



EPA Monitor

your update on EPA
news and information



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In this edition:

- [New Protocol for illegal waste dumping](#)
- [Red tape reductions](#)
- [New Standard for waste derived fill](#)
- [Consultation on Adelaide desal application](#)
- [New penalties for late payment of licensing fees](#)
- [EPA radiation expert advises Brazil](#)
- [News from the EPA Board](#)

New Protocol for illegal waste dumping

State Government agencies and local councils throughout South Australia have been working together to develop a new Protocol to better manage unauthorised waste activities in the State.

The new Protocol is an agreement between State Government agencies and local council that outlines which body is responsible for managing unauthorised waste activities in the State. The Protocol addresses unauthorised waste activities such as dumping of waste on private land and dumping in river, watercourses or floodplains.

The protocol aims to provide more clarity around which agencies manage complaints of illegal dumping and ensure unauthorised waste is dealt with in a consistent manner.

For more information, please contact the EPA on (08) 8204 2004.

Red tape reductions

The EPA's red tape reduction plan has to-date generated an estimated annual saving to business of approximately \$210,000.

Initiatives such as the redesign of the EPA website have allowed for quicker searches and have increased capacity for on-line business. The EPA website (www.epa.sa.gov.au) now has a new 'search for a document' function and shortcuts to commonly-visited or requested pages.

The EPA has also consolidated all regulations under the *Environment Protection Act (1993)* into one document which has seen significant savings for industry and Local Government. By consolidating these regulations, it has been estimated that industry can save approximately \$69,000 per year while Local Government can save approximately \$44,000 per year.

New Standard for waste derived fill

Following extensive consultation with the waste industry, the EPA has now finalised its *Standard for the production and use of waste derived fill*.

The new Standard has been developed to help the EPA assess proposals and determine compliance with the *Environment Protection Act (1993)* to ensure that the production and use of waste derived fill constitutes a genuine waste resource recovery and reuse activity, as distinct

from waste disposal.

The new Standard will provide clarity to industry and the broader community on the issues that need to be addressed to demonstrate the suitability of the proposal to use fill.

The Standard and a summary of the submissions received during the draft consultation phase can be found on the EPA website www.epa.sa.gov.au

Consultation on Adelaide desal application

The EPA invited public submissions on an application for an EPA licence from the operators of the Adelaide Desalination Plant. The licence application was lodged by Acciona Agua Adelaide Pty Ltd, McConnell Dowell Constructors Pty Ltd & Abigroup Contractors Pty Ltd (trading as AdelaideAqua).

A licence from the EPA is required to permit the plant to discharge brine to marine waters, which may include some neutralised water treatment chemicals, and also to permit the associated storage of water treatment chemicals at the site.

As part of its licensing processes, the EPA imposes operating conditions to ensure environmental impacts are monitored and minimised. Public submissions are considered in developing those conditions.

The EPA is now reviewing all submissions received.

New penalties for late payment of licensing fees

On 1 July 2010 the EPA will introduce a late payment fee for those licensees who fail to submit documentation or pay their fees on time. Under the *Environment Protection Regulations 2009*, new penalties apply to those who:

- fail to lodge an annual return 90 days prior to the anniversary date
- fail to pay an annual authorisation fee by the anniversary date
- fail to apply for renewal of authorisation 90 days prior to the expiry date
- fail to pay authorisation instalment by the due date.

The penalty for late payment will be \$300 or 5% of the annual authorisation fee (whichever is higher) for each month (or part of that month) for which the default continues.

The new penalties also apply to authorisation holders that pay the waste levy and fail to make a levy payment within 28 days of the end of the preceding month. For the late payment of waste levies the penalty will be \$300 or 5% of the amount due for each month (or part of a month) for which the default continues.

Should authorisation holders have difficulty in paying their fees on time, they should contact the EPA Manager, Licensing and Regulatory Services on (08) 8204 9119.

EPA radiation expert advises Brazil

The EPA's Director of Regulation and Compliance, Keith Baldry has returned from Brazil where he was invited by the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) to form part of IAEA's Uranium Production Site Appraisal Team.

The team travelled to Brazil to visit the Brazilian government organisation Indústrias Nucleares do Brasil (INB). The INB manages a major uranium producing site which has a current production capacity of 400 tonnes per year of uranium concentrate.

Keith was asked to join the team to provide expert advice on uranium regulation and environmental assessment. Other members of the team were from France, Canada and Czech Republic.

News from the EPA Board

Over the last 3 months the EPA Board has considered some major projects and has consulted with key stakeholders. In particular, the Board met with representatives from environment groups to discuss community engagement in the EPA. The group provided useful feedback on the EPA's Guiding Principles for Community Engagement and on the new Sustainability Licence and its impact on the community.

The EPA Board has also approved the Waste to Resources EPP and it will now proceed through the Parliamentary process.

The Governor has reappointed current Board members Allan Holmes, Megan Dyson and Andrew Fletcher to serve on the EPA Board for another 12 months.

To find out more about the EPA Board, please visit http://www.epa.sa.gov.au/epa_board

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