Confined or Restricted Space Classification Assessment Form

This form shall only be completed by South East Water employees who have current full CSE training.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Details of Space Assessed | | |
| Site name/ number: |  | |
| Address: |  | |
| Space details: |  | |
| Depth of pit/ space: |  | |
| Assessment conducted by (print name/s): |  |  |
| Signature/s: |  |  |
| Date of assessment: |  | |
| Assessment finding: | Confined Space  Restricted Space  Space does not require classification | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Criteria | Y or N | Comments |
| a) | Is the space enclosed or partially enclosed? |  |  |
| b) | Is the space intended or likely to be entered by a person and is it at normal atmospheric pressure? |  |  |
| c) | Does the space have a limited or restricted entry or exit? |  |  |
| d) | Does the space contain, is it likely to contain or is it intended to contain one or more of the following: | | |
|  | (i) an atmosphere that has a harmful level of contaminant; or |  |  |
|  | (ii) an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level; or |  |  |
|  | (iii) any stored substance (other than liquids) that could cause engulfment? |  |  |

**Flowchart:**

No

Is the space enclosed or partially enclosed?

Y

E

S

**Not a Confined Space or Restricted Space**

No

Is the space intended or likely to be entered by a person and is it at normal atmospheric pressure?

Y

E

S

No

Does the space have a limited or restricted entry or exit?

Y

E

S

Does the space contain, is it likely to contain or is it intended to contain one or more of the following:

(i) an atmosphere that has a harmful level of contaminant; or

(ii) an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level; or

(iii) any stored substance (other than liquids) that could cause engulfment?

**Restricted Space**

No

Y

E

S

**Confined Space**

**Considerations:**

1. **Is the space enclosed or partially enclosed?**

The size of the space is not a factor when classifying a confined space.

1. **Is the space intended or likely to be entered by a person and is it at normal atmospheric pressure?**

Entry to a confined space occurs when a part of the body enters the space and there is a risk the person may be overcome or incapacitated by the conditions within the space.

1. **Does the space have a limited or restricted entry or exit?**

The entry or exit to the space may be restricted by the size of the opening or its location. Consideration needs to be given to whether the space is physically difficult to get in or out of and whether it would be difficult to remove an injured or unconscious person from the space.

1. **Does the space contain, is it likely to contain or is it intended to contain one or more of the following:**

* an atmosphere that has a harmful level of contaminant (e.g. a level in excess of the relevant exposure standard or, if the contaminant does not have an exposure standard, the level where the contaminant is likely to have an adverse health effect)
* an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level (a safe oxygen level is defined in regulation 5 of the OHS Regulations as an oxygen content in air of between 19.5% and 23.5% under normal atmospheric pressure)
* any stored substances (other than liquids) that could cause engulfment (e.g. solids, such as fly ash, grain, animal feed, sawdust and sand, that can flow and can form a temporary cavity or bridge, which may collapse and surround a person, cutting off their air supply)?

If the answer to **all four** questions above (a, b, c and at least one part of d) is **yes**, then the space is a **confined space**.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Space classification assessments can only be conducted by suitably trained South East Water employees.

A copy of the classification assessment for the space should be stored at or near the entrance to the space where practical, and the assessment details entered into the South East Water ‘Watershed’ database.

1. The flow chart and text above have been extracted from flow chart 1 and table 1 of the WorkSafe Victoria Compliance Code Confined Spaces. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)