

EPA Board Communique

19 October 2007



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

Waste to Resources Subcommittee Final Report

The Waste to Resources Subcommittee of the Board presented its final report. The Subcommittee was established by the EPA Board in May 2007 as a forum for formal discussion and resolution of issues in relation to the regulation of waste.

The Subcommittee's Report outlined a framework for regulating the waste industry based on an activity and risk based approach and developed an implementation plan to achieve this. The Board will receive regular updates on the progress of this implementation plan.

The Board thanked the Waste to Resources Subcommittee for its work.

The EPA's Carbon Emissions

The Board received a report outlining the EPA's carbon emission levels and the reductions in these achieved to date by the EPA, and noted that the most significant source of carbon emissions related to building operations.

The Board endorsed the report's proposed carbon emission reduction initiatives and noted that the EPA's move of premises in early 2009, most likely to a significantly more energy efficient building, would provide substantial additional benefits.

The Board will receive a more detailed strategy for the reduction of the EPA's carbon emissions in August 2008, when many of the timeframes presented in this report will reach completion. The Board also supported publicising the EPA's work in this area.

Development of an EPA Service Strategy

The Board noted the framework and timeframes for the development and implementation of the EPA's Service Strategy. This Strategy builds on a number of initiatives that the EPA has undertaken in recent years to improve its service to its stakeholders.

Two key drivers for the Service Strategy are:

- 1) the recent inclusion of customer service targets in the South Australia's Strategic Plan, which aims to '*Increase the satisfaction of South Australians with government services by 10% by 2010, maintaining or exceeding that level of satisfaction thereafter*' and
- 2) to address a related strategic objective in the EPA's 2007-2010, which is for the EPA to pursue '*furthering a service-oriented culture*'.

A cross-agency working group has been established to develop and implement the EPA Service Strategy. As a part of this it will be trialled within the EPA over next 6 months with feedback to be sought from selected stakeholder groups before it is released publicly.

Farewell to EPA Board Chair

The Board also held a farewell event for Dr Paul Vogel, Chief Executive of the EPA and Chair of the Board following his final Board meeting in October. Dr Vogel leaves the EPA on 2 November 2007 to take up the position of Chairman of the Western Australian EPA. The Board thanked Dr Vogel for his excellent work as inaugural CEO and Chairman of the EPA and his leadership of the organisation through a significant change program.