



Snowy Hydro Limited
HEZ Power Station
Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
(Internet Based Version)

Revision: 3

Revision Date: May 2025

snowyhydro

Document Control

Document Details	
Title:	Snowy Hydro Limited HEZ Power Station Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (Internet Based Version)
Revision:	3
Date:	31 May 2025
PIRMP Test Schedule:	12 Months, or within 1 month of a pollution incident
Next Review Due:	No later than May 2026

Revision History:

Revision	Date	Description of Changes	Prepared By	Approved By
1	August 2021	Original Plan		
2	November 2022	Review of Original Plan		
3	May 2025	Review of Revision 2. Significant update of Plan to ensure alignment with SHL Northern Gas & Diesel facilities	T Thompson Senior Environmental Advisor	M Kinross Plant Manager - HEZ PS

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1.0 Overview

1.1 This Plan

This is the internet based version of the HEZ Power Station (HEZ PS) Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP).

Under Part 5.7A of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act), all holders of an Environment Protection Licence are required to prepare, keep, test and implement a PIRMP.

Chapter 4 of the *Protection of the Environment (General) Regulation 2022* (the General Regulation) establishes the specific information that must be incorporated into a PIRMP, with section 74(3) of the General Regulation specifying the parts of the PIRMP to be made available on a publicly accessible website. Refer to **Appendix 2** for these requirements

This is the internet based version of the HEZ PS PIRMP and is publicly available on the Snowy Hydro website. The full version of the PIRMP is also available to persons responsible for implementing the plan, and will be made available to an authorised officer upon request.

1.2 HEZ Power Station

HEZ PS is located at Abermain, via Pelaw Main, within the former Hunter Economic Zone, in the Cessnock City Council Local Government Area. The facility address is 105 Bromage Road Abermain.

The site was originally constructed in 2006 by Infratil (Lumo Energy). It was subsequently purchased by Snowy Hydro in 2014, and placed into care and maintenance in 2015. The site was then recommissioned by Snowy Hydro during 2021 and 2022.

HEZ PS is a diesel fired power station operating as a peaking plant, supplying electricity at short notice during periods of peak demand or system emergency situations.

The HEZ PS, is a 28.8 MW Diesel peaking power station comprising of two acoustic style sheds housing 16 QSK60-G4 generator sets, bulk double skin fibreglass underground diesel storage tank, bunded emission control urea storage, workshop, bunded radiator area, diesel day tanks housed inside a bund area, diesel fuel unloading bay, high voltage electrical switch room, site control room and 415/33Kv bund transformers with overhead 33kV lines.

A figure indicating HEZ PS and surrounding areas is provided in **Appendix 1**.

1.3 Objective of this Plan

The objective of this Plan is to ensure the notification processes for pollution incidents at the HEZ PS as defined in section 74(2) of the General Regulation are detailed and made available on the Snowy Hydro website.

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This PIRMP replicates the procedures to be followed by Snowy Hydro's Hunter PS personnel in relation to notifying a pollution incident to:

- the owners or occupiers of premises in the vicinity of HEZ PS;
- the local authority for the area; and
- regulatory authorities including the EPA, Fire and Rescue NSW, SafeWork NSW, Comcare, NSW Health, and Central Coast Council.

Note: Comcare is nominated as a regulatory authority in addition to SafeWork NSW, due to Snowy Hydro being a Commonwealth entity.

This Plan also includes details of the mechanisms for providing early warnings and regular updates to the local community and owners and occupiers of premises in the vicinity of HEZ PS.

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2.0 Pollution Incident Notification

The following section provides the contact details for the key stakeholders in the community and relevant authorities. It also defines when and in what circumstances the community and relevant authorities will be notified of a pollution incident.

Depending upon the scale and nature of the incident, other communications may be required, and are set out in Snowy Hydro's internal PIRMP and emergency response practices.

2.1 Notifying Relevant Authorities

For major pollution incidents that are presenting an immediate threat to human health or property, 000 will be contacted in the first instance. As first responders, Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW Police and the NSW Ambulance Service are responsible for controlling and containing incidents.

Snowy Hydro personnel are required to report all pollution incidents once the area has been made safe and/or contained as far as reasonably practicable. Personnel are required to provide details of the incident to the Plant Manager, and report the incident on Snowy Hydro's event management system.

The personnel listed in **Table 1** are the key personnel responsible for determining whether the PIRMP shall be activated following a pollution incident.

Table 1: Snowy Hydro Personnel with responsibility for activating the PIRMP

Position	Role in activating PIRMP
Employees and Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alerting OIC of any pollution incidents
Production Technician - Operator In Charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Incident ControllerInitial assessment, and if required, escalation to the Plant Manager, and Area Manager if requiredResponsibility for managing response to pollution incident
Plant Manager - HEZ Power Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Notification to Senior Environmental AdvisorResponsibility for managing response to pollution incident
Area Manager - Northern Gas & Diesels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Secondary contact for Plant Manager responsibilities
Senior Environmental Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Determination of activating PIRMPNotification to relevant authoritiesProviding advice on responding to the pollution incident
Head of Environment & Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Secondary contact for the determination of PIRMP activation and notification to authorities

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If the pollution incident does not require immediate emergency assistance, or once the 000 call has been made, Snowy Hydro is required to immediately notify the regulatory authorities listed in **Table 2**, where a pollution incident has, or is likely to threaten material harm to the environment.

Table 2: Regulatory Authority 24 Hour Contact Details

Authority	24 Hour Contact Details
Cessnock City Council	02 4993 4100
NSW Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA)	131 555
NSW Health (Newcastle Public Health Unit)	1300 066 055 A/H: 02 4924 6477 (ask for Public Health Officer on call)
Fire and Rescue NSW	1300 729 579
SafeWork NSW	131 050
ComCare	1300 366 979

Where a decision is made to notify authorities, the information provided should include the following:

- the time, date, nature, duration and location of the incident;
- the nature, estimated quantity or volume, and the concentration of any pollutants;
- the circumstances in which the incident occurred (including the cause, if known); and
- the action taken to deal with the incident and any resulting pollution.

Unless the information listed above is known as fact, the answers should not be speculated, and the regulatory authority respectfully advised the information is not known at the time.

3.0 Incident and Emergency Communications

This section includes details of the mechanisms that will be used for providing early warnings and regular updates to the owners and occupiers of premises (local communities) and neighbouring asset owners who may be affected by an incident or emergency occurring at the Power Station

3.1 Incident Communications

As soon as practicable after an incident occurring at the Power Station, and where there is no immediate threat to human health or property, Snowy Hydro will take all reasonable steps to provide the local community and neighbouring asset owners with information about the incident.

The communities that will be included in post incident communications include those that:

- adjoin Snowy Hydro property boundaries, which include neighbouring asset owners;
- have a direct line of sight to HEZ PS; and
- are sensitive receivers, such as schools, nursing homes etc.

The suburbs in the vicinity of HEZ PS that may receive direct communications include:

- Abermain
- Elrington
- Kurri Kurri
- Neath
- Pelaw Main
- Richmond Vale
- Weston

Potentially affected communities may be notified via a variety of methods that will be determined at the time of the incident in consultation with the emergency services, and regulatory authorities and will be based on the size and scale of the incident response.

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In all circumstances these communications will be conducted jointly with regulatory authorities. These methods may include:

- information available on the Snowy Hydro website www.snowyhydro.com.au;
- announcements via local radio and television stations; and
- letter box drops.

Information will be continually updated based on changing conditions or directions from regulatory authorities wherever reasonably practicable. Alternative methods of communications may also be utilised at the discretion of Snowy Hydro representatives and in consultation with the emergency services, and regulatory authorities.

3.2 Emergency Communications

Decisions to notify neighbours and the local community will be made in consultation with regulatory authorities, and will consider the potential risk to the community. Considerations in notifying community members include:

- the type and quantity of pollutant;
- meteorological conditions;
- available barriers in waterways;
- the likelihood of a pollutant reaching ground level; and
- sensitive premises in close proximity, such as schools, nursing homes and health care facilities.

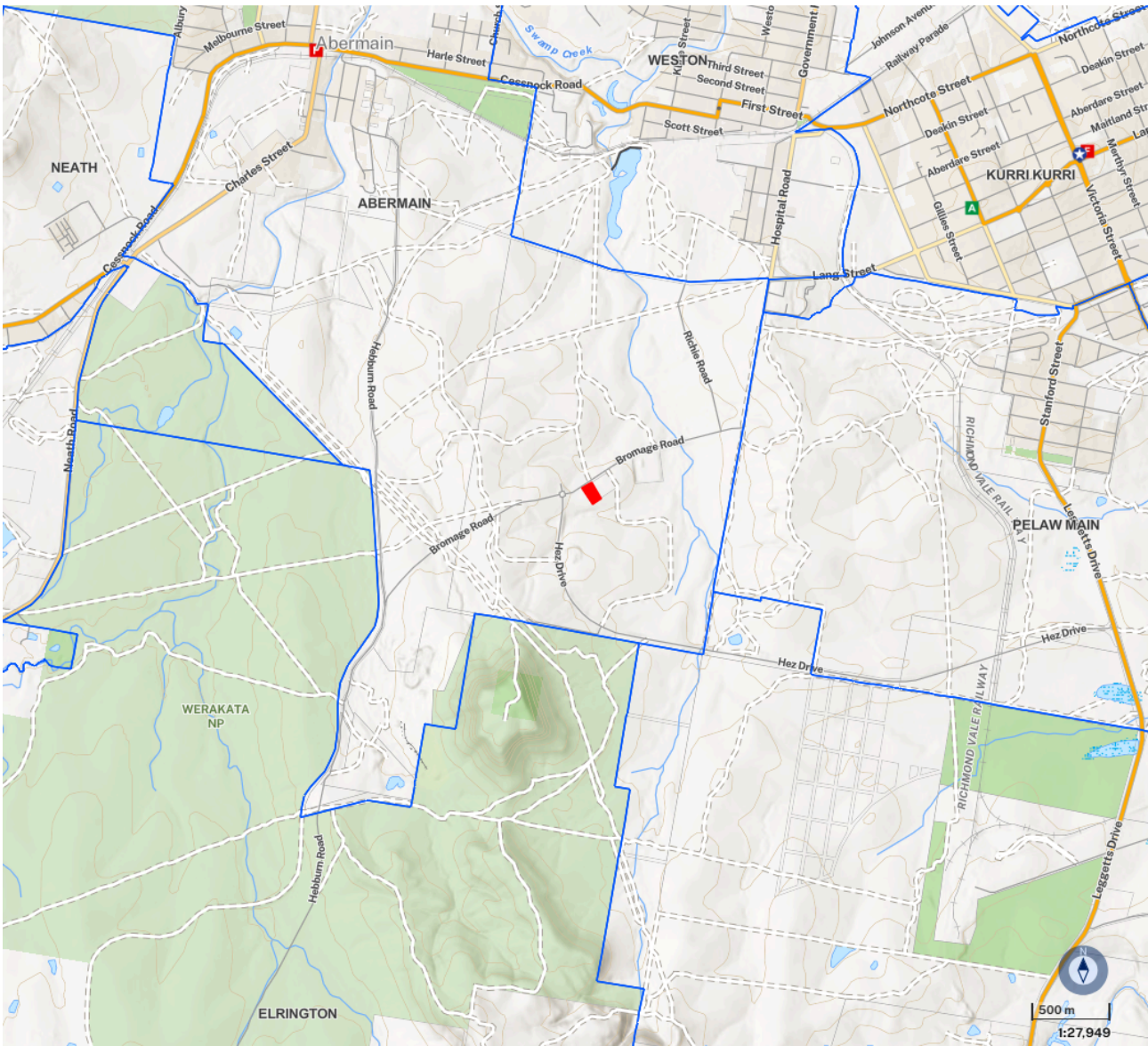
In circumstances which present an immediate threat to human health or property, emergency services will be contacted via 000.

A multi-agency response will be coordinated by emergency services and regulatory authorities, and advice to local communities and neighbouring asset owners will be conducted by these agencies. These communications may include instructions to evacuate the Power Station and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Not all incidents will require community notification. Examples of incidents not requiring community notification might be where the incident impacts are confined to Snowy Hydro land, or prevented from reaching or affecting residents in the local vicinity.

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Appendix 1: HEZ Power Station Locality



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Appendix 2: Legislative Requirements of this Plan

<i>Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022</i>	Requirement	Where/How Addressed
74 Availability of PIRM plan—the Act, s 153D (2) A PIRM plan must be made publicly available in the following way within 14 days after it is prepared— (a) in a prominent position on a publicly accessible website of the person who is required to prepare the PIRM plan, (b) if the person does not have a website—by providing a copy of the PIRM plan, without charge, to a person who makes a written request for a copy.	Ensure this PIRMP is made publicly available in a prominent position of the Snowy Hydro website	The HEZ PS PIRMP (internet based version) is publicly available on the Snowy Hydro website: https://www.snowyhydro.com.au/about/reports/
74 Availability of PIRM plan—the Act, s 153D (3) Subsection (2) applies only in relation to a part of a PIRM plan that includes the information required under— (a) the Act, section 153C(a), and (b) this Regulation, section 72(h) and (i) or 73(b)(ii) and (iii).	Ensure this PIRMP describes the procedures to be followed in notifying a pollution incident to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> owners or occupiers of premises in the vicinity of HEZ PS, the local authority (Cessnock City Council), And the relevant authorities described in Part 5.7 of the POEO Act. 	Section 2 & 3 Section 2.1 Section 2.1
	Ensure this PIRMP includes the contact details of the relevant authorities described under Part 5.7 of the POEO Act	Table 2
	Ensure this PIRMP includes the details of the mechanisms for providing early warnings and regular updates to the owners and occupiers of premises near Hunter PS in the event of a pollution incident	Section 3
	Ensure this PIRMP includes the details of individuals authorised to notify relevant authorities of a pollution incident, and individuals responsible for managing a pollution incident	Table 1

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