

Polyethylene Spill Response Checklist

(Plastic Pellets, Resin, Nurdles, Granules, Powder)

STEP 1: INITIAL RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION

- Call 9-1-1, Police, Fire, EMS, etc.
- Notify environmental and regulatory authorities
- Call NOVA Chemicals' Transportation Emergency Line:

1-800-561-6682

STEP 2: SITE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

Secure the scene and establish hazard control zones

- Initial Isolation Zone:** Barricade the spill area and keep people from stepping in and driving on spilled pellets; do not push pellets deeper into the soil or spread contamination
- Traffic Management Plan:** Develop and implement a plan in consultation with regulatory agencies, responders, and/or approved contractors

STEP 3: ASSESSMENT

Control hazards and determine the type and extent of contamination

- Hazard Recognition:** Analyze and control hazards (e.g., Site Safety Plan, Traffic Control)
- Seek consultation from Environmental specialists or consultants – dial **1-800-561-6682** for suggestions
- Be on lookout for other contaminants (e.g., dangerous goods, vehicle fuel, engine oils, etc.)
- Cleanup may be lower priority than traffic movement (rail, road)

STEP 4: COMMUNICATION

Notify and keep regular communication with stakeholders

- Landowner
- Regulatory authorities (e.g., Transport, Environment, Coast Guard, responders, etc.)
- Downstream water intake organizations (e.g., drinking water, industry, etc.)
- One-Call – Call or www.ClickBeforeYouDig.com

STEP 5: CONTAINMENT AND CONFINEMENT

Stop or mitigate the spill, and prevent pellet migration

- Plug holes in packaging/container(s)
- Close open valves, doors, openings, etc.
- Cover/roll containers so that openings are oriented upwards
- Cover/protect storm drains to prevent pellets from entering them

STEP 6: CLEANUP

 **Recycle** uncontaminated plastic pellets at an approved recycling facility

Ground – Hierarchy of cleanup methods

- 1. Vacuum equipment (e.g., vac truck, portable vacuum, grain auger, approved contractor); identify and control hazards, including static electricity
- 2. Shovel, sweep with brooms into appropriate containers (do not sweep pellets into water course)
- 3. Wash into appropriate containment system
- 4. (Last resort) Blow away from sensitive areas and into containment system

Water

- Deploy booms to catch floating surface pellets downstream (pellets float and travel with currents)
- Check for pellet accumulation downstream along water banks and coastlines
- Determine appropriate coastline ground cleanup strategies

STEP 7: REMEDIATION

Remove contaminated soil

- ClickBeforeYouDig.com – Ensure survey has been completed and underground lines identified
- Collect and analyze samples of native background soil to identify existing composition and contaminated soil for comparing
- Shoveling into containers
- Scraping with heavy equipment (front-end loader, excavator, etc.)
- Approved transportation company to transport truck loads (e.g., dump truck) or containers of contaminated soil to be disposed at an approved industrial waste facility

STEP 8: RESTORATION

Return the environment to its pre-incident state

- Consult with landowner and local environmental authorities
- Analyze new replacement soil prior to delivery to ensure it is compatible with the existing native soil types (verify/consult with landowner)
- Place clean soil where contaminated soil was removed
- Install approved native plant habitat/seed where plants were removed, contaminated or damaged

