

Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS) Environmental Non-Conformance + Corrective Measures

1. Objectives

- Determine effective systems to deal with non-conforming activities; and
- Integrate with The University of Queensland's Property and Facilities Division ISO-9001 quality systems as far as non-conformance and corrective measures are concerned.

2. Identification of non-conformance

Non-conforming activities will be identified through:

- Environmental Audits ([see Section 12C - St Lucia EMS Manual](#)); and
- Environmental Communication Program {[see Section 12C of MBRS EMS Manual](#)}.

3. Corrective Measures

3.1 **MBRS and University Schools and Centres**

The MBRS Manager will liaise with University staff, contractors and independent operations, and visitors, in order to ascertain the degree and extent of non-compliance with the EMS; The MBRS Manager or their environmental delegates are responsible to implement changes necessary to correct non-conforming activities.

3.2 **Environmental Services, Property and Facilities Division**

The Environmental Services Section of Property and Facilities Division is responsible for managing the University's environmental non-conformances.

Upon your notification, the Environmental Engineer will:

- Verify the extent and degree of the environmental occurrence;
- Advise you of the findings; and
- If the occurrence breaches the *Environmental Protection Act (1994)*, the Environmental Engineer will report the occurrence to the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency.

Failure to notify the administering authorities may attract penalties of up to \$7500 under the *Environmental Protection Act (1994)*.

3.3 **Notification**

The Environmental Engineer (on behalf of the University of Queensland) shall advise the EP Agency of the breach of any environmental legislative requirements.

3.4 Liaising

The Environmental Engineer will liaise with the EP Agency, the Environmental Management Committee and the manager of the non-conforming activity with respect to legislation requirements, licence conditions, environmental regulations and other important matters pertinent to the activity.

3.5 Corrective Actions

- If the breach causes environmental harm, the activity must be managed in such a manner as to meet the general environmental duty. Changed procedures must be documented and where necessary approved by the EP Agency (eg Environmental Management Program);
- The Environmental Engineer will investigate the extent and degree of any environmental harm.

4. Follow Up

A follow up audit may be necessary in order to ensure that all measures to minimise environmental impacts have been implemented. Should a follow up audit take place, the Environmental Engineer will advise the interested parties about the conformity status of the activity.