

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

Collaboration with Zero Waste SA (ZWSA)

ZWSA will project manage the State's draft Environment Protection (Waste to resources) Policy on behalf of the EPA Board. Final decisions on recommendations to the Minister on the Policy will remain with the EPA Board.

Round-table 2006

The annual EPA Round-table conference was held on 9 May, with approximately 40 participants from business, industry and community based organisations. The key topic for discussion was 'the EPA's role in contributing to the State's draft greenhouse strategy; Tackling climate change'.

EPA Chair and Chief Executive Dr Paul Vogel opened the proceedings with a review of the EPA's progress over the last twelve months on matters raised at the last Round-table and the EPA's change agenda. Speakers at the Round-table included Tim O'Loughlin (Executive Director of Sustainability and Climate Change, Department of Premier and Cabinet), and Chris Bell (Director of Water and National programs, EPA Victoria).

The conference also included a plenary session and small group discussions where participants contributed ideas and views on the EPA's possible approaches to and roles in climate change.

Matters raised by participants on the day included:

- The complexity of government and the need to coordinate policy development and provide a single contact point for business to access government services.
- A nationally consistent framework for emissions reporting which provides incentives to industry (i.e. giving a 'value' to emissions)
- EPA support for major industries that have the capacity to lead on emissions reduction as a means of encouraging the participation of small to medium enterprise
 - Communicating what has been learned, rewarding action and innovation, and facilitating networks to develop robust tools for industry
- Identifying EPA priorities -to target skills development and resourcing
- The importance of education and awareness raising particularly for EPA licensees

Culture Change and Performance Improvement Program (CCPIP)

The Board noted the progress of the CCPIP including the recruitment of managers, restructuring of financial accounts and IT, admin and accommodation changes as part of the organisational structure review. The Performance Management and Reporting Project has seen workshops held with senior EPA staff to develop key performance indicators and benchmark the EPA against the Australian Business Excellence Framework. The Board also noted that the EPA's cultural statement would be available on the EPA web site in the near future.

Regional Consultation

Board members will travel to Port Lincoln on 21 June to conduct the first regional consultation for 2006. Site visits to Coffin Bay landfill, Pt Lincoln Waste Depot, DK Quarries, Port Lincoln Tuna Processors and Pt Lincoln Wastewater Treatment Plant are planned for the morning. In the afternoon a public meeting will be held.

The public is invited to the session by phoning Ms Corinne Kelly, Secretary to the Board on (08) 8204 2008. The Round-table will be held from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm in the conference room, Hilton Motel, 13 King Street, Port Lincoln.