

Minutes



Meeting No.: 171
Date: Tuesday 2 May 2023 at 2.00 pm
Location: Level 1 Meeting Room No. 1.01 (Florentine),
40 Elizabeth Street, Hobart

PRESENT

Board

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

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 Mary Gibbs (Senior Environmental Officer, Assessments, EPA)
- Ms Catherine Browning (Senior Environmental Officer, Assessments, EPA)
- Ms Ella Jackson (Environmental Officer, Assessments, EPA)

Meeting commenced at 2.06pm

171.1 Apologies

There were no apologies for the 171st EPA Board meeting

171.2 Minutes of Board meetings

a. 170th EPA Board Meeting minutes held on the 4 April 2023

The Board resolved to:

- Approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the 170th EPA Board Meeting held on the 4th of April 2023.

171.3 Board Decision Register

The Board noted the Decision Register that was circulated.

171.4 Declaration(s) of Interests

The Board noted the declarations of interests. There were no further declarations of interest raised for the 171st EPA Board meeting.

171.5 Delegations

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

171.6 Actions arising

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of items listed on the Actions Arising.
- Note that the Care and Maintenance Plan presentation has been rescheduled to the June 2023 meeting.

171.7 Standing action items

a. Review of EPA Board Protocols

The Board resolved to:

- Accept the updated *EPA Board Protocols* with amendments as discussed and publish on the EPA Website.

Items for Decision

171.8 Marinus Link and the use of Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs)

The Board accepted the papers as read, and EPA Officers provided a short overview of the proposal to establish a second interconnector, the first being Basslink. The proponent is currently drafting its case for assessment and is seeking the Board's view on environmental performance requirements.

The Board resolved to:

- Note the information in the briefing paper;
- Determine that the Environmental Performance Requirements model proposed by Marinus Link is not supported; and
- Request the EPA develop guiding principles that could be conditions for this project.

171.9 EPA Sustainability Award Sponsorship

The Board resolved to:

- Approve the entry into a two-year naming rights sponsorship agreement with Awards Australia for the EPA Sustainability Award (Community) for the years 2023 and 2024 inclusive at a cost of \$14,400.00 (plus GST), with funding to be sourced from the Environment Protection Fund.

171.10 Assessment Framework Review Project Plan

The Board accepted the papers as read, and the Senior Environmental Officer managing the project provided an overview of the project.

The Board resolved to:

- Note the contents of the Briefing Paper; and
- Make amendments as discussed to the *Assessment Framework Review Project Plan 2023-24* and bring back to the June 2023 EPA Board meeting for approval.

171.11 Fee remission application for Males Sand

The Board resolved to:

- Approve the fee remission application for Males Sands, noting the EPA to determine a process to retrospectively write off debt.

171.12 Revised Guidelines for Environmental Impact Statement

The Board accepted the papers as read, and an EPA Officer briefed the Board on the recently completed internal review of the generic Guidelines for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to improve their clarity and relevance, and thereby assist proponents to provide better quality documentation to the EPA for assessment.

The Board resolved to:

- Endorse, with a minor amendment, the revised generic guidelines for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement.

171.13 ACEN Pty Ltd – Robbins Island Windfarm – condition FF6

The Board accepted the paper as read, and resolved to:

- Modify letter as discussed and send the final draft to the EPA Chair for approval and signing.

Presentations

171.14 Climate Change Strategic Priorities (Dr Sarah Russell, Director Climate Change, Department of State Growth)

The Board resolved to note the information provided in the presentation.

171.15 Care and Maintenance Plans (EPA Officer)

The Board resolved to note that this presentation will be re-scheduled to the June 2023 meeting.

Items for Noting

171.16 EPA Board Field Trip itinerary (verbal update)

The Board resolved to:

- Note the information provided in the update.

171.17 Assessments in Progress

The Board resolved to:

- Note Assessments in Progress and Other Assessments Report.

171.18 Media Releases

The Board resolved to:

- Note new media releases were on the EPA website.

171.19 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for the 171st EPA Board meeting.

171.20 Other Business

a. Nook Quarry Assessment

The Director EPA led a discussion with the Board regarding some policy matters that have arisen from the Nook Quarry Assessment that is likely to come to the Board for approval at the July 2023 meeting.

The Board resolved to:

- Request the EPA develop a guideline specifically for the Nook Quarry assessment which will then form the basis to produce an ongoing policy.

171.21 Strategic Issues

The Board were advised that the Minister has not provided a Statement of Expectation.

The Board noted that the draft EPA Strategic Plan will be finalized and endorsed at the June 2023 meeting to allow for the preparation of the EPA Operation Plan for 2023/24.

171.22 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday the 6th of June 2023 at 2.00 pm.**

The 171st EPA Board meeting closed at 5:18pm.

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: 6 June 2023