

Minutes

Meeting No.: 166
Date: Tuesday 1 November 2022 at 2.00 pm
Location: Level 4 Meeting Room No. 4.03 (Cradle), Lands Building,
134 Macquarie Street, Hobart

PRESENT

Board

- Mr Andrew Paul (Chairperson)
- Ms Belinda Hazell (Member)
- Ms Amanda Locatelli (Member) – via MS Teams
- Dr Ian Cresswell (Member)
- Mr Mark Gifford (Deputy Member) – via MS Teams
- Mr Wes Ford (Member)

Other attendees

- Dr Martin Read (Executive Director, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
- Ms Fiona Bourne (Manager Environmental Engagement, EPA)
- Ms Allison Round (Communications Coordinator, Environmental Engagement, EPA)
- Ms Helen Mulligan (Manager – Assessments, EPA)
- Ms Tonia Robinson (Senior Environmental Officer – Assessments, EPA)
- Dr David Oldmeadow (Principal Assessment Officer, EPA)
- Sarah Graham (Project Manager, Remediation, EPA)

166.1 Apologies

There were no apologies for the 166th EPA Board meeting.

166.2 Minutes of Board meetings

a. 165th EPA Board Meeting minutes held on the 4th of October 2022

The Board resolved to:

- Approve the minutes, with amendments, as a true and correct record of the 165th EPA Board Meeting held on the 4th of October 2022.

b. Minute publication discussion

The Board resolved to:

- Approve publishing of the minutes of the 165th EPA Board Meeting held on the 4th of October 2022.

166.3 Board Decision Register

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of the items listed on the Decision Register, with one update.

166.4 Declaration(s) of Interests

The Board noted the Register of interests. There were no further declarations of interest raised for the 166th EPA Board meeting.

166.5 Delegations

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of the items listed on the EPA Board Delegation Report.

166.6 Actions Arising

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of the items listed on the Actions Arising.
- EPA to follow-up regarding the Air Policy review action item regarding odour, and report back to the Board in February 2023.
- Note the provision of the out of session agenda paper describing water quality issues in Macquarie Harbour (Action item 164.8)

166.7 Standing Action Items

There were no standing action items presented for the 166th EPA Board meeting.

Items for Decision

166.8 2023 EPA Board Meeting dates

The Board considered the proposed meeting dates for 2023 EPA Board Meetings and provided approval.

166.9 Savage River Rehabilitation Project (SRRP)– Action Plan and Forecast Budget 2022-23

Sarah Graham (Project Manager, Remediation, EPA) joined the meeting. The Board took the briefing paper as being read and the Officer took questions regarding the Action Plan from Board members.

In particular, the Board sought clarification around their previous recommendation that the SRRP undertake a peer review of the Report recommendations, to consider their value within the context of the SRRP monitoring program, and if this had been captured in the Action Plan 2022-23. The Officer confirmed that this recommendation has been included, although the precise scope of such a review will not be determined until after receipt of the *SRRP 2022 Water Quality Review and Future Directions Report* from the specialist water quality consultant, in early 2023.

The Director provided further explanation around water flows and projected decrease in salary budget due to resignation.

A query was raised by the Board regarding the allocation of \$20K to Entura for the Bioassessment review, it was noted this was incorrect and should have been listed as EPA/Consultant. This should be noted as an amendment to the budget prior to approval.

The Board resolved to support the recommendations:

- Note the key activities proposed to be completed, continued or commenced by the SRRP during 2022-23 with the associated budgetary implications, presented in the briefing paper.
- Approve the Forecast Budget for the SRRP, including estimated payments from the Environment Protection Fund and drawdown of the Purchase Price Fund in 2022-23 financial year.

166.10 Shree Minerals Limited – Nelson Bay River Mine, Nelson Bay River

The Board noted that under s271(2) of EMPCA it has stopped the clock on this assessment, and it will remain stopped until advice from the Commonwealth is received.

The Board resolved to:

- Approve not to proceed with assessment of the application until the EPA has received a copy of documentation addressing the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's requirements under the EPBC Act.
- Approve a letter to be sent by the Director to Shree Minerals Ltd informing them that the assessment will not proceed until information on *Astacopsis gouldi* (Giant Freshwater Crayfish) as required by the Commonwealth is received.

Items for Noting

166.11 – Robbins Island discussion

The EPA Board Chair and EPA Director provided an overview of the assessment to date, including the views received from the Commonwealth.

The Board extensively discussed several alternatives in relation to progressing the assessment process, in particular options for mitigating risk for Orange Bellied Parrots, Tasmanian devils and other matters.

All Board members thanked and acknowledged EPA staff for the depth of work and level of detail undertaken with this assessment.

The Board resolved to:

- Review and provide any further updates to EPA staff on the assessment documentation.
- Direct the EPA to seek further advice from NRE Tas on the Tasmanian devils.
- Direct the EPA to make updates to documentation as provided, and as discussed at the meeting.
- Progress documentation to proponent as per assessment process.
- Bring back to the Board for decision at 6th of December 2022 Board meeting.

166.12 Assessments in Progress, Other Assessment Caseload

The Board resolved to:

- Note Assessments in Progress and Other Assessments Report.
- Update Assessment #18 in relation to Shree Minerals Limited to red.

166.13 Media releases

The Board resolved to:

- Note new media releases were on the EPA website.

166.14 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for the 166th EPA Board meeting

166.15 Other Business

There were no other business items for discussion.

166.16 Strategic Issues

There were no strategic issues for discussion.

166.17 Review of meeting

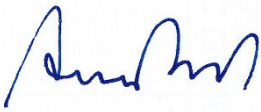
No comments were discussed.

166.18 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday the 16th of November 2022 at 2:30pm. This is an out of session meeting to discuss the assessment for the Dulverton Regional Waste Management Authority.

The 166th EPA Board meeting closed at 5:10pm.

Minutes endorsed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Paul', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Andrew Paul

CHAIRPERSON

BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DATE: 16 November 2023