

Meeting No. 183
Date: Tuesday 2 July at 12noon
Level 1 Meeting Room No. 1.01 (Florentine), 40 Elizabeth Street, Hobart

PRESENT

Board

Andrew Paul (Chair)
Wes Ford (Member)
Ian Cresswell (Member)
Mark Gifford (Deputy Member)
Belinda Hazell (Member)

Other attendees

Helen Mulligan (Acting Executive Director, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
Fionna Bourne (Manager, Environmental Engagement, EPA)
Grace Vaszocz (Executive Assistant, Directorate, EPA)
Mary Gibbs, via Teams. (Principal Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
David Oldmeadow (Principal Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
Liz Richardson (Senior Environmental Officer, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
Zoe Brown, (Principal Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessments, EPA)

Meeting commenced at 12 Noon.

183.1 Apologies

No apologies were received for the 183rd Board Meeting.

183.2 Minutes of Board meetings

a. 182nd EPA Board Meeting minutes held on 4 June 2024

The Board resolved to approve the minutes with minor typographical edits as a true and accurate record of the 182nd EPA Board Meeting held on 4 June 2024.

183.3 Board Decision Registers

- a. Board Decision Register
- b. Out of Session Decision Register

The Board noted the two Decision Registers circulated.

183.4 Declaration of Interests

Two declarations of interest were raised for the 182nd Board Meeting, for Item No. 183.9.

As a result, there would be no quorum for that item, and it was agreed that Wes Ford as Director would deal with the item in his role as Delegate for the Board.

183.5 Delegations

The Board noted the decisions made under delegation since the previous meeting.

183.6 Actions arising

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of items listed on the Actions Arising.
- An update was given by Wes Ford regarding Action item 182.12. The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) has confirmed it has not secured a major sponsor for the next Conference.

The Board resolved that they are supportive of the Board's sponsorship continuing and would like to view the Conference prospectus once finalised by LGAT.

The Board also agreed that Wes Ford will contact LGAT out of session, to arrange payment of sponsorship money once an appropriate sponsorship opportunity has been identified.

183.7 Standing action items.

The Board resolved to

- Note the status of items listed on the Standing Actions list.
- It was agreed that at the November meeting there would be a presentation on the Bridgewater Bridge as a major project.
- There will also be a site visit to one of the salmon company sites in November. This is yet to be confirmed.

Items for Decision

183.8 St Patricks Plains Wind Farm

The Board considered the proposal from St Patricks Plains Wind Farm Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of Ark Energy Projects Pty Ltd, to construct and operate up to 47 wind turbine generators at St Patricks Plains in the Central Highlands.

Key environmental issues arising from the proposed St Patricks Plain Wind Farm include.

- Eagles - it was noted in the briefing that two threatened eagle species have been recorded at the site.
- Other natural values - a number of threatened natural values are present within the Land, including the Masked Owl, Latham's snipe, Miena Jewel beetle and Ptunarra Brown butterfly.
- Noise from wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure.

- Groundwater and surface water impacts.

The Board resolved to:

1. Adopt the draft Environmental Assessment Report noting the approved amendments as highlighted in the Proponents comments on the Draft Permit Conditions.
2. Authorise the Chairperson to sign the final Environmental Assessment Report on its behalf.
3. Agreed, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*, to notify Central Highlands Council that the conditions and restrictions detailed in Appendix 3 of the Environmental Assessment Report (Permit Conditions – Environmental No. 10201) 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.
4. Agreed, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(ii) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*, to provide Council with a copy of the final Environmental Assessment Report to outline the reasons for the conditions and restrictions.
5. Agreed to provide a copy of the finalised Environmental Assessment Report to the Commonwealth Minister via the Tasmanian Minister's delegate (Director, EPA) to allow an approval decision under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth); and to provide any additional information to the Commonwealth Minister within 10 days of making a decision in relation to the assessment of the proposal.

The Chair and Board members all expressed their appreciation to the Assessment staff for a well put together assessment.

183.9 Extension of time to lodge case for assessment – Cherries Tasmania Orchards Compost Production

As two Board members declared their interest in this Item, it was removed from the agenda, and would be dealt with by Wes Ford as Director, as Delegate of the Board.

183.10 Clean Air Sponsorship

The Board considered the request to sponsor the Clean Air and Environment Conference in Hobart.

The Board resolved to

- Approve a one-off payment of \$4,000 +GST in sponsorship for the Welcome Reception for the International Clean Air and Environment Conference in Hobart, to be held in parallel with the 10th International Water Association Odour and Volatile Emissions Conference, with the funds to be sourced from the Environment Protection Fund.

Items for Noting

183.11 Selfs Point Waste Water Treatment Plant – Presentation

The Board was given an overview of the Selfs Point Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade proposal by the EPA Principal Assessment Officer currently undertaking assessment of the proposal.

It was noted that this new treatment plant would be built alongside the existing plant and will be located on land adjacent and to the west of the existing site.

It was also noted that no public submissions were received for this proposal when advertised.

There will, however, be some issues relating to odour from the site, taking note that the original site is a disused landfill. There will be a detailed management plan for the removal and disposal of contaminated waste during construction.

A detailed noise management plan has also been submitted for consideration.

The final package for decision will be submitted to the Board at the special meeting scheduled for 30 July 2024.

183.12 Assessments in Progress

The Board resolved to:

- Note the Assessments in Progress and Other Assessments Report.

183.13 Media Releases

[News | EPA Tasmania](#)

183.14 Correspondence

The Board noted correspondence sent to Brian Risby, Director, State Planning Office.

183.15 Other Business - Nil

183.16 Strategic Issues - Nil

183.17 Review of Meeting

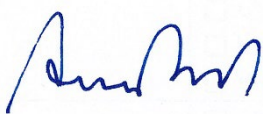
183.18 Next Meeting

A Special Board meeting will be held on 30 July 2024. The next regular Board meeting is to be held on Tuesday 6 August 2024.

The Chair thanked everyone who attended the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.40pm

Minutes endorsed by:



Andrew Paul
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DATE: 2 JULY 2024