

EPA Board Communique

17 July 2007



The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Board Communique has been developed to provide information on matters discussed by the Board at its monthly meetings.

Site Contamination presentation

Prior to the July Board meeting the Board received a briefing on site contamination.

This included presentations from EPA staff on the proposed site contamination legislation, staff of the Land Management Corporation, a National Environment Protection Council staff member and a site contamination auditor. They also received an overview of the work of the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Contamination Assessment and Remediation of the Environment (CARE) located at the University of South Australia.

EPA Strategic Plan

The Board endorsed the EPA Strategic Plan which indicates the key goals and priorities of the agency over the next three years. This plan sets the overall context for the agency's corporate operational plan, its divisional plans and the agency's performance reporting processes.

The EPA Strategic plan will be available by mid September 2007 on the EPA's website at <http://www.epa.sa.gov.au/>

Local Government Subcommittee

The Board reviewed and noted an update report on the work of its Local Government Subcommittee as part of the normal reporting process required of Board subcommittees.

The Local Government Subcommittee was established by the EPA Board in June 2005 as a forum for formal discussion and resolution of issues between the EPA and local government, and as a mechanism for involving local government in the EPA policy development process.

The Subcommittee is comprised of representatives from both Local Government and the EPA and is chaired by EPA Board member Mr Stephen Hains. It provides advice to the EPA Board and the Local Government Association State Executive Committee.

2008 State of the Environment (SoE) Report

The Board endorsed the proposed SoE 2008 reporting structure.

SoE reports, which are published by the EPA every 5 years, provide scientifically valid assessments of the state or condition of the environment, the pressures that influence this condition and the effectiveness of responses to these pressures.

EPA Risk Management Policy

The Board endorsed the EPA Risk Management Policy. This policy provides the structure for a number of risk management initiatives across the agency to ensure that the EPA takes a systematic and comprehensive approach to managing risk.

The policy forms part of the EPA's risk management framework, which defines the system for reporting, documenting and managing risk and provides staff with the tools necessary to undertake effective risk management.