



Dangerous Goods Safety information sheet

Emergency planning for licensed dangerous goods sites

Introduction

This information sheet explains the updated emergency planning provisions in effect from 1 January 2014 following amendment of the Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007 (Storage and Handling Regulations).

Guidance on emergency plan preparation

The Department's mandatory *Dangerous goods sites – Emergency planning code* has been withdrawn. Guidance on how to prepare a suitable emergency plan to mitigate dangerous goods accidents is now provided in a non-mandatory code of practice, Australian Standard AS 3745 *Planning for emergencies in facilities*, approved by the Minister under section 20 of the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*. This approved code sets the benchmark on what is regarded as a sufficient emergency plan.

The Department's guidance note on dangerous goods emergency plans for small businesses provides more appropriate guidance for operators of dangerous goods sites with less than five occupants.

Note: The Dangerous Goods Emergency Plans for Small Businesses – Guidance Note can be downloaded from the dangerous goods publications section at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au

Regulatory provisions

Regulation 75 Emergency plan required for some sites

The emergency plan documents, in writing, the actions to be taken, procedures to be followed and information required to mitigate the consequences of a dangerous situation involving the storage and handling of dangerous goods.

The operator of the dangerous goods site must ensure there is an emergency plan for the site and a copy is held at the site.

The operator must review the plan and, if necessary, revise it:

- whenever there is a significant change in the risk
- whenever there is a significant change to the layout of the site or any structure on the site
- as soon as practicable after a dangerous situation occurs on the site
- in any event, at least every three years.

Regulation 76A Information for occupier of site adjacent to dangerous goods site

The operator of a licensed site must, if the risk extends to an adjacent site, provide the occupier of that site with:

- information about
 - the risk and what might happen if a dangerous situation occurs
 - what to do if a dangerous situation occurs
 - what the operator will do if a dangerous situation occurs

- contact details to enable the occupier of the adjacent site to communicate with the operator of the dangerous goods facility.

Regulation 76B FES emergency response guide required for some sites.

Regulation 76B applies to a site if the amount of dangerous goods is ten times greater than the manifest (licensing) quantity, and the site is not a petrol station or a mine site.

The term “FES emergency response guide” replaces the previously used term “Special Risk Plan”.

The FES emergency response guide is a template that contains practical information to facilitate the response by the attending fire brigade. It includes:

- operator of the site
- layout of the site
- construction of any structure on the site
- dangerous goods on the site
- equipment and resources on the site to detect or deal with a fire or other dangerous situation.

Note: Email feserg@dmirs.wa.gov.au for a copy of the template.

The operator must ensure there is an agreed FES emergency response guide for the site that has been prepared or revised in consultation with the officer in charge of the local fire station. The operator must review, and if necessary revise, the guide:

- whenever there is a significant change to the type or quantity of dangerous goods
- whenever there is a significant change to the layout of structures on site
- as soon as practicable after a fire or other dangerous situation occurs
- in any event, at least every three years.