

GIVEN UNDER PROTEST



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

Date and Time of Notification:	28 May 2021 at 4.30pm (AEST)
Person / Company:	Amiee Hanna, Lawyer, J.J. Richards & Sons Pty Ltd
Incident:	There was a fire in the collection enclosure of a waste collection truck which required, pursuant to standard procedure, the contents of the waste collection enclosure to be discharged onto an area within a public car park and thereafter the fire was extinguished by the Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services and a clean-up undertaken. The waste collection truck carried commercial waste only and no listed waste.

<p>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</p>	<p>There was a fire in the collection enclosure of a waste collection truck which required, pursuant to standard procedure, the contents of the waste collection enclosure to be discharged onto an area within a public car park and thereafter the fire was extinguished by the Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services. The waste collection truck carried commercial waste only and no listed waste. A clean-up was undertaken within 24 hours of the incident. For the reasons explained in response to paragraph (e) below, there are no debris remaining at the site which would cause or have the potential to cause pollution.</p>
<p>(b) the place where the incident occurred</p>	<p>A public car park adjacent to South Terrace, The Gap, Alice Springs.</p>
<p>(c) the date and time of the incident</p>	<p>The fire was detected at approximately 1.49pm on 11 May 2021 and shortly thereafter, and in accordance with standard procedure, the driver of the waste collection vehicle proceeded to a safe location, being the public car park adjacent to South Terrace, The Gap, Alice Springs. The fire services attended at the site at approximately 1.57pm and extinguished the fire within approximately 10 minutes. With the authorisation of the NT Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (“<i>NT DIPL</i>”), the car park was closed and the waste was authorised to be left in the car park overnight. A clean-up commenced at approximately 6.00am on 12 May 2021 and NT DIPL was advised at 12.55pm on 12 May 2021 that the clean-up had been completed and the car park could be re-opened.</p>
<p>(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur</p>	<p>There was a fire in the collection enclosure of a waste collection truck which required, pursuant to standard procedure, the contents of the waste collection enclosure to be discharged onto an area within a public car park and thereafter the fire was extinguished by the Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services. The waste collection truck carried commercial waste only and no listed waste. A clean-up was undertaken within 24 hours of the incident. For the reasons explained in response to paragraph</p>

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(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

Once the fire was extinguished, arrangements were made for a site clean-up. A bobcat attended the site and under the supervision of the Depot Manager, the fire debris were loaded into skips which were taken to an approved waste facility on 12 May 2021. The Depot Manager who attended the site and supervised the clean-up noted:

1. The weather conditions were fine with low wind speeds and no precipitation;
2. The area in which the waste debris was discharged was an unsealed car park which was level and not proximate to a body of standing water. The ground conditions were observed to be hard;
3. The waste debris discharged from the truck constituted general commercial waste with no hazardous material observed;
4. The fire services and the police attended at the site at approximately 1.57pm and 1.59pm respectively and took control of the incident;
5. The fire was extinguished within approximately 10 minutes of the arrival of emergency services, who remained on site until approximately 4.58pm at which time they handed management of the incident back to JJ's;
6. NT DIPL attended the site to provide traffic control assistance and authorised the area to be made safe and waste to be left in the car park overnight;
7. The clean-up was commenced at 6.00am on 12 May 2021 with NT DIPL being advised of the restoration of the site at approximately 12.55pm in order to re-open the car park access;
8. The clean-up included the removal of the top level layer of soil which had been in contact with the debris and fire (which would have therefore removed and fire debris and fire washwaters contained in the top level layer of soil);
9. The clean-up included a visual survey of the site by the Depot Manager who noted that after the clean-up there was no visual evidence of any liquid or solid contaminants, the new surface level of the car park following the remediation was very hard and impervious but

	otherwise fit for purpose.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Amiee Hanna, Lawyer