

EPA Board Communique

18 July 2006



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

New Notifications Process

From 1 July 2006, before granting new EPA licence applications relating to a piece of land, or relaxing existing licence conditions relating to a piece of land, the EPA must provide an opportunity for adjoining land owners/occupiers to comment on the proposed activity. This change to existing processes was approved in last year's amendments to the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. A new administrative process for dealing with this requirement was approved by the Board, which will keep delays with processing applications to a minimum, while continuing to ensure that neighbours are consulted in the process.

Environment Protection Act 1993 Review

The EPA continually reviews its legislation to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness. Recent State Government initiatives to examine the 'regulatory burden' on business and explore ways of reducing red tape have led to the Board considering proposals aimed at further improving the operation of the *Environment Protection Act*. A report with options will be presented to the Minister in 2007.

2006 EPA Annual Round Table Report

The Board approved the draft 2006 Annual Round Table Report. Comments from participants about greenhouse and climate change will be forwarded to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Sustainability and Climate Change Division.

A final report will be available on the EPA website at www.epa.sa.gov.au/pub.html

Report on Protecting Water Quality in the Mount Lofty Ranges

The Board endorsed the report "*Protecting drinking water quality into the future: priority areas and land use compatibility in the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Watershed*". This technical report is a joint production of the EPA, SA Water and the Catchment Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment, and provides a scientifically sound basis for future land use in this area. The report will be available on the EPA website at www.epa.sa.gov.au/pub.html