

# 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 St Lucia EMS); and
- MBRS Environmental Communication Program.

## 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 *Sustainability Office, Property and Facilities Division*

The Sustainability Office, 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 Sustainability Steering 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.