



Spillage Control

Introduction

This purpose of this procedure is to ensure that measures are taken to prevent, detect and mitigate spills. This procedure enables leaks and spillages to be dealt with quickly, effectively and safely. The procedure applies to all aspects of the Egan Waste Services Company Operations and services.

Responsibilities

Site Management and Operators must ensure that the Permit Conditions are adhered to. The Regulatory Bodies requires that site management, with the cooperation of the operators notifies the Regulatory Bodies of any notifiable incidents as stated in the permit conditions without delay.

Natural Resources Wales shall be notified without delay following the detection of:

- any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident, or emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution
- the breach of a limit specified in the permit
- any significant adverse environmental effects.

Without delay means that NRW must be notified as a priority as soon as is practicable (you may do this by telephone). Contacting NRW during normal working hours you can contact your regulatory officer or the local Natural Resources Wales office. Alternatively use the free 24 hour incident hotline 0800 80 70 60.

NOTE: If you are unsure if you need to notify NRW you should our regulatory officer.

Procedure

Leaks and Spillages happen for a number of reasons

- From broken or damaged containers, pipework or tanks
- From hoses when unloading or unloading a tanker
- When solids or liquids are repacked or bulked
- When maintenance is being carried out; eg. de-sludging a tanker.

Liquids or solids may be spilled, and the material may range in type from non-hazardous wastes to flammable, corrosive or toxics.

Equipment for dealing with spillages: -

- Spillage Kits (a brush and shovel, bags of inert absorbent material and absorbent 'pigs and blankets') are placed at various location around the Site.
- Water hoses and jet wash are available for washing down a spillage
- Tankers with onboard vacuum pumps and jetting hoses are used to move spilled wastes out of bunds, interceptors or anywhere within the Yard perimeter.

Authorised By: James Egan	Page 1 of 5	SHEQ-STD-PRO-018
Author: Gareth Jones	Date: August 2021	Version: 1

Small spillages or leaks should be cleared as soon as they are brought to the Yard Operatives attention. The Yard Operative does not have to inform the Site Manager before cleaning a spill. A small spillage is defined as one, which can be contained using absorbent material.

- Identify where spill is and wear any special PPE.
- Surround the spill or leak with any absorbent material to prevent it from spreading
- Obtain an empty drum suitable for the waste and place soiled waste absorbent material into the drum
- Label the drum and place in storage
- Report to Office Manager for appropriate paperwork.

Larger uncontrollable spillages should be dealt with immediately. If the large spill is in the yard, all drainage points should be bunded off to eliminate the risk of contamination to foul and storm waterways.

Large spills in the Yard Area: -

- Make sure correct PPE is worn
- Contain the spill as much as possible with absorbent material
- Pump as much liquid as practicable into a tanker and / or containers
- Absorb residues onto absorbent material, sweep up and shovel into appropriate container
- Wash down the area with water and vacuum up residues
- If the spillage has entered the site interceptors, the contents shall be pumped out using vacuum tanker and either taken off site for disposal or placed in the plant treatment tank, holding tank or pit. A sample is taken and analysed before a decision is made on whether the spill waste should be treated on or transferred off site.
- The Site Manager or his designate shall complete an incident report form and any associated paperwork.

Large Spills in the Drum Store: -

- Pump out using a vacuum tanker and hold in either containers or tanker
- Absorb any residues onto inert material, place into drums and label for disposal.
- Waste to be analysed if necessary
- Waste stored on site awaiting transportation to off-site treatment facility
- The Site Manager or his designate completes the incident report form and any associated paperwork

Vehicles and Spillages; where a vehicle (a tanker, wagon, forklift truck, etc.) has been contaminated by a spill it should be cleaned once the spill has been dealt with: -

- Place the vehicle in the yard in the wash down area. Wear appropriate PPE
- Remove all solids using a brush or shovel and place into a labeled drum
- Wash liquid spills from the vehicle using a hose, pressure washer or other cleaner and hose washings into gully.
- Clean the spill area with squeegee and hose into gully



Egan Waste Services

- The washings can be pumped out of the interceptor to a tanker or if suitable after analysis, allowed to discharge to foul sewer

If a spillage occurs when vehicles are on site, the Site personnel should try to ensure that vehicles do not spread the material offsite. Any contaminated vehicle should be cleaned and disposed of as before.

All spillages must be reported and for all large spillages an incident report form must be completed in accordance with the incident reporting procedure.

Authorised By: James Egan	Page 3 of 5	SHEQ-STD-PRO-018
Author: Gareth Jones	Date: August 2021	Version: 1

Seven Steps to Spillage Control

1. Assess the risk

From the moment a spill occurs and throughout response, responders should determine the risks that may affect human health, the environment and property. This could be immediately because you will know the liquid spilled, as you were working with it, or it may involve some investigation. The spilled material can be identified from the container label or the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

Next, identify how much has been spilled and the primary dangers posed to the spill responders and the environment. Once the extent of the spill and the risks are understood, appropriate measures may need to be taken to isolate the spill area (e.g. setting up exclusion zones).

2. Select personal protective equipment (PPE)

The spill responder may already be wearing the necessary PPE because they were working with the spilled liquid, but if not, it is crucial that the appropriate PPE is chosen. Consulting the SDS, Chemical Manufacturers literature or the PPE Manufacturers literature can aid in choosing. If the danger is uncertain and the material is unknown, the worst should be assumed and the highest level of protection used.

3. Confine the spill

Confining the spill may be a simple task for spills of a few litres or it could be more difficult for larger spills, so it is important to make sure that the correct absorbents and size of spill kit are available for the liquids that have been spilled. Universal Absorbents mats absorb oils, coolants, solvents and water; Oil-Only Absorbents soak up oil not water; HazMat absorbents absorb most acids, caustics or unknown liquids. The Spill Kits are located both outside and inside the drum store / Tank Farm.

Once the correct absorbents or kits have been chosen, responders should limit the spill area by blocking, diverting, or confining the spill. The flow of the liquid should also be stopped before it has a chance to contaminate a water source – minimising the spill area and protecting drains are the priorities. Make sure the barrier is placed far enough away from the spill to ensure you can complete the setup but also far away from sensitive areas, such as drains and waterways.

4. Stop the source

This step may happen before the spill is even confined depending on the extent or the size of the spill. This could simply involve turning a container upright, or plugging a leak from a damaged drum or container. Dam-it Putty is an effective product for stopping leaks from punctured pipes or drums. Once the leak has been stopped the liquids should be transferred from the damaged container to a new one.

5. Evaluate the incident and implement clean-up

Once the spill is confined and the leak has been stopped, it is time to reassess the incident and develop a plan of action for implementing the spill clean-up. First, responders should make sure they have enough spill response supplies to deal with the incident. Enough Pads should be used to quickly absorb the spill and should be placed throughout the confined spill area. Where required and if safe to do so, additional products can also be used, such as vacuums, pumps and containers. Once the absorbents are saturated, depending on what the spill was they may be considered hazardous waste and should be disposed of properly.

Authorised By: James Egan	Page 4 of 5	SHEQ-STD-PRO-018
Author: Gareth Jones	Date: August 2021	Version: 1

6. Decontaminate

The site, personnel, and equipment should be decontaminated by removing or neutralising the hazardous materials that have accumulated during the spill. This may involve removing and disposing of contaminated media, such as soil, that was exposed during the spill incident. Contaminated PPE should also be may be able to be reused after inspection and clean-up. An effective decontamination area should also be created to ensure the health and safety of emergency responders.

7. Complete required reports

As soon as possible after the spill, all spill notifications and reports required by local and national guidelines should be completed. Failure to do so can result in severe penalties. Typical reports include medical reports, local council or district reports, Environment Agency reports and company safety reports.

The steps above are simply a guide for companies to follow when responding to spills. They do not constitute a spill response plan in themselves, but together they provide a framework for companies to build a customized plan. Taking these steps will help companies be more prepared and able to respond effectively to unexpected spills.