

## Interim environmental assessment guides for planners - consultation

On 2 November 2006, thirteen development application referral categories were removed from Schedule 21 of the *Development Regulations*. These were activities of 'environmental significance' that required referral to the Environment Protection Authority for advice prior to any final decision being made by the relevant planning authority.

As a substitute for the advice previously provided by the EPA on these types of individual development applications, the EPA has prepared a series of Interim environmental assessment guides for planners for the following activities:

- abrasive blasting
- aquaculture - marine
- composting
- cattle feedlots
- dog keeping
- materials handling
- road transport depots
- saleyards
- surface coating
- wood processing

These Guides contain details about basic information requirements, environmental assessment considerations and standard recommended conditions of development approval.

The *Interim environmental assessment guides for planners* have been prepared by specialist staff in the EPA in consultation with Planning SA but there has been little opportunity for consultation with local government at this stage. For this reason they have been released as 'Interim' with comments from councils, consultants and the community invited until 30 June 2007.

### Questions

1. Please provide comments on the ease of use of the Interim environmental assessment guides for planners, including feedback on their general format and content.
2. How useful are the 'recommended standard conditions' of development approval?
3. Is the 'checklist of environmental issues' a useful inclusion in each of the *Interim environmental assessment guides*? If not, what would be a preferable alternative?
4. Is the reference to the Planning SA 'Guides for applicants', for more detail on information requirements for some types of applications confusing?
5. Do the *Interim environmental assessment guides for planners* contain sufficient technical information, including references and further reading, for planners to use as an aid in the development assessment process?
6. Do you have any specific comments on any of the individual *Interim environmental assessment guides*? Please provide comments and identify the guide that they relate to.