

EPA 2015–16 Corporate Plan

Corporate initiatives performance summary July 2015–June 2016

Initiative		Status against scope	Summary of progress
Support wellbeing and prosperity			
1	Undertake a waste reform program to achieve industry certainty, promote innovation and growth, and improve safety in the recovery and recycling of resources	satisfactorily progressed	Waste discussion paper prepared, released and engagement done through a Waste Reform High-Level Advisory Group to provide oversight on Waste Reform progress. Presentations were given to key stakeholders. Drafting work was pursued for proposed amendments to the <i>Environment Protection Act 1999</i> , to better reflect definitions of the term 'waste' and other amendments based on 2015–16 Environment, Resources and Development Court judgements, and on interstate feedback.
2	Develop our licensing and compliance regime in line with the transformation of industries, including a new licence for Nyrstar in Port Pirie	satisfactorily progressed	Nyrstar and the EPA met to share and review statistical analyses of lead in air data and dispersion modelling, to predict lead-in-air concentrations post transformation. Emissions data baselines were established. This will inform the development of future licence conditions and, specifically, lead-in-air limits and targets. A draft process change application was received and feedback was provided to Nyrstar.
3	Improve our approach to managing site contamination issues through the implementation of recommendations from the EPA Board Review report	satisfactorily progressed	All 11 recommendations by the Board's Site Contamination Review Committee were satisfactorily progressed.
4	Implement a new <i>Environment Protection Water Quality Policy</i>	completed	The <i>Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy 2015</i> commenced on 1 January 2016
5	Work with SafeWork SA to undertake an audit of asbestos removalists	substantially completed	The EPA and SafeWork SA planned to improve the sharing of information and working together on asbestos issues. Intelligence from the online WasteTracker system has identified operators who may have been working and disposing of asbestos without completing required records. In 2016–17, the EPA and SafeWork SA will undertake an audit of Licenced Asbestos Removers & Transporters to inform/educate operators on licence requirements.
6	Work with industry and community to implement the new <i>Radiation Protection and Control Regulations</i>	completed	The <i>Radiation Protection and Control (Ionising Radiation) Regulations 2000</i> were remade on 1 September 2015 without substantial amendment, to ensure ongoing operation
Keep people informed and engaged			
7	Inform, involve and engage the community in addressing key environmental challenges for the state, including establishing an ongoing community engagement function	completed	Communication plans were developed for the implementation of an Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy and for the Local Nuisance Litter and Control Bill. A range of community, local government and industry consultation and engagement initiatives was undertaken where local site contamination and other environmental issues were prominent. An Engagement Champions program was developed for implementation in July 2016

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8	Improve the protection of sea-grasses through the ongoing implementation of the Adelaide Coastal Waters Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP)	satisfactorily progressed	Implementation of the ACWQIP included the delivery of a federally funded Catchment-to-Coast project, focused on water quality improvement for Adelaide's coastal waters. The EPA is monitoring the return of seagrass to metropolitan coastal areas. Other initiatives carried out include the funding of a Kaurna Engagement Officer, public awareness and educational events, and the completion of five Rain Gardens
Keep people informed and engaged (continued)			
9	Make our data and information more accessible and transparent through the use of new technologies, including improvements to the online public register	substantially completed	Contributed and supported SA Government open data initiatives, including 'Unleashed Competition 2015', and uploading datasets to Data SA (www.data.sa.gov.au). The Public Register module was developed and its integration with the EPA's licensing system is in progress, together with infrastructure set-up to allow external access. Public Register implementation was deferred to 2016-17 owing to other priorities
Be an effective and trusted regulator			
10	Further invest in our organisational and staff capability with a focus on service excellence	substantially completed	The EPA is committed to further develop its staff capability, and the rollout of the EPA Service Charter. A Service Excellence training program was attended by all staff. Leadership development was prioritised with the endorsement of a Leadership Development Framework. A number of staff participated in Aspiring Leaders Program workshops. A Community Engagement Champions program was developed for implementation in July 2016. 83% of our improvement plan actions were completed.
11	Work with our licensed community, in particular small and medium businesses, to streamline our regulation and enable and reward good compliance	completed	Tasks completed included participation in events such as 'Bizlink' and 'Meet the Buyer'. A copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated timber recycling project was funded for Riverland Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) using Primary Industries & Regions SA's (PIRSA) Innovation Cluster funding. The EPA reached an agreement to sponsor an environmental award, with the Water Industry Association and Business SA. Several SMEs were visited for inclusion in the 'Good for Environment Good for Business Vol II' case study booklet which was promoted and distributed in accordance with a targeted communications program
12	Work with the Department of State Development in improving the regulation of environmental aspects of mining	completed	The EPA and the Department of State Development (DSD) worked together to develop air quality guidelines for the mining and extractive industries to provide improved understanding, and to enable the industries to meet their respective regulatory obligations. An EPA/DSD air quality working group reconvened in 2016 to draft and further develop a provisional Air Quality Guideline. An industry engagement strategy was devised and the EPA and DSD engaged with the South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME), OZ Minerals, Arrium and BHP and a number of consultants, to discuss the operation of the <i>Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016</i> within the mining sector, including its interaction with the <i>Mining Act 1977</i> .
13	Implement a new modernised licensing IT system and promote innovation in our operations	completed	The Licensing Administration Modernisation Project (LAMP) was implemented, and this included the delivery of a new Environment Licensing Forms (ELF) system and the delivery of a new licensing and waste levy system. A licensing improvement program is in place to deal with change management, culture change and any system issues
14	Build our knowledge and expertise through the development of a long term science plan	some delay	The planned development of the Science Plan was incorporated into a review of scientific services, which will commence in 2016-17, and which will rest within the new Environmental Science Branch – a consolidation of the former Air & Noise and Water Quality branches

