

EPA Communiqué

July 2017

The Board held its 105th meeting in Hobart on Tuesday 4th July 2017

Board Delegations

The Board conducts regular reviews of the delegations and authorisations it has made to the Director and officers of EPA Tasmania. A list of delegations exercised in the previous reporting period is provided and reviewed at each meeting. The Board was generally satisfied with the delegations and the way they are being exercised and reported. However, a query was raised as to whether the delegations under some Regulations were being reported and the Board requested EPA Tasmania to investigate and resolve as necessary. A review of legal advice suggested that some minor modifications should be made to the wording of some delegations. In accordance with previous legal advice the Board resolved to revoke all previous delegations and the remake these with the modified wording.

Assessment of Upper Derwent Valley Hard Rock Quarry – Jenkins Hire Pty Ltd

The proposal is for the development of a limestone quarry (Upper Derwent Valley Hard-rock Quarry) at Roberts Hill, approximately 1.8 km south-west of Maydena, to produce up to 30,000 cubic metres of product per annum. The activity will include drilling, blasting, and crushing. Twenty-two public representations were received, including 13 in support of the proposal.

The main issues that the Board considered and discussed were:

- The potential impact of the quarry, including blasting, on karst features;
- Noise and operating hours for the quarry (the most common issue raised in representations);
- Out of hours transport through Maydena;
- The impact on a building being used as a residence in the old ANM log loading yard; and
- Noise assessment methodology.

The Board also considered the other issues raised in representations as well as a number of comments on draft permit conditions by the proponent's consultant. The Board requested several changes to the draft Assessment Report and permit conditions, but, subject to these, considered that the activity could be operated in an environmentally acceptable manner provided that the Board's conditions are complied with.

Fee Remission

An application for a special fee remission by Sally Peak Sandstone was considered. The Board deferred its decision, and requested further information from EPA Tasmania.

Sponsorship Request – Tamar NRM

The Board approved \$1000 sponsorship for Tamar NRM's Sustainable Energy Expo from the Environment Protection Fund.

Director's Briefing

The Acting Director provided an update on salmon industry regulation and Tassal's waste collection system in Macquarie Harbour and the progress of the Assessment Process Review.