



Presiding Member's Message

Our strategic plan sets the direction for the organisation and is the framework for our programs and activities over the next three years. Through our strategic priorities we support the objectives and targets of South Australia's Strategic Plan: growing prosperity, improving wellbeing, attaining sustainability, fostering creativity and innovation, building communities and expanding opportunity.

Balancing the requirements of an expanding population and economic growth with the protection and enhancement of our physical environmental assets is a significant challenge. However, such times provide the impetus to focus on the highest priorities and to find innovative ways to approach and solve emerging problems.

*Cheryl Bart, AO,
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Environment Protection Authority Strategic Plan 2009-2012

working together for a sustainable future



Strategic Plan 2009-2012



Our Vision

A clean, healthy and valued environment that supports social and economic wellbeing for all South Australians now and in the future

Our Environmental Goals

- **Clean and healthy air**
- **Land and water that is fit for purpose**
- **Communities protected from unacceptable noise**
- **Sustainable use of resources**
- **Communities protected from unacceptable radiation**

The achievement of our five environmental goals has a long time horizon and will require sustained effort and significant behaviour change. However, environmental problems are pressing and we need to take action now. Influencing decision makers, building relationships, working in partnership with our licensees and cooperation with stakeholders are all avenues for advancing our goals.

Our Role

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) influences and regulates human activities to protect and restore our environment. We are responsible for the protection of air and water quality, and the control of pollution, waste, noise and radiation. We work with the community, industry and governments to achieve a healthier environment and a prosperous and sustainable future.

The EPA is responsible for administration of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* and the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982* and also exercises responsibilities under other South Australian planning and environmental legislation.



Our Strategic Priorities

1. Business success and sustainability

We will support business to reduce environmental impacts and use resources better, through the promotion of good environmental practice.

2. More effective relationships

We will achieve better results for the environment of South Australia by building more effective relationships with industry, licensees and local government.

3. Improved regulation

Working with our stakeholders, we will continue our efforts to reduce red tape for business. Together, we will develop innovative and cost-effective solutions to protect, restore and enhance the quality of our environment.



4. A reputation for excellence

We understand that improving access to our services and clarifying their scope saves time and reduces frustration for our stakeholders. We strive to build a pro-active and service-oriented culture, and to be at the forefront of leading regulatory practices.

5. Supporting our people

By supporting our people and continuing to improve our processes and efficiency in times of financial constraint, we will develop the organisation to better meet growing demands.



Our Functions

Regulation

Licensing and registration – we license businesses and people who conduct activities which lead to significant pollution or risk of pollution; and register radiation apparatus, sources and premises where radioactive substances are used.

Compliance and enforcement – we ensure that companies and individuals comply with licence conditions, the Environment Protection Act and Radiation Protection and Control Act.

Pollution reporting and information desk – this is a direct point of contact for the public to report pollution incidents and obtain helpful information.

Sustainability

Environmental monitoring and science – we monitor the condition of air and water quality and conduct specific monitoring of noise, radiation and waste management to identify trends and emerging issues.



Industry and community sustainability programs – we work with industry, business and the community to assist them to reduce their impact on the environment.

Development assessment – we assess and provide advice on the environmental impact of major projects and other developments.

Emergency response – our Emergency Response team attends incidents that threaten to harm the environment, such as chemical spills, sewer overflows and illegal dumping.

Policy

Policy advice – we advise the Minister on a diverse range of environmental matters and contribute to the development of national environment and radiation protection policy and programs.