

EPA Board Communique

15 August 2006



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

Landfill Guidelines

Correspondence has been forwarded to waste management stakeholders advising of the formation of a Board sub-committee to consider submissions and conduct hearings regarding their concerns about the EPA's Landfill Guidelines. Stakeholders have been invited to forward submissions to the three-member Board sub-committee by Friday 29 September 2006. The sub-committee will review submissions and present their findings and recommendations to the EPA Board by 1 December 2006.

Wingfield Precinct

Waste management activities in the Wingfield area are an ongoing issue for the EPA. The Board noted a report on actions currently being undertaken with regard to regulation of licensees in the Wingfield precinct. The Board also acknowledged the importance of establishing a framework for managing issues strategically and noted that the development of a management strategy for the area is planned.

Civil Penalty Calculation Policy

The *Environment Protection (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2005* was proclaimed on 16 June 2005 providing for the introduction of civil penalties on 1 July 2006. The new civil penalty system - the first of its kind in Australia - will allow the EPA to negotiate a penalty directly with a person who has committed an offence under the Environment Protection Act, as an alternative to criminal prosecution. It will also allow the EPA to apply to the Environment Resources and Development Court for an order requiring a person to pay the EPA an amount as a civil penalty.

A civil penalty calculation policy has been under development for the last year, which will guide the EPA in determining negotiated penalties. The Board noted the completion of the public consultation phase and approved the revised calculations policy. To ensure consistent application of the policy, the Board also requested that a compliance management plan be developed.

The calculations policy and information about negotiated civil penalties will soon be available on the EPA Website at www.epa.sa.gov.au