL/SLOPE FAILURE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART**

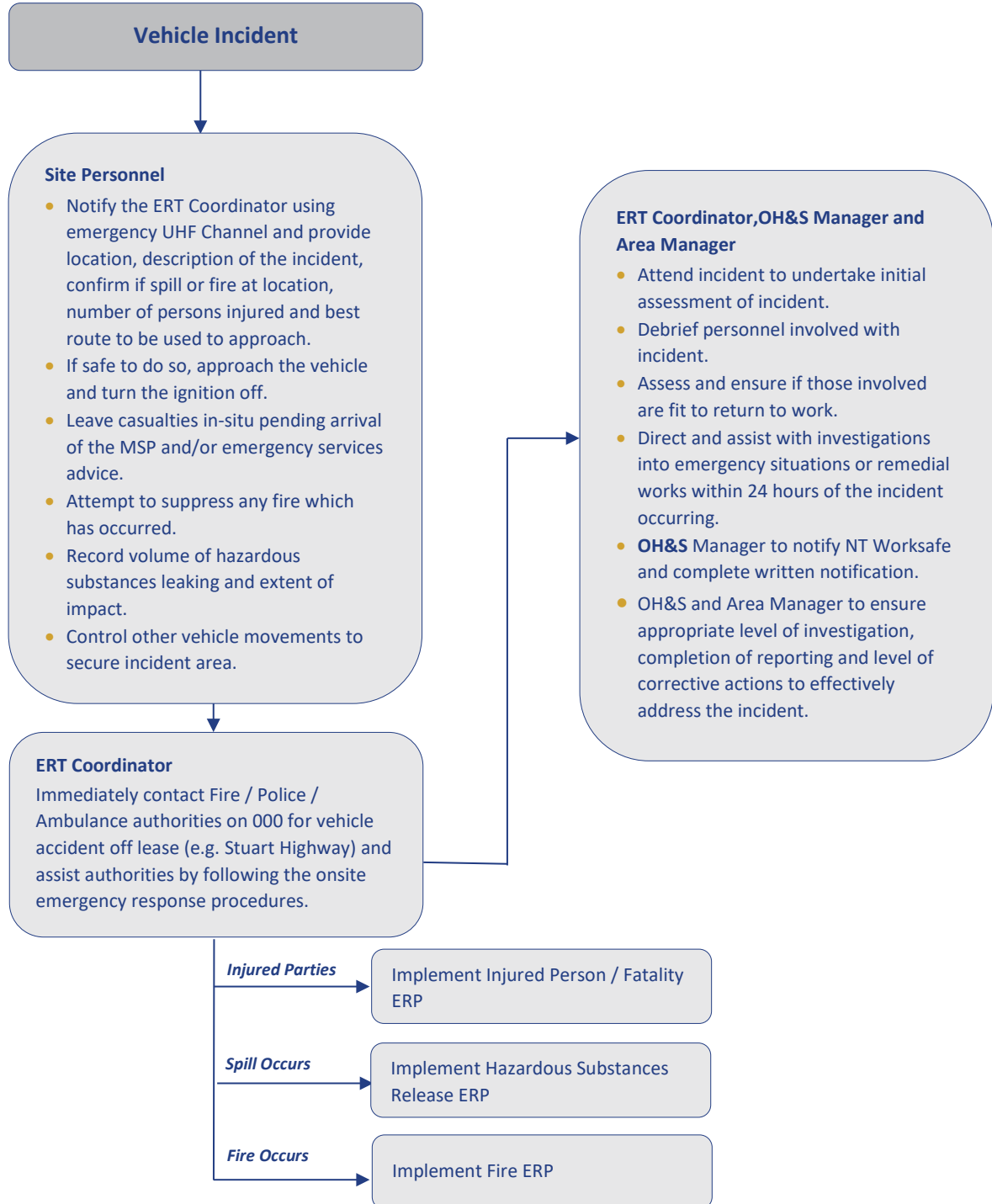
## 6.7 Hazardous Substances Release Emergency Response

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding hazardous substances release are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 7) below.



## 6.8 Vehicle Incident Emergency Response

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding hazardous substances release are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 8) below.



**FIGURE 8 VEHICLE INCIDENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE**



## 6.9 Rescue from Height Emergency Response

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding hazardous substances release are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 9) below.

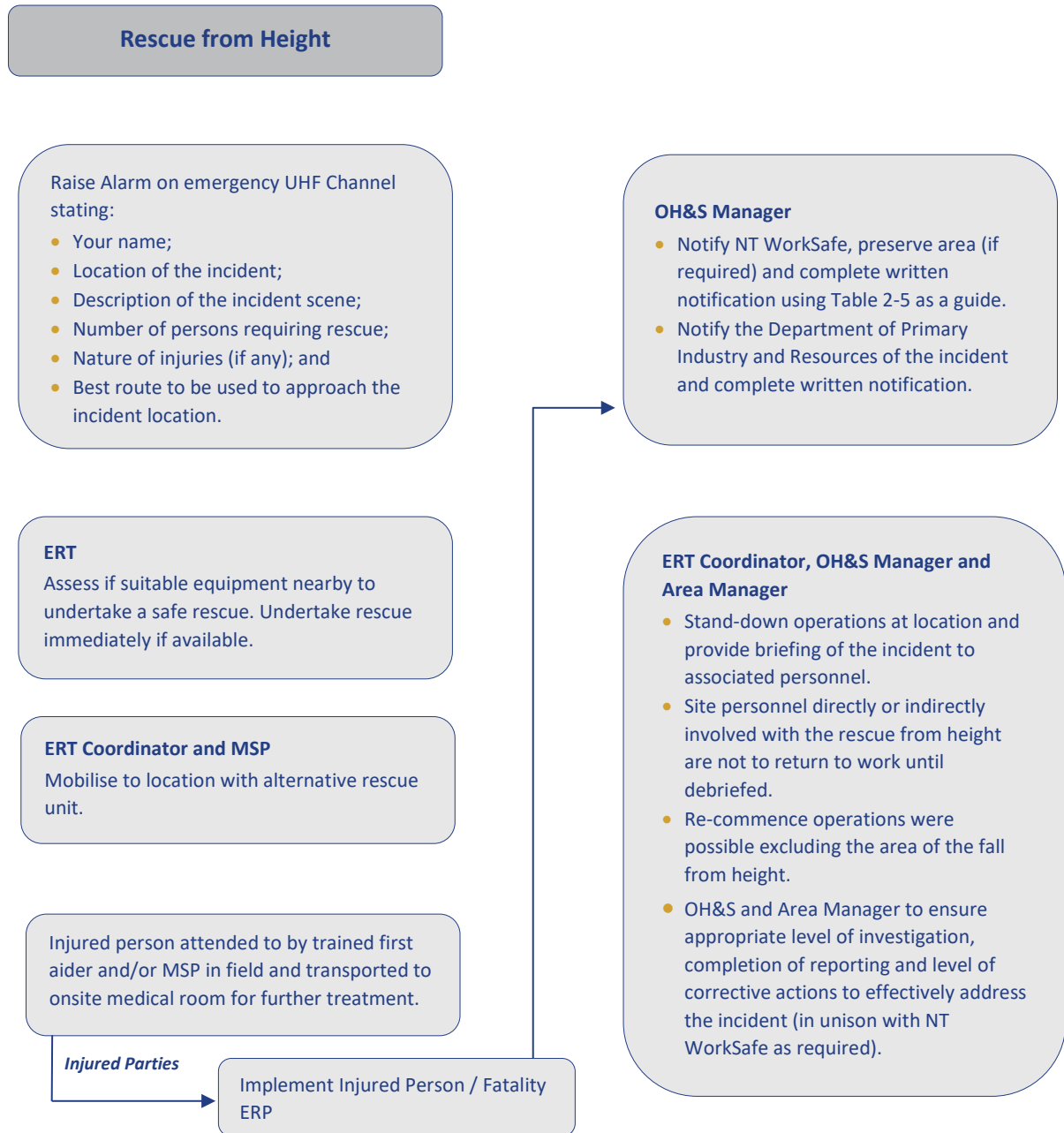


FIGURE 9 RESCUE FROM HEIGHT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART

## 6.10 Severe Weather Emergency Response

This scenario includes threat of cyclone, strong winds and heavy rain events. These events if not managed appropriately could cause damage to equipment and structure resulting in an environmental impact.

As the nature of the threat can vary greatly in this scenario guidance on how to respond are provided in specific procedures. These procedures generally look at implementing controls to prevent a risk to the health and safety of the public and employees, however as they are designed to prevent a risk from eventuating, these controls are often considered appropriate from an environmental impact prevention perspective.

General environmental considerations in a severe weather scenario should include:

### Cyclones/strong winds

- Inspection of at-risk infrastructure (pumps, equipment, buildings mounted securely)
- Relocation of any equipment to a secure location
- Continuing to monitor BoM weather predictions

### Heavy rains

- Checking BoM for predicated rainfall and tropical cyclone prediction, tracking and weather warning
- Check/updating water balance models
- Conducting regular water level measurements on all high risk water bodies
- Determining pumping requirements (if applicable)
- Contacting DITT regarding approval to actively discharge (Cosmo Howley)
- Maintenance/turn pumps on/move pumps
- Discharge management i.e. raising or lowering weir boards at Pine Creek Process Water Dam (PCPWD)
- Determination of any additional pumping requirements

### Lightning

- Checking BoM for storm proximity and spatial distribution and frequency of lightening activity flash density data
- Working in high risk areas such as dams and creeks or other water storage facilities, outdoors in open spaces, around surface drilling etc.
- Lightening protection devices
- Work activity and action in reference to lightning spatial events, refer to HS SAF OS 27.1 Lightning Events

## 6.11 Uncontrolled Release of Water Emergency Response

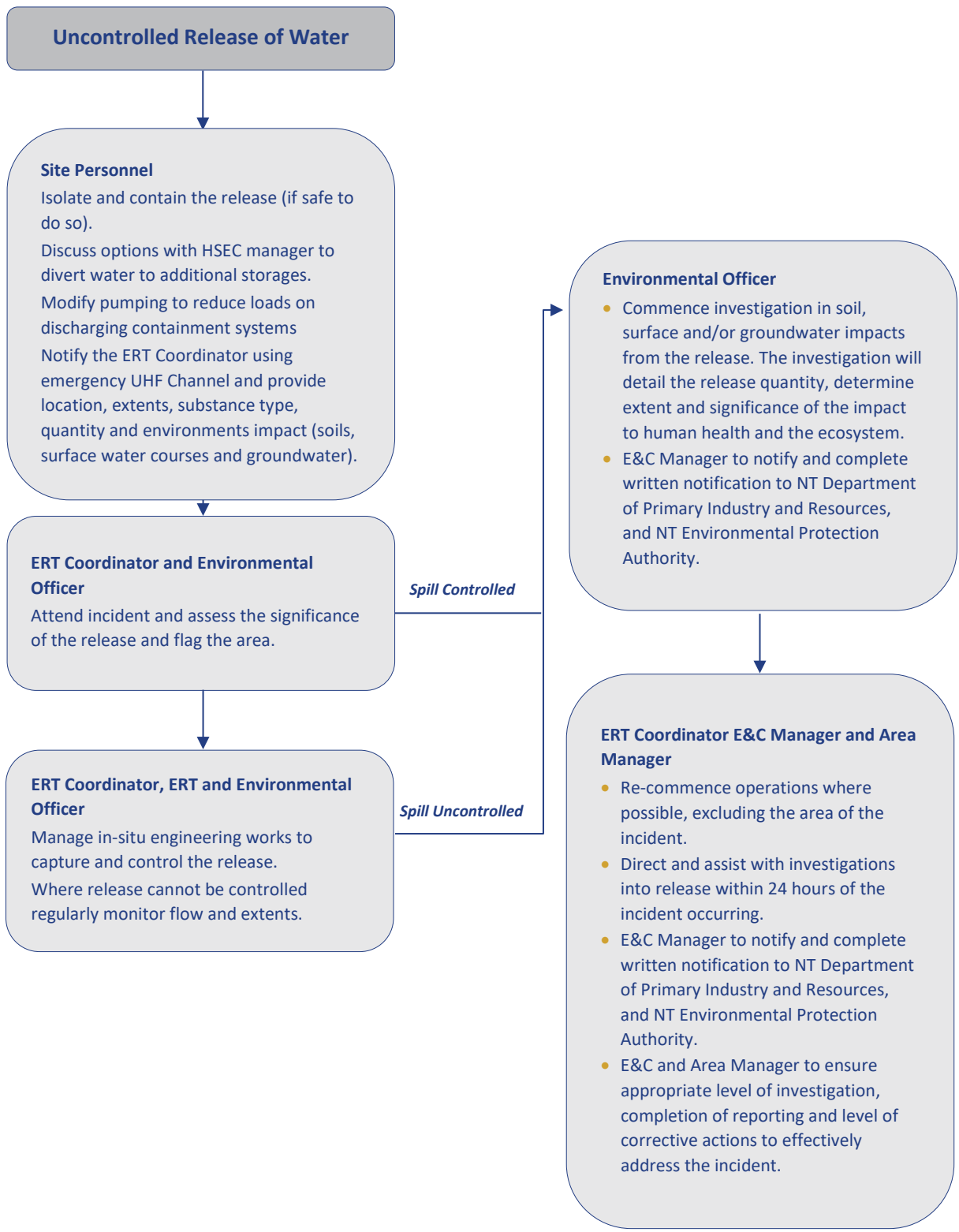
This scenario can threaten onsite or offsite impacts. Most engineering controls have been implemented through the planning and construction phases for water storage facilities. Elimination and engineering controls such as location, design, material, compaction, integrity, size etc.

There are a number of important controls implemented at NTMO sites during regular operation phases. These controls vary dependent on the operational phase, activities, water volumes and the capacity/volume of water storage facilities. These controls can include:

- Geotechnical inspections
- Pumps and infrastructure (pumps, fittings, valves, pipelines) maintenance
- Water transfer management
- Active/passive discharge
- Water treatment and active discharge
- Surface water quality monitoring
- Groundwater monitoring
- Water management plans
- Monitoring water level heights
- Regular revision of water balance

For more detailed information on the management of water storage facilities for each of the NTMO sites, refer to the individual Water Management Plans.

The response steps to be undertaken in an emergency regarding uncontrolled release of water are outlined in the flow chart (Figure 10) below.



**FIGURE 10 UNCONTROLLED RELEASE OF WATER EMERGENCY RESPONSE FLOW CHART**

## **6.12 Wildlife Injury and/or Entrapment Emergency Response**

This scenario looks at the response to the reported injury or death of fauna at NTMO sites. NTMO intend to prevent fauna injuries and fatalities where possible through implementing mitigation measures with the aim of minimising fauna harm.

A suitable qualified member of the ERT or Environment Department is to respond to injured animal reports. An injured animal will likely be highly stressed from shock, they may inadvertently cause harm to people attempting a rescue, and therefore it is important for responders to consider personal protection.

Detailed information on responding to injury and death of wildlife is provided in the procedure ES – SOP033 Fauna Injury and Death Management, or alternatively ES – SOP023 Snake capture and relocation.



## APPENDIX B - INCIDENT REPORT TEMPLATE



### **SECTION 14 INCIDENT REPORT (*Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*)**

<b>Date and Time of Notification:</b>	
<b>Person / Company:</b>	
<b>Incident:</b>	

<b>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</b>	
<b>(b) the place where the incident occurred</b>	
<b>(c) the date and time of the incident</b>	
<b>(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur</b>	
<b>(e) the attempts made to prevent, reduce, control, rectify or clean up the pollution or resultant environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused by the incident</b>	
<b>(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA</b>	

# APPENDIX C - NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT FORM

## Notification of an Environmental Incident

Forward completed form to:	Mining Operations Department of Primary Industry and Resources Email: mineral.info@nt.gov.au (preferred) Fax: (08) 8999 6527
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All environmental incidents are to be reported in accordance with section 29 *Mining Management Act (MMA)*

NAME OF MINING SITE		
NAME OF OPERATOR		
DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT		
NAME OF PERSON NOTIFYING		
POSITION/TITLE		
CONTACT PERSON		
CONTACT DETAILS	Business:	Mobile
	Fax:	E-mail:
INCIDENT LOCATION (use GPS co-ordinates, attach map etc. as appropriate)		
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT Attach photographs etc where available		
NATURE OF ACTUAL/POTENTIAL IMPACT (Volume of spillage, area impacted wildlife/vegetation/erosion, etc.)		



Notification of an Environmental Incident

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETAILS**

EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL ACTIONS TAKEN	
CURRENT SITUATION (Potential/ongoing/ceased etc.)	
DETAILS OF ANY SAMPLES TAKEN (when/where/type/number/time for availability of results etc. Include plans of sampling locations where possible)	

**OPERATOR INTERNAL REPORTING**

Has the incident been reported internally? <b>YES / NO</b> If so, to whom	Name:
	Position:
Operator reference number (where applicable/available)	

HAS THE DEPARTMENT BEEN NOTIFIED EARLIER?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
WHO WAS NOTIFIED	
HOW (phone/email/fax)	
WHEN (date and time)	
BY WHOM	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
RECEIVED BY	
DATE	TIME

## APPENDIX D - INCIDENT NOTIFICATION FORM



### Incident notification form

Sections 35 to 39 of the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act (WHS (NUL) Act)* states NT WorkSafe must be notified of the occurrence as soon as practicable by the PCBU on **1800 019 115**. You will be given an incident notification Reference Number that must be included on this form. This number is proof of your notification phone call as soon as was practicable.

In addition to immediate (as soon as is practicable) phone notification, this 2-page notification form must be faxed or emailed to NT WorkSafe within 48 hours after the incident occurrence. Fax: 08 8999 5141. Email: [ntworksafe@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntworksafe@nt.gov.au)

For more information please see NT WorkSafe bulletin Incident Notifications.

Reference Number:		Date:	
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#### Person submitting details (if completing form by hand, please print BLOCK letters)

Name:			
Position title:			
Name of employer/self-employed person notifying:			
ABN:			
Business address: (Not Postal Address)			
Suburb:	State:	Postcode:	
Work number:	Mobile number:		
Email address:			

#### Incident details

Date of incident:		Time of incident: (am/pm)	
Death of a person <input type="checkbox"/>	Serious injury or illness <input type="checkbox"/>	Dangerous incident <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name of employer of any Injured or deceased person(s) if different from above: i.e.: subcontractor			
ABN:			
Address or location where the incident occurred:			
Describe the specific location of the incident:			

#### Work activity being undertaken at the time of the incident:

Provide a description of work being undertaken at the time of the incident including identifying any plant, substance and equipment involved



**Witnesses**

Name of person(s) who saw the incident or was first on the scene

**Details of injured/deceased person(s)**

Full name:			
Date of birth:		Occupation/Job title:	
Direct worker <input type="checkbox"/>	Contractor <input type="checkbox"/>	Member of public <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Address:			
Suburb:		State:	Postcode:
Work number:		Mobile number:	
Email address:			

**Injury/Illness**

Provide a description of any injury or illness
Did the person receive treatment following the injury/illness? If yes, describe treatment below
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Action**

Describe any Action taken/intended, if any, to prevent recurrence of the incident

**Declaration of notifier**

Date form submitted:		Signed:		I have submitted this form electronically (signature is not required)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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