

EPA Board Communiqué

August 2017

The Board held its 106th meeting in Hobart on Tuesday 1st August 2017

Salmon Farming Regulation Update

The Board was provided with a Fact Sheet and copy of the draft Bill which will make amendments to EMPCA to provide for the EPA to regulate salmon farming. The Director summarised the changes and explained the respective roles that the Board and the Director would have. Members discussed the proposed changes and had the opportunity to ask questions.

Review of Delegations

The Board received a report on the system to capture and report decisions, which have been made under delegation from the Board.

Environment Protection Fund

The Board received and noted the six-monthly report on the Environment Protection Fund detailing spending, commitments and income from fines.

Review of the Assessment Process

Ian Abernethy gave a presentation to the Board on the draft findings of his review of the EPA's development assessment process. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and noted that the final report is expected to be provided by the end of August 2017.

Assessment of the proposed Gums Quarry at Whitemark, Flinders Island – Markana Grazing

The Board concluded its assessment of this proposal which was to increase production to a maximum of 120,000 m³/annum from an existing quarry near Whitemark on Flinders Island. The maximum level of production was sought to cover one-off major projects while normal annual production is not likely to exceed 20,000 m³/annum. The main issues considered by the Board were noise and dust emissions from quarry operations and transport and possible impacts from blasting, including fly-rock. There were eleven representations made in relation to the application. The Board concluded that the quarry could be operated in an acceptable manner provided it complied with a number of conditions to limit the effects of noise and blasting.

Special Fee Remissions

The Board considered two applications for special fee remissions. It rejected one application, which did not fall within the Board's guidelines, and deferred the second until further advice has been received on the circumstances surrounding the application.