



ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES

TOPIC – BUNDING OF WORK & STORAGE AREAS

Summary Information:

Laws prohibit businesses and individuals from polluting stormwater, or allowing pollution to occur. Oil, chemicals or contaminated water escaping from a factory or work area into the stormwater system can result in massive clean up costs and fines.

A **bund** is a device intended to prevent the uncontrolled escape of liquid into storm water, sewerage or to land contamination.

A bund can be designed in a number of ways including:

- A storage area located within a building to prevent any spillage from reaching stormwater or sewer
- A building sealed to prevent escape of spills
- A small area within a building designed to contain spills within a raised hump
- A container that liquid containers are placed into.

A bund will prevent uncontrolled pollution around a work or storage area that prevents oil, water and other fluids from escaping to stormwater drains.

An entire workshop or storage area may be banded to prevent illegal discharge into storm water or sewerage.

A bund should prevent the contents of your largest container plus 10%, from reaching a stormwater or sewerage entry point.

Liquid wastes collected by a bund may only be discharged to the sewer if you have a Trade Waste Agreement that allows this.

If you do not have a Trade Waste Agreement, these wastes must be collected by a contractor with an EPA permit.

Good Practice Risk Control:

- Review all operations and storage facilities to identify ways to prevent all types of spills from running into stormwater.
- Reduce the amounts of liquid you keep on hand.
- Bund your entire workshop to prevent any spill from entering stormwater, sewerage or drains.
- Ask your local water authority for an approved bund design.
- Have a contractor construct your bunds and drains according to this approved design.
- Bund all chemical and liquid storage areas.
- Drain banded areas to the sewer via a coalescing plate separator, silt trap and a triple interceptor trap, or a petrol and oil interceptor, plate separator or a similar approved device.
- Obtain a permit that allows you to drain banded areas to the sewer.
- Prevent rainwater from being contaminated by preventing all spills of liquid or solid materials in unroofed areas.
- Prevent rainwater from entering the sewer by roofing banded areas.
- Prove the effectiveness of your bund by releasing water of the same volume as your largest container and recording where the water goes.