

# Andrew Howard

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## ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RISK ADVISOR AND PROJECT COORDINATOR

Senior Environmental Compliance and Risk Advisor with extensive operational and project coordination experience in the oil industry and Government sector. Key Strengths include:

- High-level compliance and program management skills to ensure operators' legislative obligations are identified, monitored, progressed and achieved.
  - Extensive understanding and experience of legislation and policy.
  - Approval planning, planning scheme interpretation and lease obligation assessment.
  - High-level technical, research, analytical, auditing and investigative (root cause/offence) skills.
  - Extensive development of project and site management plans, procedures and work instructions.
  - Risk assessment, risk register population and calibration and determination of inter-site risk variance for strategic targeting of resources (using assessment criteria and models).
  - Strong operational experience in managing environmental aspects, incidents and complaint resolution.
  - Project coordination skills including – stakeholder consultation, reporting and meeting facilitation.
  - Educational and training material compilation. Grants application and assessment.
  - Emergency response planning.
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONTRACTOR

2017 - 2021

#### Sunshine Coast Council - 2021

##### Project Coordinator

Contracted to review and streamline Council's environmental, ecological and landscaping approval conditions.

#### Puma Energy - 2020

##### Project Coordinator (Based at Brisbane)

Contracted to assess lessor and lessee heritage environmental obligations on transferred petrol station leases and to undertake an environmental compliance gap analysis for Puma Bitumen.

#### Sunshine Coast Council - 2020

##### Project Coordinator (continuation of LiDAR investigation – see below)

#### Puma Energy - 2019

##### Project Coordinator (Based at Puma Bitumen, Bulwer, Brisbane)

Contracted to draft and edit maintenance and process safety procedures and plans for the plant maintenance team (using P&IDs) and to project manage and address outstanding environmental compliance gaps.

#### (Voluntary compliance assistance) - 2019

Voluntary assistance with Aged Care and Disability matters including extensive legislative research and the preparation of numerous submissions and appeals to secure individuals' accommodation rights.

#### Qld Dept. of State Development – Biofutures Team - 2018

##### Principal Project Officer (Based in Brisbane)

Contracted to assess grants application eligibility for the Resource Recovery Industry Development Program (\$100M). Tasked with risk register compilation, compliance management, process review, lessons learned and materials flow

calculations. Project coordination of Biofutures development strategies, ministerial correspondence compilation and resource recovery sector research.

## **Sunshine Coast Council - 2018**

**Project Coordinator** (Based in Maroochydhore)

- Contracted to investigate the granular extent of floodplain filling in Sunshine Coast catchments using LiDAR/GIS data and hydrological modelling and assessing the results against planning scheme compliance, building approvals and unlawful filling complaints. Tasks included development of a project management plan, risk register, compliance investigation model and final report, plus engagement with data analysts.
- Development of an educational program (web page, fact sheet and brochure) to minimise floodplain filling and alert local residents and professionals to the risks of building and living in regional floodplains. Research of local planning scheme, state planning policies and building requirements. Stakeholder engagement with planners, engineers, modellers, first responders, councillors, building/drainage certifiers and media staff.

## **Ocwen Energy Pty Ltd (BP and Lowes Petroleum JV) - 2017**

**Environmental Compliance Advisor** (Based in Brisbane)

Contracted to compliance manage all environmental matters relating to 65 fuel depots and service stations across Qld, NSW and Victoria. UPSS plans, approval management, compliance gap identification/ resolution, spill response planning and the design/implementation of environmental awareness training.

## **Career break (redundancy from BP)**

**2016**

## **BP AUSTRALIA PTY LTD**

**2008 – 2015**

**Senior Environmental Advisor and Project Manager** (Based in Brisbane)

Environmental lead on compliance and risk management aspects.

- Program managed organisational compliance with NSW vapour recovery and underground petroleum storage system (UPSS) legislative requirements resulting in the company being viewed as 'leader in field' by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Compiled environmental management plans, procedures, work instructions and training programs to fulfil compliance obligations and build compliance capability across the organisation.
- Devised and populated BP Bitumen and BP Retail national environmental risk registers with details of all control measures including facility manuals, work instructions, plans, procedures, engineering and administrative barriers so as to provide risk assurance and identification of control gaps for the businesses.
- Seconded to process safety risk advisor role calibrating HSSE risk registers with Terminals and Depots business units, participating in risk workshops, addressing and researching emerging risks and ensuring that site and national risk registers were contemporary for business decision making purposes.
- Managed environmental planning process for BP's Project Blackport to enable acquisition of approvals for building commencement.
- Undertook root cause investigations of environmental spill incidents to identify underlying causes. Then made recommendations to minimise the likelihood of recurrence of the incidents; thereby reducing environmental, safety and financial risks.
- Managed interface with state governments and water authorities (Tas, Vic, Qld) for BP Bitumen regulators covering approval applications and approval streamlining to enable annual savings on licence fees and monitoring costs, once compliance was achieved.
- Managed interface with state and local government regulators for BP Retail relating to forecourt pollution control, trade waste and sewage treatment, in addition to facilitating design and sustainability improvements resulting in savings of \$1M+.
- Engaged stakeholders at all levels on environmental risks and compliance obligations, including one-to-one training and group seminars, both resulting in improved business environmental risk understanding.

- Monitored changes in legislative compliance obligations, initiated appropriate management of change (MOC) processes, compiled compliance matrices, provided input to prospective legislative changes and mentored team colleagues in compliance/risk management principles; all in order to secure and maintain 'privilege to operate' rights.
- Engaged the Tasmanian EPA and multiple impacted communities regarding an odorous batch of bitumen imported to the BP Bitumen Hobart facility, then recommended the businesses' course of action to successfully address community concerns, all resulting in no penalties or major media coverage.
- Devised environmental risk assessment tools, models and prioritisation profiles for Bitumen and Retail businesses, highlighting inter-site risk variation (based on geographical/logistical criteria) and resulting in capital expenditure and resources targeted to highest risk sites.
- Formulated oil spill response plans for BP Retail (a 350 site network) and BP Bitumen (5 sites) to improve response times and thereby reduce clean-up and remediation costs. This work included the investigative pinpointing of 'fate of flow' locations for all 350 Retail sites using GIS stormwater drainage data, potentially saving BP \$10k to \$10M in clean-up costs per site.

## QLD DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE

2000 - 2008

### Senior Environmental Officer and A/District Manager

Based in Brisbane (2000) Maroochydore (2000-2008) and Rockhampton (2007)

- Assessed approval applications (150+) researching industry-specific impacts, relevant legislation, reports, guidelines and standards, consulted with stakeholders then formulated practicable approval conditions for effective industry environmental performance.
- Compliance managed a range of SE Queensland chemical manufacturers, timber treatment operations, sawmills, extractive/mining industries and sewage treatment plants, resulting in the raising of greater industry awareness towards best practice through dialogue and reasonable enforcement action.
- Facilitated partnership meetings, seminars, workshops, waste clean-up programs and industrial estate education programs (award recognised) to demonstrate the Department's commitment to community and industry environmental improvements.
- Negotiated with the SE Qld pesticide formulating sector to achieve \$4M dollar stormwater management improvements ensuring improved downstream water quality/aquatic health (Howard and Mortimer 2002).
- Investigated environmental offences for prosecutions of a major pesticide formulator, a small gold mining operation (2005, 2007) and a sand quarry operation (2010) involving co-compilation of evidence briefs, interviewing and Court experience, thereby improving Qld. environmental management deterrents.
- Led a district office team of 3 overseeing service delivery to clients in Rockhampton and surrounds with a major focus on re-establishing contact with major industry, resolving a backlog of complaints and re-asserting an ethos of achievement and forward momentum.
- Mediated the resolution of a variety of nuisance complaints (700+) (including outraged communities) significantly improving the amenity of impacted citizens.
- Developed policies for the operational aspects of chemical and sawmill industries and the management of stormwater by pesticide formulators, resulting in a clearer industry understanding of obligations.

## EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Graduate Cert. in Risk Management 2011** Griffith University, Queensland
- **Bachelor of Science** (Honours - First) James Cook University, Queensland
- **Bachelor of Science** (Geography/Geology) James Cook University, Queensland
- **Higher National Diploma** – Business Studies Brighton University, UK
- **Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety BSB41419 – May-Oct 2020**
- **Data Analytics (TAFE Qld) – Feb-May 2021**
  
- DES internal investigation methods training.
- BP Root Cause Investigation training.
- Member of Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre Core Group - 2011-2015.
- Skills in statistics and GIS.
- Hazard Identification and Training Risk Assessment - 2012.
- Dangerous Goods Transport Emergency Response Training (CROIERG) – 2012.
- Publications in Hydrology (1998, 2002, 2010).
- CPD Environmental Auditing.