

# **EPA Board Communiqué**

**August 2019**

*Regular Meeting 129, Tuesday 6 August 2019*

## **Waste Action Plan and National Waste Policy**

The Board received a briefing on progress with the Tasmanian Waste Action Plan, which has been released for public comment, and the National Waste Policy. The Board explored whether the National Policy had any implications for the Board in carrying out of assessments, and whether there would be any role for the Board in the implementation of the State's Waste Action Plan.

## **Environment Protection Fund**

The Board received and noted an update on the balance of the Environment Protection Fund.

## **Register of Instruments**

The Board undertook its annual review of the Register of Instruments it is required to keep under s.22 of EMPCA. The Board requested that the Registers be made available on the EPA website, noting that most Environment Protection Notices and Part 5A notices (concerning contaminated sites) are publicly available via The List. The section of the website on Registers should direct the public to this.

## **Policy Register**

The Board undertook its annual review of the Policy Register. Members enquired whether there was any progress with the review of the Environment Protection Policy on Air Quality and were advised that it was currently on hold.

## **Audit of past approvals**

The Board has instituted a policy of conducting an annual review of selected past development approvals to see how they have eventuated on the ground, how this compares with the predictions made in the assessment documents and whether there are any lessons to learn. The Board received briefings on the Granville Harbour Wind Farm and Huon Aquaculture's Whale Point Development. The Board noted that the monitoring program for the windfarm required by permit conditions had been modified by the Director as it was considered impractical; and explored the extent of the Director's powers to modify conditions, and whether the Board should have the power to review and modify its conditions.

## **Special Fee Remissions**

The Board considered applications for Special Fee Remissions from Neckon Pty Ltd in relation to its Port Latta windfarm which was not operational and Ta Ann Tasmania in relation to its Lonnvale Rotary Peel Veneer Mill which was impacted by the Huon

Valley fires in early 2019. The Board granted Special Fee Remissions for both activities.

**Other matters**

The Board received advice on the legal interpretation of its powers to vary the conditions of an Environmental Licence, and the development of offset guidelines for avian mortalities from collisions with wind turbines.

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