

# Minutes



**Meeting No.** 176  
**Date:** Tuesday 7 November 2023 at 2.00 pm  
Level 1 Meeting Room No. 1.01 (Florentine), 40 Elizabeth Street, Hobart

## PRESENT

**Board**  
Andrew Paul (Chair)  
Wes Ford (Member)  
Belinda Hazell (Member) via Teams  
Ian Cresswell (Member)  
Mark Gifford (Member) via Teams

**Other attendees**  
Fionna Bourne (Manager, Environmental Engagement, EPA)  
Helen Mulligan (A/Executive Director, Environmental Assessments, EPA)  
Grace Vaszocz (Executive Assistant, Directorate, EPA)  
Edith O'Shea (Principal Assessment Officer, Assessments, EPA)  
Rachel Alexander (Senior Environmental Officer, Industrial Operations, EPA)

The meeting commenced at 2.05pm

### 176.1 Apologies

The Chair noted the recent resignation of Amanda Locatelli and wished to acknowledge her valuable contributions to the business of the Board as both a Deputy Member and Member of the Board.

### 176.2 Minutes of Board meetings

a. 175<sup>th</sup> EPA Board Meeting minutes held on 3 October 2023

The Board resolved to:

- Approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the 175<sup>th</sup> EPA Board Meeting held on 3 October 2023

### 176.3 Board Decision Register

The Board noted the Decision Register that was circulated.

### 176.4 Declaration of Interests

The Board noted the declarations of interest. There were no further declarations of interest raised for the 176<sup>th</sup> EPA Board Meeting

## **176.5 Delegations**

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

## **176.6 Actions arising**

The Board resolved to:

- Note the status of items listed on the Actions Arising.

## **175.7 Standing action items**

### a) Savage River Rehabilitation Project Action Plan and Forecast Budget 2023-24

The Board noted the paper as presented. The Chair then opened up the meeting to members for any questions on the 2023-24 Action Plan and Forecast Budget paper.

It was noted that there were some minor discrepancies in the financials section of the document, which were noted by the Savage River Rehabilitation Project (SRRP) Project Manager.

The Board resolved the following:

- To note the key activities proposed be either completed, continued or commenced by the SRRP during 2023-24 with the associated budgetary implications as noted in Table 2 of the paper; and
- To approve the Forecast Budget for the SRRP, including the estimated payments from the Environment Protection Fund and drawdown of the Purchase Price Fund in the 2023-24 financial year as outlined in Tables 3 and 4 and summarized in Table 1.

### b) Audit of Past Approval – Bridgewater Bridge Presentation

An EPA Staff member presented on the Bridgewater Bridge and outlined how the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) process was working and how it is continuing to work well for the site. The presentation ended with a short video of the current construction stage for the Bridgewater Bridge.

The Board thanked the staff member for their work and acknowledged how much the high workload associated with overseeing the 10 EMPs required for a Major Project such as the Bridgewater Bridge.

It was also noted that at the 5 December Board meeting, the next Audit presentation would be on “Cattle Hill Windfarm”.

## **Items for Decision**

### **176.8 Nook Quarry Intensification**

The Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) was presented to the Board with tracked changes arising from the Board’s discussions at the 3 October Board meeting.

A word version of PCE 10320 with tracked changes had also been prepared for the Board to approve including the following:-

- A new definition of The Land to remove reference to the mining lease and land parcel identifiers. The Land is simply defined as the area to which the permit relates, which removes the potential for inconsistencies with the Development Application.
- Changes in the wording of condition OPI to restrict the activity to the Authorised Activity Area and allow expansion into an Expanded Authorised Activity Area with Director approval.
- Condition OPI.5 was included to require a permit application for expansion beyond the Expanded Authorised Activity Area.
- New definitions were included for the Authorised Activity Area and Expanded Authorised Activity Area which refer to Attachment I of the PCE. The Authorised Activity Area equates to the 16 year mine plan presented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), while the Expanded Authorised Activity Area

equates to the 25.2 year mine plan presented in the EIS.

- Blast fume monitoring conditions were included.

Several minor changes to the wording of management plan conditions were also proposed. These were a consequence of updates to standard conditions which occurred since the previous draft PCE was presented to the Board in October. The Board also requested a number of minor amendments relating to typographic and numbering issues, and resolved the following:

- To accept the tracked changes in proposed PCE 10320.
- To accept the tracked changes and to adopt the draft Environmental Assessment Report as presented to the Board.
- To authorise the Chair to sign the final Environmental Assessment Report on its behalf.
- The Board also resolved in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(i) of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act (EMPC Act), to notify Kentish Council that the conditions and restrictions detailed in Appendix 3 of the Environmental Assessment Report (Permit Conditions – Environmental No. 10320) must be contained in any 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.
- The Board resolved that in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(ii) of the EMPC Act, to provide Council with a copy of the final Environmental Assessment Report to outline the reasons for the conditions and restrictions. The Chair thanked the EPA staff on behalf of the Board for their work on this proposal.

#### **176.9 Understorey Network Resource Project – Sponsorship Application**

The Board considered the request for sponsorship funding from the Understorey Network to reprint the “*Guide to Growing Tasmanian Native Plants*” including with botanical edits, the printing of an educational poster, and undertaking taxonomic updates to the Plant Species Lists for 20 Tasmanian municipalities.

The quantum of funding requested was a donation of \$12,000.

After due consideration the Board.

- Approved the application for sponsorship funding; and
- Approved that the Chair to write to the Understorey Network on behalf of the Board to advise of the decision of the Board regarding the sponsorship application.

#### **176.10 Extension of Time – Alltas Engineering – Collins Cap Quarry**

The Board considered the request from Alltas Engineering for an extension to lodge a case for assessment (EER).

The Board agreed:

- To exercise its power under section 27F(1)(b) of EMPCA to extend the period for the Proponent to submit a satisfactory case for assessment until 24 May 2024; and
- That the Chair write to the Proponent, granting them an extension for the period to submit a satisfactory case for assessment.

#### **176.11 Extension of Time – ACEN Renewables – North West Transmission Line**

The Board considered the request from ACEN Renewables for a further extension of time to lodge its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Board agreed to:

- Exercise its power under section 27F(1)(b) of EMPCA to extend the period for the Proponent to submit a satisfactory case for assessment until 31 January 2025; and

- Agreed that the Chair write to the Proponent, granting them an extension for the period to submit a satisfactory case for assessment.

## Items for Noting

### 176.12 Assessments in Progress

The Board resolved to:

- Note the Assessments in Progress and Other Assessments Report.

### 176.13 Media Releases

The Board resolved to:

- Note the media releases on the EPA website.

### 176.14 Correspondence

The Board noted correspondence from the Hon Michael Fergusson to Andrew Paul dated 6 October 2023, regarding *Review of Landslide Planning Map – Hazard Bands*.

The Board resolved there was no need to nominate anybody to the panel.

### 176.15 Other Business

There was no other business discussed at the 176<sup>th</sup> EPA Board meeting.

### 175.16 Next Meeting

Next Board Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 2.00pm

- The Chair thanked everyone who attended the meeting.

Meeting closed at 5:05pm.

### Minutes endorsed by:

Andrew Paul

**CHAIRPERSON**

**BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

DATE: 7 November 2023