

Minutes

Meeting No.: 194
Date: Tuesday 5 August 2025 12 – 3:00 pm
Location: Level 1 Meeting Room No. 1.01 (Florentine), 40 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
(entrance via Collins Street)

PRESENT

Board

- Andrew Paul (Chairperson)
- Catherine Murdoch (Director/CEO EPA) (Member)
- Mark Gifford (Member) (via Teams)
- Ian Cresswell (Member)
- Rosanna Coombes (Member) (via Teams)

Other attendees

- Cindy Ong (Acting Executive Director (Environmental Assessments) EPA) for item 194.8-194.16
- Fionna Bourne (Manager, Environmental Engagement, EPA)
- Edith O’Shea (Manager, Assessments) for item 194.8,-194.10
- Charlotte Atkin (Senior Environmental Officer) for item 194.8
- Andrew Mesthos (Senior Environmental Officer – Assessments) for item 194.8
- Catherine Browning (Principal Assessment Officer) for item 194.8
- Michael Gay (Senior Environmental Officer) for item 194.9
- Alan Davidson (Principal Assessment Officer) for item 194.9
- Kobe Latta (Executive Officer, EPA)

194.1 Apologies

No apologies were noted for meeting number 194.

General Board Business

194.2 Minutes of Board meetings

- a). Meeting no. 193 held on 1 July 2025

The Board resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of meeting 193 of the EPA Board held on Tuesday 1 July 2025.

194.3 Board decision registers.

- a). Board Decision Register

The Board noted the Board Decision Register.

- b). Out of Session Decision Register

The Board noted the Out of Session Decision Register.

194.4 Declaration of Interests

The Board declared no conflicts of interest.

194.5 Delegations

The Board noted and received the report as presented.

194.6 Actions arising

The Board noted the actions arising table.

194.7 Standing action items

The Board noted the Standing Action item list.

194.7a Environment Protection Fund Report

The Board noted and received the report as presented.

It was raised for the Board to consider the feasibility of funding for the scope of work required for the Quarry Code of Practice. It was agreed that a paper will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Items for Decision

194.8 East Arm Resources Pty Ltd – Expansion of East Arm Road Quarry

Charlotte Atkin spoke to the paper and Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) on the proposal to expand and intensify the existing Level 2 dolerite rock and gravel quarry increasing the extraction and processing footprint from 130,000 m³ to 2,500,000 m³ per annum.

The Board took the paper as read and discussed minor amendments to the draft conditions included with the EAR. The amendments agreed to by the Board were:

- a) A7 1.5, change the wording of the condition to; The air quality monitoring stations must be established and operational within three months from the date of approval of their location.
- b) A8 2, spelling mistake in the word Director.

The Board:

1. Adopted the draft EAR included with the briefing paper.
2. Authorised the Chairperson to sign the final EAR on its behalf.
3. Endorses the news item and draft media release subject to the inclusion of the minor changes noted
4. Resolved, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(i) of EMPCA, to notify George Town Council that the conditions and restrictions detailed in Appendix 3 of the EAR (PCE No. 10533) must be contained in a permit granted by the planning authority under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* in respect of the activity, if a permit is to be granted.
5. Resolved, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(ii) of the EMPCA, to provide George Town Council with a copy of the final EAR to outline the reasons for the conditions and restrictions.
6. Determined that, if George Town Council grants a Permit and in accordance with Regulation 17 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control (General) Regulations 2017*, East Arm Resources Pty Ltd is exempted from any further liability to pay the annual permit fee for Permit No. DA2022/109 (containing PCE No. 11398).
7. Noted that, should a permit be granted by George Town Council, an invoice will be issued in due course to East Arm Resources Pty Ltd for the additional amount they are required to pay for the fees owed for the intensified activity during the current financial year, minus the amount they have already paid under the previous permit.

The Board stated that the work presented by the EPA staff on this matter was of a high standard and appreciated by the Board.

194.9 Markarna Grazing Company Pty Ltd – Lime Sand Extraction Pit, 368 Five Mile Jim Road, Memana, Flinders Island

The Board took the paper including the Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) as read and discussed minor amendments to the draft permit conditions. The amendments agreed to by the Board were:

- a) NI(2) – amend to explicitly state that no activity is to occur on Saturdays and Sundays.
- b) OI (3) – remove the wording ‘...or otherwise in a manner approved in writing by the Director’.
- c) EAR section 7.3.4 – amend the wording to reflect the change made to condition NI(2) by explicitly stating that no activity is to occur on Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays.
- d) EAR section 7.4.5 – provide clarification around the comment that no conditions relating to natural values are considered necessary.

The Board:

1. Adopted the draft Environmental Assessment Report.
2. Authorised the Chairperson to sign the final Environmental Assessment Report on its behalf.
3. Resolves, in accordance with section 25(3) of EMPCA, to notify Flinders Council that the conditions and restrictions detailed in Appendix 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report (Permit Conditions –Environmental No. 11576) are recommended to be contained in a permit granted by the planning authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 in respect of the activity, if a permit is to be granted.
4. Resolved, in accordance with section 25(3) of EMPCA, to provide Council with a copy of the final Environmental Assessment Report to outline the reasons for the conditions and restrictions recommended.
5. Noted that the Board or its representative may be required to provide a report to the Commission on the merits of any representations received during public exhibition of the documents and be involved in any public hearing the Commission may hold.

194.10 Review of Environmental Effects Report Guidelines (Extractives and General)

The Board took the paper as read and discussed minor amendments to the draft Extractives Guidelines. The amendments agreed to by the Board were:

- a) Include definition of what is an extractive industry
- b) Part B 2.2 (Map of the proposed activity area), recommend adding ‘clearly marking extractive area’
- c) Part C 3.3 to add ‘blast fume’ as an activity
- d) Part C 6 (Waste) to include cleared vegetation as waste substance
- e) Optional Additions 1.1 recommend proponent to use to inform community, compliance and complaints management
- f) Optional Additions 1.2 to include odour management

The Board resolved to:

Adopt in principle, both Guidelines, to enable them to be used for existing assessment processes noting that further consultation is to be undertaken at upcoming workshops with Industry and reported back to the Board prior to final adoption.

194.11 Review of Media Release Template for Determination of Assessments

The Board took the paper and supporting information as read.

It was noted that further support for the Chair, including holding lines, is to be provided for future media releases. A communications protocol will be presented to the Board outlining the roles and responsibilities of the EPA spokesperson and communications with relevant Ministers.

The Board agreed to defer the decision relating to this matter, pending receipt of further information on the Communications Protocol.

194.12 Extension of time to lodge case for assessment – BC McConnon and JL McConnon – McConnon’s Quarry – Buckland

The Board took the paper and supporting information as read.

The Board:

1. Agreed to exercise its power under section 27F(1)(b) of EMPCA to extend the period for the Proponent to submit a satisfactory case for assessment until 16/02/26.
2. Notify the Proponent that the Board has extended the period for it to submit a satisfactory case for assessment.

Further the Board noted a minor amendment to the letter to the proponent to include the date of the meeting with the Australian Government on this matter.

The Board commended EPA staff for putting this to the Board meeting rather than 'Out of Session'. The Board recommend that further detail and justification is to be provided for future extension requests.

194.13 Media Releases - <https://epa.tas.gov.au/epa/news>

NIL

194.14 Assessments in progress, other assessment caseload

The Board noted the Assessments in progress and those that will be coming to the Board in the next quarter.

194.15 Correspondence

NIL


194.16 Other Business

NIL

Next meeting: **Tuesday 2 September 2025 at 12 noon**

Meeting closed – 2.15pm.

Minutes endorsed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Paul', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Andrew Paul

CHAIRPERSON

BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DATE: 2 September 2025