

Construction Of Cofferdams Risk Assessment

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
| Business Name: | ABN: | |
| Business Address: | | |
| Contact Person: | Phone: | Email: |

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

| | | |
|------------|--------|-------|
| Full Name: | | |
| Signature: | Title: | Date: |

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Client: | SCOPE OF WORKS |
| Project Name: | |
| Project Address: | |
| Project Manager: | |
| Contact Phone: | |
| Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager: | |

| RISK MATRIX | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| LIKELIHOOD | INSIGNIFICANT | MINOR | MODERATE | MAJOR | CATASTROPHIC | SCORE | ACTION | HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS | |
| ALMOST CERTAIN | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | | | Elimination Remove the hazard. | |
| LIKELY | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4A ACUTE | DO NOT PROCEED | Substitution Replace the hazard. | |
| POSSIBLE | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 3H HIGH | Review before work starts. | Isolation Isolate People from the hazard | |
| UNLIKELY | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 2M MODERATE | Ensure control measures in place. | Engineering Isolate the hazard | |
| RARE | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 1L LOW | Monitor and keep records. | Administrative Change | |
| | | | | | | | | PPE | |

Risk Rating & Required Action:

| | |
|----|---|
| 4A | Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required. |
| 3H | Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed. |
| 2M | Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions. |
| 1L | Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records. |

Consequence Scale:

| Consequence | People (injury/illness) | Project / Assets | Compliance / Reputation |
|---------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Catastrophic | Fatality or permanent total disability | project shutdown | Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution |
| Major | Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days) | critical delay | Improvement notice; major media coverage |
| Moderate | Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day | moderate delay | Minor breach; adverse client comment |
| Minor | First-aid only, no lost time | negligible delay | Isolated non-conformance |
| Insignificant | No injury | no schedule impact | Deviation caught and corrected on site |

Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:

Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:

1. **Eliminate**
2. Substitute
3. Isolate
4. Engineering
5. Administrative
6. PPE

Always document **why** a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.

aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.

| JOB STEP | POTENTIAL HAZARDS | IR | CONTROL MEASURES | RR |
|---------------------|--|--------------|---|---------------|
| SPECIFIC WORK STEPS | HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE | INITIAL RISK | SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS | RESIDUAL RISK |
| 1. Preparation | inadequate planning, incorrect site survey | 3H | <p>Conduct a thorough site survey with qualified professionals</p> <p>Ensure all team members are briefed on the project scope</p> <p>Establish clear communication channels among all parties involved</p> <p>Utilize digital mapping tools for accurate site analysis</p> <p>Develop a comprehensive project timeline and resource allocation plan</p> <p>Schedule regular team meetings to address planning issues</p> <p>Assign specific roles and responsibilities to team members</p> <p>Include risk management strategies in the project plan</p> <p>Regularly update the project plan as required</p> <p>Ensure all necessary permits and approvals are obtained</p> | 2M |
| 2. Site Setup | unsafe entry points, inadequate signage | 3M | <p>Erect fencing to secure the construction site</p> <p>Designate safe entry and exit points for workers and vehicles</p> <p>Install clear and visible signage around the site perimeter</p> <p>Conduct a site induction for all workers and contractors</p> <p>Monitor all entry points to prevent unauthorized access</p> <p>Designate specific areas for storage of materials and equipment</p> <p>Ensure all exits are kept clear at all times</p> <p>Provide adequate lighting around the site, especially at entry points</p> <p>Regularly inspect site fencing and signage</p> <p>Install surveillance systems to monitor site security</p> | 2M |
| 3. Excavation | falling debris, equipment malfunction | 4A | <p>Employ licensed and experienced operators for all machinery</p> <p>Use spotters to guide excavation machinery</p> <p>Implement a barrier system to segregate the excavation area</p> <p>Regularly maintain and inspect machinery and equipment</p> <p>Conduct toolbox talks focusing on equipment safety and procedures</p> <p>Establish clear communication signals between operators and workers</p> <p>Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to all workers</p> <p>Develop an emergency response plan specific to excavation activities</p> | 3H |

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| | | | Ensure all workers understand the safety protocols Limit the number of workers within the immediate excavation area | |
| 4. Foundation Laying | concrete spills, trip hazards | 3H | [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] | 2M |
| 5. Cofferddam Installation | structural collapse, water ingress | 4A | [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] | 3H |
| 6. Dewatering | pump failure, environmental contamination | 3H | [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] | 2M |

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| | | | | |
| 7. Structural Assembly | falling objects, material failure | 4A | | 3H |
| 8. Joining & Sealing | chemical exposure, skin injury | 3H | | 2M |
| 9. Inspection & Testing | missed defects, equipment damage | 3H | | 2M |

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| | | | | |
| 10. Backfilling | compaction equipment injury, cave-ins | 4A | | 3H |
| 11. Demobilisation | vehicle accidents, site contamination | 3H | | 2M |
| 12. Water Safety | drowning, contaminant exposure | 4A | | 3H |

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| | | | | |
| 13. Electrical Hazards | electric shock, equipment damage | 4A | | 3H |
| 14. Scaffold Utilisation | falls, structure collapse | 4A | | 3H |
| 15. Emergency Response | communication breakdown, delayed response | 3H | | 2M |

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| | | | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | |
| 16. Site Clean-Up | sharp objects, toxic waste | 3H | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | 2M |
| 17. Landscaping & Restoration | allergic reactions, uneven terrain | 3H | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | 2M |
| 18. Documentation & Handover | lost documentation, access issues | 3H | <div></div> | 2M |

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.