

## **EPA Communique July 2015**

### **June 2015**

No EPA Board meeting was held in June 2015.

### **July 2015**

#### **EPA Board Statement of Intent**

The Board discussed a draft Statement of Intent (Sol), incorporating changes proposed by the Chairperson and Director based on a review of the old Sol and the new Statement of Expectation (SoE) from the Minister on 8 April 2015. The Board resolved to accept the draft Sol for 2015-16 with the agreed changes to the previous Sol, noting that the SoE for 2015 had also changed from the previous year and that these changes have been incorporated under the Minister's Expectation for each section. The Board approved the Chairperson to sign the amended Sol along with a covering letter to the Minister providing the final Sol from the Board.

Copies of the *Statement of Expectation 2015* and *Statement of Intent 2015-2016* are available on the EPA website at <http://epa.tas.gov.au/epa/corporate-documents>.

#### **Upgrade of Level 1 Quarry, Arthur River Road**

The Board received an overview of the proposal to upgrade the Arthur River Road Quarry, allowing an increase in production and crushing of rock and gravel from 5,000 cubic metres per annum to 20,000 cubic metres per annum. The Board discussed a number of issues and the specific conditions which would need to be included on any permit issued by Council.

Specific issues discussed included:

- whether a condition was required to prevent vegetation clearance,
- the potential issues (particularly the long term potential for legacy issues) with the potentially acid forming nature of the material, and
- the guidelines being used for Phytophthora and wash down in the EAR and Permit (condition FF2).
- the water monitoring requirements and methods.

The Board completed its assessment, concluding that the proposed upgrade could be developed and managed in an environmentally sustainable and acceptable manner, with the specified conditions. The Board approved the Chairperson to sign the Permit, EAR and letter to Council once the agreed changes to the EAR and Permit conditions had been made. This documentation is provided on the EPA website at <http://epa.tas.gov.au/assessment/completed-assessments>

## **Carrick Wastewater Treatment Plant Proposed Outfall Relocation – Assessment Process**

The Board agreed to continue its assessment of the relocation of the Carrick WWTP outfall as a level 1 activity, as if the proposal had been referred to the Director under section 24(1) of EMPCA. Also, in accordance with section 24(4) of EMPCA, the proposed activity will not be treated as a level 1 activity for the purposes of EMPCA after the Board's assessment is completed.

## **Environment Protection Fund – Option for sponsoring the Sustainable Living Festival in November 2015**

The Director gave an overview of the current balance of the Environment Protection Fund (EPF). The Board agreed to fund the Sustainable Living Festival in 2015, as per the negotiated amount of \$1000 in 2014, in order to foster an increased level of public knowledge about the EPA Sustainability Award category of the Community Achievement Award of Awards Australia and the EPA Sustainability in Practice initiative. It also noted that \$4000 will be used to fund the 2015 Kids4Kids (K4K) conferences in the State, and that the Department of Education may approach the EPA for more funding in future years for K4K.