

Minutes

Meeting No.: 188
Date: Tuesday 3 December 2024 9-30 am
Location: Level 1 Meeting Room No. 1.01 (Florentine), 40 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
(entrance via Collins Street)

PRESENT

Board

- Mr Andrew Paul (Chairperson)
- Mr Wes Ford (Member)
- Mr Mark Gifford (Member)
- Dr Ian Cresswell (Member)
- Ms Rosanna Coombes (Member)
- Dr Therese Flapper (Deputy Member)

Other attendees

- Dr Martin Read (Executive Director, Environmental Assessments, EPA)
- Ms Fionna Bourne (Manager, Environmental Engagement, EPA)
- Ms Cindy Ong (Director, Environmental Engagement, EPA)
- Ms Helen Mulligan (Manager, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Zoe Palmer (Assessments Support Officer, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Mary Gibbs (Principal Assessment Officer, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Ella Jackson (Senior Environmental Officer, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Laura Smith (Senior Environmental Officer, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Charlotte Atkin (Senior Environmental Officer, Assessments Branch, EPA)
- Ms Rachel Alexander (Senior Environmental Officer, Regulation, EPA)
- Mr Javed Moazzam (Noise Specialist, EPA)
- Dr Diane Purcell (Project Manager, Remediation, EPA)

188.1 Apologies

There were no apologies for meeting number 188.

General Board Business

188.2 Minutes of Board meetings

- a. Meeting no. 187 held on 5 November 2024

The Board resolved to approve the minutes a true and accurate record of meeting 187 of the EPA Board held on Tuesday 5 November 2024.

188.3 Board decision registers.

- a) Board Decision Register*

The Board noted the Board Decision Register

- b) Out of Session Decision Register*

The Board noted the out of session Decision Register

188.4 Declaration of Interests

Mr Andrew Paul (Chairperson) knows two people putting in submissions for White Beach.

188.5 Delegations

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

188.6 Actions arising

The Board to be provided with an update on climate change actions across Australian Jurisdictions that was recently provided to the Heads of Environment Protection Authority meeting.

188.7 Standing action items

The Board noted that the second item on the Standing Action Items list for meeting number 188 is dealt with at 188.11 of the agenda – *Savage River Rehabilitation Project – Action Plan and General Update*.

Items for Decision

188.8 White Beach Quarry Upgrade

The Board accepted the papers as read, and EPA staff provided an overview and some background of the assessment and current operations, including a map showing the actual location of the assessment and an overview and discussion on the Attenuation Code.

The EPA staff provided the Board with an opportunity to ask questions and gain any clarity of the assessment. The following topics were discussed:

- Noise
- Planning Scheme
- Natural Values / wedge-tailed eagle / DOV
- Water quality impacts
- Past compliance and complaints history
- Quarry Plan – ‘extractive area’ / ‘ultimate footprint’ / ‘operational area’
- Buffer Zone
- Dust and air monitoring
- Attenuation distance
- Future Residents
- Groundwater interception
- Regulatory Controls
- Neighboring Property
- Blasting
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Board requested the following changes in the documentation:

- Updating of Natural Values discussion in the Environmental Assessment Report to reflect the Board's decision regarding protecting the threatened vegetation community DOV and some of the related discussion.
- Fixing the typo in the noise section (900 instead of 1900) and fixing some statements regarding heavy vehicle cartage that had not included the Saturday times.
- Amending the wording in the Media Release to reflect the Board's requests.

The Board requested the following changes be made to permit conditions – Environmental PCE No. 11115

- **Condition B4**
'environmental nuisance' changed to 'environmental harm'
- **Condition B7**
Added 'details of meteorological conditions immediately preceding and at the time of the blast,'
- **Condition B8**
Removed second 'approved'
- **Condition DC3**
Removed 'reasonable' from point 3.1
- **Condition FFI**
Made referencing to DOV vegetation community more consistent.
Added requirement for 5 metre buffer..
- **Condition NI**
'Paragraphs' in point 3.
Adding exceptions to heavy vehicle movement restrictions.
- **Condition OP5**
Changed to 'operational area' to minimise confusion.
Points 1 and 2 switched around.
Refer to Attachment 2 instead of figure in the Environmental Effects Report Supplement (same figure). 'Generally' consistent.
Linking to condition FFI
Change of 'native vegetation' to 'Ecological Vegetation Community', with additional definition.

The Board resolved:

1. To adopt the draft Environmental Assessment Report with the requested amendments.
2. To authorise the Chairperson to sign the final Environmental Assessment Report on its behalf.
3. that, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act* (EMPCA), to notify Tasman Council that the conditions and restrictions detailed in Appendix 3 of the Environmental Assessment Report (Permit Conditions – Environmental No. 11115), with the approved amendments, 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. that, in accordance with section 25(5)(a)(ii) of the EMPCA, to provide Council with a copy of the final Environmental Assessment Report to outline the reasons for the conditions and restrictions.

188.9 Further extension of time to lodge case for assessment – East Arm Resources Pty Ltd – Expansion of East Arm Road Quarry – Hillwood

The Board accepted the paper as read and resolved to:

1. Exercise its power under section 27F(1)(b) of *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act* to extend the period for the Proponent to submit a satisfactory case for assessment until 24 June 2025.
2. Notify the Proponent that the Board has extended the period for it to submit a satisfactory case for assessment, as detailed in the attached draft letter (Attachment 1).

188.10 Australian Hualong Pty Ltd – Tenth Legion Iron Ore Mine Proposal – Consideration of response to the Board’s request for updated project proposal

The Board accepted the paper as read and requested the following changes:

- Proponent Letter
Second para – replace “I note” with “The Board notes”

The Board resolved to:

1. Note the information in this briefing paper and endorses the recommended approach;
2. Exercise its power under section 27F(2)(a) of *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act* (EMPCA) to cease the assessment of the Proposal, and reject the Proposal in accordance with section 27F2(b) of EMPCA; and
3. Notes and endorses the draft response letter to the Proponent at **Attachment 3**, with the approved amendment.

188.11 – Savage River Rehabilitation Project – Action Plan and general update

The Board accepted the paper as read and received an update on the plan and budget from the Project Manager.

The Board requested that the actions and estimated numbers be added to table 2 (with footnote that numbers are estimated) and the supplementary report be provided back to the Board once numbers are confirmed. The Board also requested that a paper clarifying governance around the program delineating those responsibilities of the Board and Management Committee be provided to the Board in 2025.

188.12 Sponsorship Proposal – National Biosolids Conference 2025

The Board accepted the paper as read and resolved to:

1. Approve the payment of \$3,500 +GST in sponsorship for the National Biosolids Conference in Hobart with the funds to be sourced from the Environment Protection Fund.

188.13 Sponsorship Proposal – Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards 2025-2027

The Board accepted the paper as read and resolved to:

1. Approve the entry into a three-year naming rights sponsorship agreement with Awards Australia for the Sustainability Award for the years 2025-2027 inclusive at a cost of \$56,148.45 (plus GST) across the three years, with funding to be sourced from the Environment Protection Fund.

188.14 2025 Board Meeting Dates and Deadlines

The Board noted and resolved to adopt the Board meeting dates and times including the first meeting date to be 21 January 2025.

Items for Noting

188.15 Assessments in progress, other assessment caseload

The Board noted the Assessments in progress and Other caseload papers

188.16 Media releases

<https://epa.tas.gov.au/epa/news>

188.17 Any other business

- Discussion on Recycal.
- Advertising for Director of EPA - Andrew Paul - yet to be advised whether he or anyone else on the Board will be a part of the recruitment process.

188.18 Review of meeting

Next meeting: **Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 12 noon**