

Sydney Trains Pesticide Use Notification Plan

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Introduction

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 2017* (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Sydney Trains will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to outdoor public places that it controls or maintains on behalf of another public authority.

This plan informs members of the community of Sydney Trains approach to providing notification about pesticide use so they may take action to avoid contact with pesticides, if they wish.

The majority of pesticide use consists of applying herbicides for the management of vegetation, insecticides and fungicides for infrastructure maintenance and insecticides and rodenticides to address public health issues. Sydney Trains ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community and the environment.

Further information on Sydney Trains pesticide usage can be obtained by contacting the Environment Specialist at SydneyTrainsEnviro@Transport.nsw.gov.au.

Public places covered by this plan

Sydney Trains proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in public outdoor places that it controls or maintains on behalf of another public authority. Sydney Trains controls or maintains the following public transport infrastructure:

- the rail network and stations shown on the Sydney Trains network map in Appendix 1;
- intercity railway lines to Hamilton in the north, Bombaderry in the south and Bowenfels to the west (Appendix 1);
- intercity stations shown in Appendix 1;
- regional stations listed in Appendix 2;
- and electrical and access easements associated with the above rail infrastructure.

Areas **not** covered by this plan because they are not considered public places and where **no** notification of pesticide use will be made include;

- Sydney Trains offices, depots, training colleges and other facilities and beautification leases to neighbours where the general public does not normally have access.
- The operational Sydney Trains rail corridors (which are excluded from public access and where it is illegal for the public to be).
- Non-operational lands leased to private persons or organisations for private or business purposes.

Notification Arrangements

This section of the plan describes how and when Sydney Trains will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for sensitive places that are adjacent to publicly

accessible land, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

These notification requirements are based on Sydney Trains assessment of:

- The level of usage of public places where pesticides are to be used.
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides.

This has been done by evaluating the accessibility of the site and the extent to which activities undertaken by the public has the potential to result in contact with the pesticides applied.

The results are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1. Sydney Trains estimate of the level of public use, regular users, pesticides used and potential for public exposure

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place,	Extent that public activities likely to involve direct contact	Potential of public exposure	Potential type of pesticide use
Railway stations and station precincts	The general public who are rail passengers including adults, children and the elderly.	High	Potentially High, as public may be waiting on the site for a period and may be sitting on and leaning against structures and the ground	High – Notification required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides
Public right of ways not associated with railway stations. Eg. Pedestrian underpasses	The general public.	Medium to High	Low, as public only passing through quickly	Low to medium– Notification <u>not</u> required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides
Unsecured sites not leased (non-operational)	Employees, contractors and trespassers	Low	Low to medium, as illegal trespasses unlikely to be there for extended periods	Low – Notification <u>not</u> required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides • Large vertebrate baiting

SYDNEY TRAINS PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

Environmental Management System

EMS-11-WI-0075

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place,	Extent that public activities likely to involve direct contact	Potential of public exposure	Potential type of pesticide use
Off-corridor lands, such as unfenced electrical easements and disused rail corridors	General members of the public potentially can access these areas.	Low to High	Low, as the public would normally be just moving through the areas and pesticide use is generally low	Low to medium – Notification <u>not</u> required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides • Large vertebrate baiting
Training colleges and offices	Employees, contractors, and potential contractors	Low	Low	Low – Notification <u>not</u> required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides
Beautification leases on operational corridor	Employee, contractors and lessee	Low	Low to Medium	Low – Notification <u>not</u> required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides or insecticides • Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Fungicides • Spray termiticides • Spray ant control • Bait termiticides, • Bait bird control • Rodenticides • Large vertebrate baiting

How and when notice of pesticide use will be provided

Sydney Trains uses small quantities of some pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening). Sydney Trains does not intend to provide notice for such pesticide application other than by way of this description in this plan. This will apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans.

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following public place categories controlled or maintained by Sydney Trains and identified in table 1, above as requiring notification.

Stations and station precincts

In these public places, signs[#] will be placed to notify the general community as they enter station precincts (from public areas) at least 48 hours prior to the application of pesticides (except for those sensitive places described in the next section) and remain for at least 48 hours afterwards for the following pesticide uses;

- Spot herbicides or insecticides
- Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides
- Broadscale insecticides
- Fungicides
- Spray termiticides
- Spray ant control
- Bait termiticides, (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)
- Spray ant control
- Bait bird control, (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)
- Rodenticides, (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)

If a pesticide must be used to deal with an emergency in these areas, Sydney Trains will organise signs to be erected prior to application and will leave them in place for at least 48 hours after application.

Special measures for sensitive places

Clause 18 of the *Pesticides Regulation* defines a sensitive place to be any:

- school or pre-school
- kindergarten

[#] Signs erected by Sydney Trains may be subject to removal or vandalism by other parties. While Sydney Trains will make every effort to replace signs removed or vandalised it cannot guarantee that this will occur in all situations

- childcare centre
- hospital
- community health centre
- nursing home; or
- place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority (Office of Environment and Heritage) by notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use by Sydney Trains in public places adjacent to the above listed sensitive places will consist of direct communication with the sensitive site occupier prior to the application for following pesticide uses:

- Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides
- Broadscale insecticides and Fungicides
- Spray termiticides
- Spray ant control

Note for a sensitive site to be considered to be adjacent that site must share a common boundary with the site where application is to occur and be within 100 metres of where pesticides are to be applied.

For non-emergency reactive pesticide use in outdoor places next to sensitive places, Sydney Trains will provide notice prior to application to the occupier by phone, door-knock, letter or letterbox drop, depending on what is the most practicable method.

If a pesticide must be used to deal with an emergency in an outdoor area that is adjacent to a sensitive place, Sydney Trains will organise a door-knock in that sensitive place, preferably at least 30 minutes before, so that people are aware that a pesticide is about to be used to deal with a dangerous pest infestation.

Although not required by the Regulation, the above notification arrangements will be expanded voluntarily to include pesticide application on other land controlled or maintained by Sydney Trains not considered public places adjacent to the above listed sensitive places in keeping with the spirit of the legislation.

Emergency Pesticide Application

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), Sydney Trains will, where possible, provide notice by posting signs near station and station precinct areas and sensitive places, as listed above, at the time of the application.

Pesticide contractors

Where Sydney Trains uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, Sydney Trains will require notification to be made in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan.

Adjoining public lands

In public areas where multiple agencies have responsibility for land management (pesticide application) on their land, and where there are no physically defined boundaries, the agency undertaking the pesticide application will follow their own Pesticide Notification Plan. This will include incidental applications in areas that are controlled by other agencies.

Pesticide application by another government agency

Where another government department or agency is contracted to undertake pesticide application by Sydney Trains, all notification will be in accordance with Sydney Trains' Pesticide Application Plan, unless special arrangements are made to undertake notification according to the contract agencies Pesticide Notification Plan.

Public places where no notice will be provided

Based on the assessment of potential for exposure to pesticide application to the public outlined in Table 1, in the following public areas, **no** notification of pesticide use will be made;

- Public right of ways not associated with railway station, such as pedestrian underpasses.
- Secured and unsecured non-operational lands not leased out.
- Off- corridor lands, such as unfenced electrical easements and disused rail corridors.

What information will be provided

In accordance with clause 20(1)(h) of the Pesticides Regulation, notice of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used,
- the purpose for which the pesticide is to be used,
- the dates on which, or the range of dates during which, the pesticide is to be used,
- the places where the pesticide is to be used,
- any warnings about limitations on the subsequent use of or entry onto the land if such warnings are specified on the approved label for the pesticide or in the permit for use of the pesticide,
- a contact telephone number or email address for the officer of the public authority whom the affected persons can contact to discuss the notice.

Signs will be of a standardised design that will be easily recognisable to the public and workers.

How the community will be informed of this plan

Sydney Trains will advise the public of this revised plan and its contents by placing a copy of the plan on the Sydney Trains corporate website.

<http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/sydneytrains/>

Future reviews of the plan

The notification plan will be reviewed every five (5) years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- a review of the plans application,
- review of the notification methods outlined in the plan,
- recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the plan.

Contact details

Any queries regarding this plan may be directed to:

Environment Director
SER Directorate
Sydney Trains
PO Box 533
Burwood NSW 1805

SydneyTrainsEnviro@Transport.nsw.gov.au

Document Control

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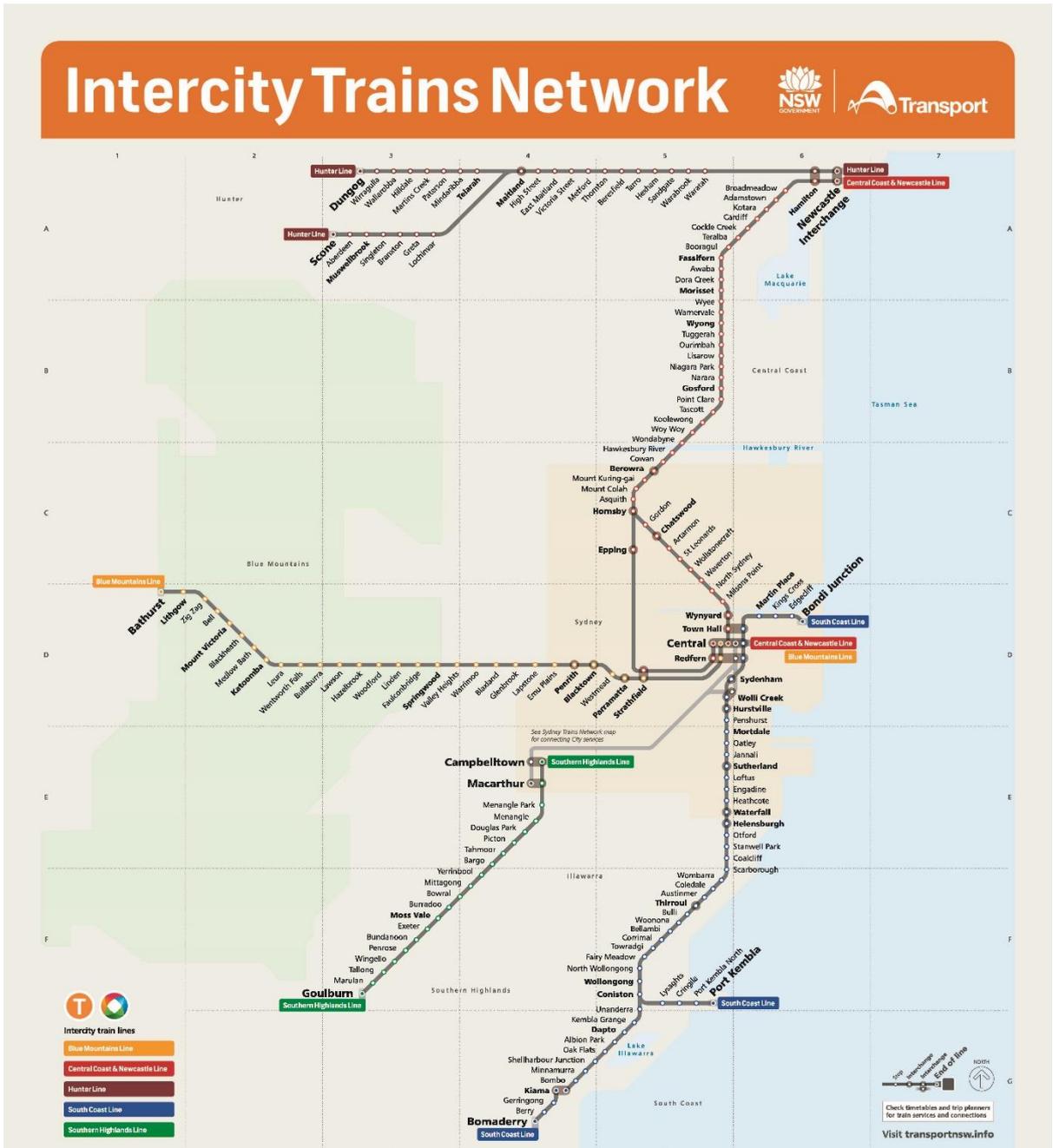
Version	Effective Date	Author	Change notes
3.0	July 2013	P Semple	First document issue for Sydney Trains
3.1	December 2015	L Durrington	Changes to; public places covered by the plan, information to be provided in notifications and contact details.
4.0	March 2019	L Durrington	Reformatted in line with EMS Simplification initiative Contact details and network maps updated.
5.0	January 2021	L Durrington	Scheduled review.

Appendix 1: Sydney rail network and intercity trains network



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Note: The Metro North West Line is not covered by Sydney Trains Pesticide Use Notification Plan.



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Appendix 2: List of NSW regional railway stations

North Region	North Region	South	West Region
Byron Bay	Eungai	Tarago	Tarana
Casino	Gloucester	Bungendore	Rydal
Coffs Harbour	Kendall	Queanbeyan	Stewart Town
Grafton	Kyogle	Gunning	Geurie
Kempsey	Mullumbimby	Harden	Condoblin
Lismore	Sawtell	The Rock	Euabalong West
Macksville	Urunga	Henty	Ivanhoe
Murwillumbah	Wingham	Culcairn	Darnick
Nambucca Heads	Boggabri	Coolamon	Menindee
Taree	Kootingal	Narranderra	Blayney
Wauchope	Moree	Leeton	Orange
Armidale	Murrurundi	Yanco	Wellington
Gunnedah	Quirindi	Yass Junction	Dubbo
Narrabri	Bellata	Cootamundra	Parkes
Tamworth	Walcha Road	Junee	Broken Hill
	Uralla	Griffith	
	Willow Tree	Wagga Wagga	

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