

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Monday 1 July at 1:10 PM
Person / Company:	Katherine Town Council
Incident:	Tyre Fire

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	A grass fire jumped a firebreak and set alight baled tyres that formed a wall along the boundary of the showgrounds.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	The Katherine Showgrounds
(c) the date and time of the incident	<p>The NT Fire and Rescue Service (largely manned with volunteers) attended a grassfire at the Katherine Speedway, on 1 July 2019 at 11:25 AM. The NT Fire and Rescue Service did not regard the fire as a serious threat and attempted to contain it and let it burn itself out. This was expected to happen quickly.</p> <p>After approximately an hour, the nature of the fire changed and it jumped the fire break and lit the tyres.</p> <p>The NT Fire and Rescue Service then called the Council to attend and assist in dealing with the fire. Emergency protocols led by the police were followed to deal with the fire and the community were alerted to the dangers.</p>
(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur	Release of smoke since the fire started (still occurring).
(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	<p>The Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service completed backburns of vegetation in surrounding areas to ensure that the fire did not spread any further.</p> <p>Water trucks were brought in and used to control hotspot areas of the fire.</p> <p>Virgin materials were applied using bulldozers to smother the burning materials in as short time frame as possible.</p> <p>A media release warned the public about the incident and advised them on how to avoid contact with the smoke.</p> <p>Event to be held at the showgrounds that night were moved to another venue. Hires of the site have been cancelled to ensure the premise is not being used.</p> <p>Katherine Town Council will be guided by the NTEPA and Environmental Health Department to assess the safety of the site and to undertake appropriate clean up and remediation of the areas affected.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Claire Johansson, Chief Operating Officer at Katherine Town Council.