

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



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Air Quality Policy public consultations

The EPA will host a public consultation forum in Mount Gambier tomorrow to seek community feedback on the draft Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016.

This is part of a series of consultation forums that are being held this month in various parts of the state.

EPA Director Strategy and Business Roslyn Agate, said the draft policy aims to provide a more effective means of managing South Australia's air quality.

"The Air Quality Environment Protection Policy has been developed to protect and improve the health of South Australian communities and our environment by improving the regulation and management of air quality," Ms Agate said.

"This will mean South Australia will have a single policy that will consolidate three policies and two guidelines and enable the EPA to manage specific areas of concern and set quality objectives for an area."

A number of factors determine the risk to communities from exposure to air pollution, including the amount of pollutants emitted, the emission sources, weather and topography.

Natural events are also an influence such as the size of a geographical area where local topography and meteorology can limit the dispersion of pollutants away from the area.

"The EPA will be able to apply localised air quality objectives for a specific area and anyone carrying an activity in such an area will have to ensure that any pollutants named in the declaration will not exceed the ambient concentrations declared for that pollutant," Ms Agate said.

The new policy will also provide local government with more powers to manage burning in the open, outside the metropolitan area.

The next EPA public consultation forum will take place tomorrow (*Thursday, 19 November*) between 1-3pm in the Multifunction Room of the Mount Gambier Library on Ferrers Street.

A hard copy of the Air Quality Policy can be requested by telephoning (08) 8204 9387 or email: epainfo@sa.gov.au (mark the subject line "Air Quality Policy").

Comments can also be forwarded by mail before 5 pm, on Friday 15 January, 2016 to:

Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2015
Environment Protection Authority
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More information on the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016, is available on the EPA website or through this [link](#).

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