

Risk Assessments:

Issue:

Risk assessment is an integral part of the business risk management process.

The process aims to identify risk areas and evaluate their significance with the aim of prioritising action plans and expenditure to control the consequences of an undesirable event.

Environmental risk assessments are no different. They are designed to assist in the management of events that may impact environmental conditions and more than likely result in business loss (e.g. reputation, sales, perception, remediation)

Expertise:

Areas investigated in risk assessments include:

- impact on land and soil (consideration of storage practices, waste management and chemical handling);
- impact to surface water, ground water and stormwater runoff (consideration of wastewater runoff and underground storage facilities);
- potential to cause nuisance at neighbouring sensitive areas including residential premises, hospitals and schools. Nuisance issues include odours, noise and vibration (consideration of equipment location, installation of noise barriers, use of masking agents and tree buffers to reduce impact of odour)
- impact on air quality (consideration of pollution control equipment including scrubbers, bag-houses and effectiveness of these to minimise potential for pollution).
- potential impact on sensitive species and habitat.
- business liability risk considerations (eg during an acquisition/ divestment)

In-House Equipment:

- Ausplume (air/odour)
- Drill Rig (site contamination)
- Sound Level Meter (noise)
- Groundwater Pumps (water)
- AuditMASTER (risk profile software)

Solutions:

EnviroRisk Management has extensive experience in conducting risk assessments (qualitative, semi-quantitative and quantitative) for both small and large organisations of many industry types.

Operational risk assessments have been used for organisations aiming to systematically allocate financial resources towards controlling environmental exposures. Contaminated site risk assessments have been completed to derive site specific acceptance criteria for specific chemicals.

Most operational risk assessments are semi-quantitative combining technical competence and knowledge of a typical failure rate/ consequence appreciation. This knowledge is then applied to a risk matrix (i.e. Australian Standard AS 4360 Risk Management) to generate a risk profile.



“
Your Risk and Compliance Reports have proven to be of considerable assistance to our improvement programs. They have prioritised our approach and led to greater awareness of issues across the company.”

- Anne Price, Environmental Manager, CSR Sugar

