

# **EPA Board Communiqué**

**May 2019**

*Regular Meeting 126, Tuesday 7 May 2019*

## **Review of EPA Board Protocols**

The Board has developed a number of protocols to govern its support from EPA Tasmania (e.g. notification of agendas, circulation of paper, minutes etc.) and how it carries out some of its functions (e.g. out-of-session and electronic meetings). These protocols were reviewed during the meeting and some relatively minor changes agreed.

## **Shree Minerals Application to vary production quantities to reduce fees**

Shree has a permit to operate a mine at Nelson Bay on the west coast. The mine has been under care and maintenance for several years. Shree has made an application to the Director to reduce the maximum permitted production and to exclude processing as it believes that stage 2 of the mine is unlikely to proceed in the near future. This would reduce the annual fees payable by Shree. The Director raised this issue with the Board pending advice on his capacity to modify the permit via an Environment Protection Notice to give effect to Shree's request.

## **Re-making of Board's Authorisations**

The Board has previously authorised the Director and several senior officers of EPA Tasmania to act on its behalf at appeal hearings. Following a change of personnel and the title of a position, the Board re-made its delegations to recognise the new position.

## **Statement of Expectation and Statement of Intent**

The Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act requires the Minister to provide the Board with a Statement of Expectation (SoE) every two years. This sets out the Minister's expectations as to how the Board will operate, but cannot direct it. In response the Board is required to provide a Statement of Intent (Sol). The Board received a fresh SoE from the Minister in April and, at the May meeting, discussed a draft Sol. Several changes to the draft were agreed and the Chair tasked with finalising the Sol and forwarding it to the Minister. Both the SoE and Sol will be available on the EPA web-site.

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