

Spill Response Plan

All Contractor employees will be familiar with the procedures to follow in the event of a spill of non-hazardous material on the jobsite such as biosolids or Petroleum, Oil or Lubricants (POL) from process activities or motorized equipment. This plan requires the Contractor to appoint a “Spill Response Coordinator” whose contact information will be given to the City in the event City-generated materials are transported offsite.

Petroleum, Oil or Lubricants

On-site fueling and basic maintenance operations of site equipment would be the most likely cause of a POL spill. All equipment will be allowed to cool prior to re-fueling to prevent heat source for fire. Suitable ground covering will be provided in areas in which dripping could occur from trucks, trailers or other equipment subject to extended parking or staging periods. Petroleum absorbent pads and berms will be readily available in the event of any spill, as well as earthen materials found on-site.

Employees will first identify and stop the source of the spill. They will then contain the spill by whatever practical means necessary using berms or dikes and absorbent material to minimize the lateral spread of the spill. These materials will be available in a company-provided spill kit(s), which are to be stored in a readily accessible location.

Once the spill is contained and clean-up efforts are underway, Contractor management will immediately notify the Austin Water (AW) Site Contact and then proper agencies.

Biosolids

Biosolids are non-hazardous and non-toxic. If a spill occurs, there is no need for special equipment or emergency procedures beyond those outlined in this plan. Biosolids are processed solids, primarily organic, that are used for agricultural fertilizers and soil amendments. Biosolids are produced in wastewater treatment plants and transported to farms or to composting facilities.

Biosolids spilled onto pavement pose a potential road hazard because they can create wet, slick conditions for motor vehicles, and/or can obstruct traffic flow. If biosolids remain on the surface for a sufficient time they could be a source of potential contamination of nearby storm drains, waterways, or ground water. Biosolids should be thoroughly removed so that no significant residues remain to be washed into any storm drain or waterway by surface water (rain, runoff, etc.). All spilled biosolids must be returned to the trailer from which they spilled, or be loaded into another appropriate transport vehicle and delivered to an approved location.

Biosolids characteristics are:

- solids content: 2%- 95%,
- moist to dry paste or mush consistency up to about 40% solids,
- dirt-like when solids exceed 45%,
- can also be in liquid form,
- volatile solids 40% to >60% (percentage of total solids),
- pH 5 - 10, most commonly about 7.5, and

- **NON-HAZARDOUS** chemical character consisting of treated organic residual solids from domestic wastewater processing facilities, containing nitrogen, phosphorous, trace metals, and some pathogenic organisms.

Drivers should make sure they **always** have the following safety equipment in/on their vehicle:

- first aid kit,
- reflective triangles,
- fire extinguisher,
- push broom (to sweep up debris and biosolids or POL from roadway), and
- shovel (use to prevent biosolids or POL from draining into waterways/ ditches).

Personnel cleaning up a spill must follow basic personal hygiene procedures in handling biosolids including:

- wear gloves for shoveling, sweeping, or handling biosolids, and
- wash hands (and, as necessary, arms, face, etc.) with waterless anti-bacterial hand cleaner or mild soap and water following spill clean-up and prior to eating or drinking

Quick Reference Guide to Biosolids Spill Cleanup Procedures

Information about Biosolids

Biosolids are the **non-hazardous** organic material remaining from the wastewater treatment process. The material is highly treated, nutrient-rich, mud-like, black/brown in color, organic fertilizing material which is considered **non-hazardous** material per EPA and Texas state law.

Safe handling Precautions

You may be exposed to biosolids during loading, unloading and spills through inhalation or ingestion. To prevent this, the following precautions are recommended:

- wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to be provided by the Contractor,
- liquid repellent coveralls (optional, but recommended during a spill),
- leather gloves (recommended during spill cleanup),
- boots (optional but recommended during spill cleanup),
- wash hands with soap after handling biosolids,
- disinfect and cover cuts, and
- don't eat, smoke, or chew around biosolids

Management of Cleanup Activities

Immediately notify the Contract Manager and AW Site Contact. Then notify highway patrol (911) if spill occurred on public right-of-way. Give location and amount of the spill to individual(s) contacted. If the spill occurs on State Highways or Interstates, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will most likely take the lead on providing equipment and crew to clean up the spill, however, check with the AW Site Contact and Contract Manager. If possible, the Contractor's labor and equipment are to be utilized.

The Contractor shall also communicate with the authorities and the public on the scene, answering questions and advising of the cleanup activities.

If hauling truck and trailer are not disabled, the contractor shall provide the following:

- minimum of 2 laborers (more depending on size of spill),
- dump truck with sand,
- Class 8 rubber-tire front-end loader,
- shovels,
- straw bales,
- brooms, and
- traffic cones.

If the hauling truck and/or trailer are disabled, the contractor shall provide a hauling truck and/or trailer as required in addition to the items above.

Halt the Source of the Spill

The first Contractor representative (whether IC, operator, or manager) at the scene will begin procedures to halt the spill, if it is still spilling, and initiate cleanup activities.

Contain Spill

Sufficient quantities of straw bales shall be used to form a barrier. Earthen barriers may be constructed to augment the straw bale containment area. The Contractor will advise the cleanup personnel where to get the straw or other items necessary to complete the cleanup operation, i.e. local farmers, farm supply center, nursery, etc.

Clean Up

At the spill site, the driver and/or clean-up crew shall perform the following clean-up procedures:

- Park the hauling truck on the side of the road, if possible.
- Administer emergency first aid, as appropriate, if personal injuries are encountered.
- Place traffic cones, reflectors, and/or flares to divert traffic around the spill site.
- Determine the extent of the spill and take photos of spill and final clean-up.
- Spread sand over and around biosolids to absorb moisture and prevent movement into storm drains or other waterway inlets.
- Move biosolids into a pile using shovels and brooms.
- Using the front-end loader, reload piled biosolids into the hauler's truck (if not disabled) or into another available truck (if the hauler's truck is disabled). If the trailer is disabled, transfer to new trailer. For very small spills (2 cubic yards or less) use of the front-end loader may not be necessary; biosolids can be shoveled into a small truck for transport back to the plant.
- Final clean-up is by means of shovels and brooms. At no time should any biosolids be hosed down into any storm drains. Do not wash off tools or trucks at the spill location.
- Cooperate with law enforcement and/or fire department personnel responding to the spill. Inform them of the **non-hazardous** nature of the spilled material and actions to be carried out according to this plan.

Final Clean Up

Disposal of spilled biosolids following clean-up shall be as follows:

- If not disabled, the hauler's truck may proceed to the original destination.
- Any biosolids that have been loaded into a pick-up truck are to be returned to the Plant and loaded into the next available trailer or taken to the original destination.
- Following clean-up and disposal of the spilled biosolids, all equipment used for spill response is to be returned to its originating location for cleaning.
- The goal will be to restore the spill area to its original condition, if possible.

Driver Responsibilities

The following assumes the driver is unhurt and can contact the Contractor's Spill Response Coordinator (see definition below).

- The driver will park the truck on the side of the road if possible and place traffic cones and reflectors to divert traffic around the spill.
- The driver will remain with the truck and spilled material, unless it is necessary to leave temporarily to contact the Spill Response Coordinator.
- The driver will contact the Spill Response Coordinator immediately. The driver will also provide the Spill Response Coordinator with the details of the accident. Be sure to diagram and photograph and describe the accident or spill.
- The driver will assist with traffic control and clean-up and will **NOT** leave the scene of any spill, not even a small one, until it is reported to the Spill Response Coordinator and cleaned up. Note: Call the Spill Response Coordinator first; then notify the AW Site Contact, the Contractor's Project Manager; then call 911.
- If the spill occurs on State Highways or Interstates, then TxDOT will most likely take the lead on providing equipment and crew to clean up the spill. However, check with the Spill Response Coordinator.
- Do not move equipment if its position is helpful to traffic control or containment unless leaving it where it is will create a hazard.
- While awaiting police and/or cleanup crew, help the other party (or parties), if safely able to do so.
- Don't give statements, verbally accept responsibility or sign anything other than bona fide papers presented by a law enforcement officer or public health officials. Assume that any statement you make can be recorded and act accordingly.
- In accidents involving a fatality, don't talk or give any statements until you are represented by an attorney. You have this right by law.
- Don't admit responsibility or agree to pay for anything.
- Don't argue responsibility for the accident, be courteous.

Contract Hauler Responsibilities

The hauler is required to notify the Contractor immediately after a spill and upon completion of cleanup of all spills the hauler is required to complete and give a spill response report to the Contractor.

Clean-Up Crew Responsibilities

The clean-up crew will perform the following clean-up procedures:

- Place traffic cones, reflectors, and/or flares, as appropriate, to divert traffic around the spill site.
- Spread sand around biosolids to absorb moisture and prevent movement into storm drains or other waterways. Place sandbags at storm drains and other waterway inlets. Clean un-weathered wheat or other small grain straw can also be used as an absorbent and temporary drain block
- Move biosolids into a pile using shovels and brooms.
- Using the rubber-tired loader or equivalent, reload piled biosolids into the truck, if it isn't disabled, or into a replacement truck for hauling to the appropriate destination. For small spills, use of the loader may not be necessary. Biosolids can be shoveled into a truck for transport to the reuse site
- Final clean-up is by means of shovels and brooms for small spills and a street sweeper for larger spills.
- Pick up all accumulations of biosolids. Police the area and pick up all biosolids. Do not hose down or wash significant amounts of biosolids into any storm drain, drainage ditch, stream, or other waterway. Do not wash off tools or trucks at the spill location. Follow instructions from the local health official(s) on site at the spill location.

Spill Response Coordinator

The Spill Response Coordinator could be a person from the destination facility or other qualified representative of the Contractor. He/she will notify the state police or local jurisdiction officials, TxDOT, or any other agencies as appropriate, as well as the customer. This person will also notify the Contract Manager who will, in turn will notify the County Health Department, EPA or other regulatory agencies. The Spill Response Coordinator assumes complete responsibility for directing all activities associated with the clean-up of a spill.

He/She will:

- Designate and dispatch a clean-up crew and any necessary equipment to the spill site to clean-up the spill and notify the appropriate agencies.
- Photograph the spill and final clean-up.
- Inform the producing facility's contract person of the spill and the Regional Environmental Health and Safety Director.
- Load spilled biosolids back into the haul vehicle, if operable. If the vehicle is unable to complete the trip to the delivery destination, load the spilled material into an alternate vehicle.
- Dispatch another truck and/or trailer to the spill location if the hauling truck and/or trailer is/are disabled.
- Dispatch some or all the following to the spill location:
 - Minimum of two (2) person clean-up crew (more personnel as needed; dependent on size of spill).
 - An appropriate rubber-tired loader or equivalent to pick up spilled material (may not be required for a small spill). Coordinator will have discretion to select the most efficient loading option based on equipment availability and spill size.
 - Sand and sandbags and/or fresh small-grain straw (e.g., wheat straw), or alternative absorbents and drain blocking material.
 - Street sweeper.
 - Additional shovels, brooms, traffic cones and/or flares.
- Oversee and coordinate retrieval of any damaged or disabled transportation equipment involved

in the spill.

- Contact the AW Site Contact during the clean-up if any unusual situations arise, or if they require special assistance.
- Provide liaison and coordinate with agencies that may respond to the spill whether expressly notified by the Contractor or not. Such agencies may include:
 - highway patrol or state police,
 - local (municipal or county) law enforcement,
 - local fire department(s),
 - Texas Department of Transportation,
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and
 - others as deemed required.
- After clean-up, transport spilled biosolids to the designated use or processing site, whether the original vehicle or a substitute truck/ trailer is used.
- Transport all equipment used for spill response to the wastewater plant or to the destination site, whichever is nearer, for cleaning after completing clean-up and removal of the spilled biosolids.
- Truck beds and other equipment should be hosed down at the field or the processing site.
- The goal will be to restore the spill area to its original condition, if possible.

Follow up Notification and Reporting

Additional responsibilities of the Spill Response Coordinator require that he/she:

- Notify the AW Site Contact and Contract Manager immediately following completion of the spill clean-up.
- Inspect the site after clean-up and attest to the adequacy of the clean-up. Take necessary photographs documenting clean-up.
- Maintain a log of pertinent information about the biosolids spill.
- Complete a descriptive incident report and forward copies to the Contract Manager and the AW Site Contact within 24 hours of any spill.
- The Contractor will:
 - complete and transmit the required information to the appropriate regulatory agencies, within five (5) days of spills involving entry of biosolids into storm drains (unless other requirements supersede this time-frame) and include the following additional information:
 - waterways or ground water affected, and
 - written confirmation of the previous telephone notifications.
- The City will review and improve this plan annually or as needed.