

## 13.6 REPORTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Environmental incidents are reported to PIRSA in accordance with the Petroleum legislation.

Serious incidents are reported promptly to PIRSA and followed up by written reports within a 3 month period. Reportable incidents are advised to PIRSA soon after the event and reported at the Quarterly Performance meetings listed in Appendix 1. These incidents are subsequently listed on the PIRSA Web-site.

In addition at the Quarterly performance meetings all environmental incidents are reported. Appendix 2 provides an analysis of those reports. The consequence of these incidents ranged from Noticeable (82%) to Important (18%). The increase in number of incidents reported for 2004, compared to 2003, is as a result of the increased awareness through EHSMS and improved understanding of the requirements for reporting.

A Noticeable incident is an incident with minimal impact to the environment, typically with an uncontained hydrocarbon volume less than 200 litres to land. There were no Serious environmental incidents recorded during the period. Causal factors included design, corrosion, mechanical failure, human factors and procedural issues.

### 13.6.1 Summary of Actions to Prevent Recurrence

A comparison with 2003 indicates an increase in reporting from 84 to 119. This is seen as a positive indicator and reflects an increased focus on reporting of minor events and those not involving hydrocarbon.

For 2004 there were 17 reported events involving releases to banded areas designed to contain releases compared to only 2 reported events of this type in 2003. This increase and the increased reports involving human factors are strong indicators of a cultural change in acceptance of reporting what could be considered minor events

Corrective action, developed from reviewing the causal factors, has been taken that have either already had an impact or should in the future in reducing environmental incidents. These include:

- Development of environmental stuffing boxes which have reduced oil spills and improved the effectiveness of operator monitoring. This resulted in a reduction from 8 events in 2003 to 3 in 2004 with none reported since July 2004. This effort was recognised with awarding of the Directors' Award for Best Environmental Project or Innovation.
- 3 events on 2 pipelines contributed to 75% of the hydrocarbon released as a result of events for 2004. The remaining volume was less than 2003. Actions taken as a result of these and related events, mostly related to corrosion of pipelines, include:
  - Replacement of the last section of the Tirrawarra pipeline near the Moomba plant
  - The decision not to return the Keleary pipeline to service
  - Replacement of the Sturt to Tantanna steel flowline with Glass Reinforced Epoxy (GRE)
  - Replacement of the Limestone Creek to Strzelecki pipeline with GRE
  - Tirrawarra wells in flood prone areas remaining shut in while project developed to replace gathering system.
  - Programs of intelligent pigging of lines that had not previously had these to determine status
  - Development of the pipeline relieving assessment process

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