



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**
Resources Safety

Approval of responders to dangerous goods emergencies – guide

May 2010

Level 1, 303 Sevenoaks Street (cnr Grose Ave), Cannington WA 6107
Postal address: Mineral House, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004
Telephone: (08) 9358 8002 Facsimile: (08) 9358 8000
ResourcesSafety@dmp.wa.gov.au
www.dmp.wa.gov.au www.wa.gov.au

Contents

- Overview..... 2**
- Approval process 2**
- Essential requirements for approved emergency responders 2**
 - Personnel resources..... 2
 - Equipment..... 3
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE) 3
 - Documented standard operating procedure..... 3
 - Records 3
- Appendix 1 – Approval of emergency responders 5**
- Appendix 2 – Sample application form 6**

Overview

Regulation 185 of the Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007 makes it an offence for a person who is a prime contractor or rail operator to transport a placard load of dangerous goods without being an approved responder or having a contract with a person who is an approved responder. The role of an emergency responder is to control the clean up response that may result from an incident involving a road or rail vehicle transporting the goods.

Note: This regulation does not apply to Classes 1 (explosives) and 7 (radioactive material) or Division 6.2 (infectious substances).

Regulation 184 gives the Chief Officer the authority to approve emergency responders.

This document outlines how a company can become an approved “emergency responder” in Western Australia.

The accompanying flowchart (Appendix 1) shows the approval process.

Each class or division of dangerous goods should be addressed separately in any submission.

Prospective emergency responders must be able to respond to emergencies at any location within the State where the client company transports dangerous goods.

Approval process

To gain approval, it is necessary to submit a completed application form (Appendix 2) and demonstrate compliance with the essential requirements as detailed in Section 2.

Once Resources Safety has confirmed that its requirements have been met, the company’s name will be included in the list of approved emergency responders on the Resources Safety website.

Resources Safety will randomly audit companies to ensure minimum standards are being maintained and also provide feedback on the effectiveness of response operations.

The approval will be valid for a period of three years. Prior to expiry, companies will have to re-apply for continued approval.

Essential requirements for approved emergency responders

Prospective emergency responders need to demonstrate that they have the capacity to respond in a timely manner to any transport dangerous goods emergency that they wish to be approved for. The basic requirements are described below.

Personnel resources

Personnel with appropriate knowledge and experience should be available to respond in a timely manner to a dangerous situation or an incident involving the dangerous goods category for which approval is being sought.

Approval may be granted for the following categories:

- all dangerous goods Classes and Divisions (except for Class 1, Division 6.2 and Class 7);
- specific class/es or division/s of dangerous goods; and
- specific dangerous goods such as chlorine, LP gas or LNG.

Equipment

Following is a list of equipment that may be required for clean-up after an incident or product release. The submission should list the appropriate equipment proposed for each category of dangerous goods clean up for which approval is being sought.

- Containment equipment for leaking containers (e.g. plugs, patches, repair kits for pressurized or non-pressurized containers as appropriate, over-drums).
- Mobile equipment for clean-up (e.g. cranes, licensed dangerous goods vehicles, bobcats, forklifts).
- Confinement equipment for restraining spillages (e.g. booms, dams, underflow weirs, absorbents).
- Recovery equipment (e.g. pumps and pipe-work and collection heads for hydrocarbons; skimmer heads if necessary).
- Transport vehicles and containers to remove recovered dangerous goods or contaminated soil, and to remove vehicles and debris.
- Flameproof cutting and drilling equipment for accessing tanks of flammable materials.
- Gas recondensing kits (these are available for chlorine and other Division 2.3 gases).
- Other clean-up equipment such as shovels (spark proof if appropriate), mops and buckets.
- Neutralising agents and absorbing agents.
- Test equipment (e.g. pH meter, % LEL meter, other gas monitors).
- Decontamination shower or eyewash.

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Sufficient appropriate PPE must be available.

Documented standard operating procedure

The standard operating procedure should document the company's response capability and demonstrate how the company intends to respond to the containment and clean up of dangerous goods spills. It must address the following:

- business description and response capability;
- response time;
- 24-hour contact telephone number;
- geographical limits for response capability; and
- how the company would perform clean-ups and disposal relevant to the class, division or category of dangerous goods.

Records

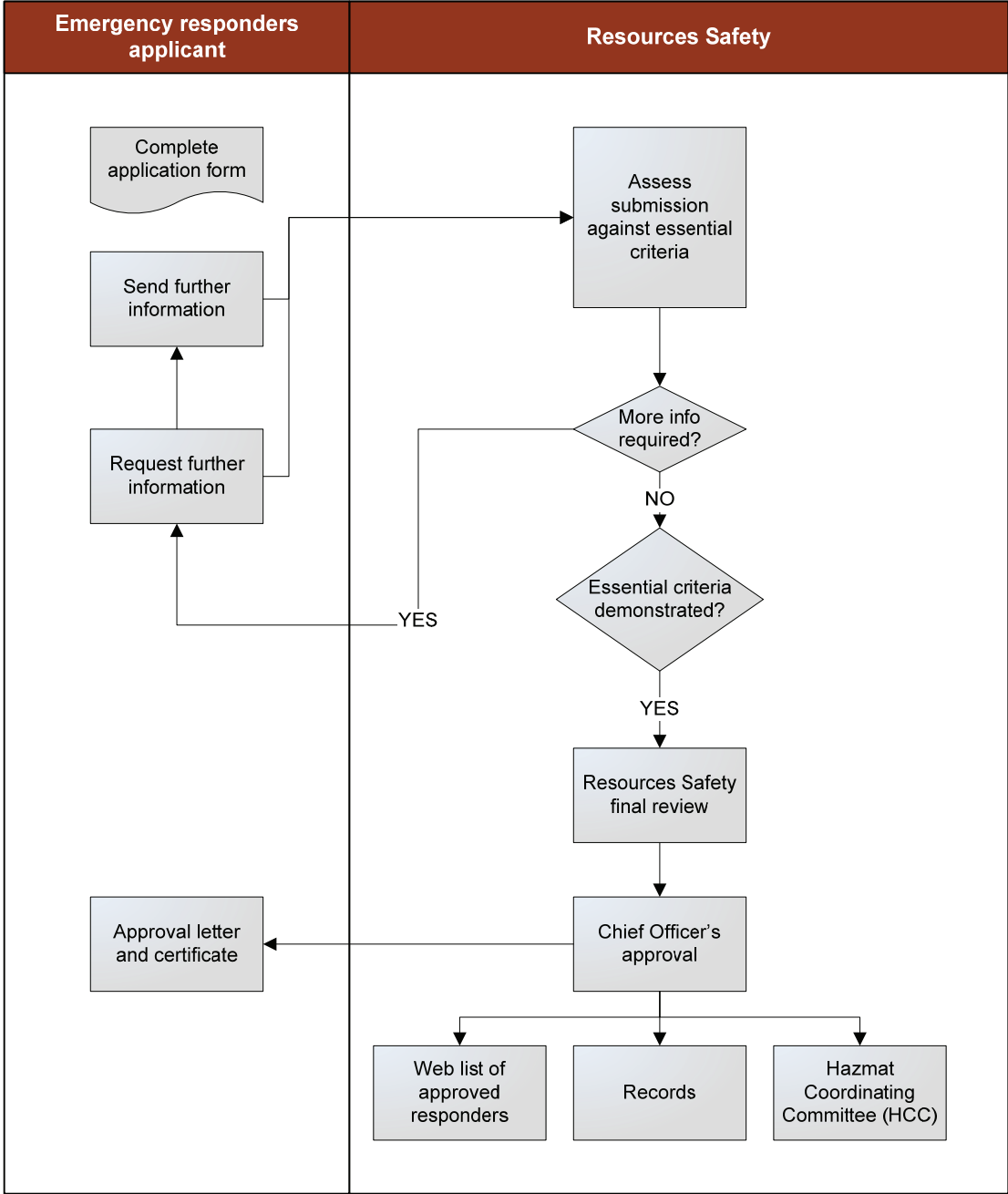
Companies must have a system in place for keeping records of all emergency responses carried out and a brief description of what was done, what equipment and PPE were used in the response operation, how the material was disposed of, and where improvements could be made.

Records must be kept of:

- standard operating procedures;
- training;
- equipment available;
- maintenance records for all equipment;

- response localities in Western Australia;
- emergency responses; and
- method of disposal of hazardous material from emergency responses.

Appendix 1 – Approval of emergency responders



Appendix 2 – Sample application form



Government of **Western Australia**
 Department of **Mines and Petroleum**
 Resources Safety

Level 1, 303 Sevenoaks Street (cnr Grose Ave) Cannington WA 6107
 Postal address: Mineral House, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004
 Telephone: (08) 9358 8002 Facsimile: (08) 9358 8000
 ResourcesSafety@dmp.wa.gov.au
 ABN 69 410 335 356

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL AS AN EMERGENCY RESPONDER TO DANGEROUS GOODS INCIDENTS

1. EMERGENCY RESPONDER COMPANY DETAILS

Operator's full name
Trading name
ABN / ACN
Postal address
Site address
Phone no. Fax no.
Email
Contact person's full name
Contact person's 24 hour contact details
Other contact details (if any)

2. APPROVAL IS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

CATEGORY	DETAILS
All classes and divisions except Class 1 and 7 and Division 6.2	
Specific class/es or division/s	
Specific dangerous goods	

3. ATTACH THE FOLLOWING*

- i. Details of relevant personnel's knowledge and experience of dangerous goods response.
- ii. Details of company's emergency response equipment.
- iii. Copy of standard operating procedures.
- iv. Details of emergency response records maintained.

** Refer to the emergency responders approval guide for further information. Available from www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety in the dangerous goods publications section.*

 Signature

 Date