



Our Focus 2014–15

SA Environment Protection Authority
Corporate Plan

From the Chief Executive



The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) 2014–15 Corporate Plan identifies our priority areas for the year ahead and outlines the key initiatives we will undertake to ensure we pursue and deliver the goals identified in the EPA Strategic Plan 2012–15.

I am pleased to introduce my first Corporate Plan as Chief Executive of the EPA. This is the third and final plan to be developed under the EPA Strategic Plan 2012–15.

Some of the many achievements delivered last year included:

- Publication of the sixth State of the Environment Report launched on 19 September 2013.
- Targets set for the ongoing management of Lake Bonney in the South East.
- Improved regulation and reduced red tape for the tuna industry.
- Significant input into legislation passed by the State Government as part of the Nyrstar transformation project and the State Government decision to approve the redevelopment of the Nyrstar lead and zinc smelter.
- A study regarding noise from the Waterloo Wind Farm.
- Publication of the first series of near shore marine Aquatic Ecosystem Condition Reports.
- Delivery of our first annual Compliance Plan.
- Adoption of a social media plan and policies, and launch of an EPA twitter account.

This Corporate Plan maintains our focus on managing the environmental harms faced by the state, and safeguarding our precious resources. It recognises the contribution that well-practised regulation makes towards our economic competitiveness and overall prosperity, while ensuring that we meet our current needs but do not compromise those of future generations. This plan also builds upon our organisational reform programs to improve our capability and further our high performance culture.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which reads "Tony Circelli". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tony Circelli

Strategic alignment

The EPA's approach to planning will ensure that we methodically and confidently identify our pressures, challenges and priorities, and deliver upon our strategic objectives.



To achieve our vision – *A better environment – protected for all South Australians*, the EPA operates within the broader government framework established by the SA Strategic Plan and SA Government Priorities. We work with stakeholder groups to identify and address pressures with specific, efficient and effective outcomes.

Our vision: a better environment - protected for all South Australians

The EPA's environmental goals have a long time horizon, describing what we ultimately seek to achieve for the people of South Australia.

Our environmental goals

Good quality land

Protect land from the adverse impacts of pollution and waste by addressing historical site contamination, advising and regulating industry, and promoting sustainable waste management (through the waste hierarchy).

Good quality water

Protect surface, ground, coastal and marine waters from pollution by monitoring water quality, advising and regulating industry, and supporting water quality improvement projects.

Good quality air

Protect air from atmospheric pollutants by monitoring air quality, including odour, advising and regulating industry, and supporting community based air quality improvement initiatives.

Protection from radiation

Protect the environment and the community from health risks associated with ionising and non-ionising radiation by advising and regulating sites, mines, equipment and users of radiation.

Protection from noise

Protect the community from exposure to unacceptable noise levels by advising and regulating industry, and supporting local government and police with community based noise management.



Challenges for a better environment

The EPA's short to medium term pressures are environmental and human health risks and impacts associated with six key environmental challenges facing the state.

Environmental pressures

- 1 Major point sources of pollution and waste.
- 2 South Australia's legacy issues, particularly site and groundwater contamination and the interface of industry and residential dwellings.
- 3 Increasing urban infrastructure development and renewal.
- 4 Inappropriate or illegal management of wastes and resource recovery.
- 5 Broader issues of statewide significance, e.g. management of the River Murray, potential impacts of renewable energy, and impacts of climate change.
- 6 Expansion of mining in South Australia and its associated infrastructure.



Creating value for South Australia

We will be using short and long-term outcomes to measure performance and assess our progress.

Our focus

Safer communities

Ensure South Australians are protected, healthy, safe and enjoy a clean environment.

Environmental knowledge

Capture knowledge and information to monitor, protect and improve South Australia’s environment.

Effective response

Improve our intervention and response to effectively control environmental pressures and the risk of harm.

Safeguarding resources

Promote a better understanding of South Australia’s natural resources and assets to ensure they are valued and managed sustainably to drive long-term prosperity and sustainable economic development.

Leading regulator

Improve our capability as a leading, trusted and influential adviser and regulator.



Our focus 2014–15

Safer Communities

- 1 Continue involvement in the Nyrstar transformation project to ensure that it is appropriately regulated
- 2 Finalise the Kimberly-Clark licence and continue discussions regarding OneSteel licensing requirements
- 3 Pursue air quality improvements by promoting correct use and operation of solid fuel heaters
- 4 Work with local government to progress consultation on the Local Nuisance Bill
- 5 Connect with our regional communities through delivery of the Regional Presence Framework 2014-15
- 6 Progress the development of a new approach to site contamination in the planning system

Environmental knowledge

- 7 Progress, with others, the State of the Environment Reporting Improvement Plan

Effective response

- 8 Review the appropriateness of EPA licence conditions for priority sites
- 9 Contribute to the effective management of the Dry Creek salt-fields
- 10 Review the *Radiation Protection and Control (Ionising Radiation Regulations 2000)* incorporating the *Radiation Protection and Control (Transport of Radioactive Substances) Regulations 2003*
- 11 Finalise the Water Quality Environment Protection Policy

- 12 Progress the Air Quality Environment Protection Policy for public consultation

- 13 Further our harms-based approach to regulation as part of our response to environmental pressures

Safeguarding resources

- 14 Engage with industry and key stakeholders on waste reforms for improved regulation of the waste and resource recovery sector

Leading regulator

- 15 Board review of the communications approach and protocols for managing site contamination legacy issues
- 16 Produce the EPA's annual regulatory compliance plan
- 17 Implement reforms and clarify responsibilities and processes for the mining sector as part of the EPA's better regulation work
- 18 Contribute to improvements in South Australia's planning system through participation in the expert panel on the state planning review
- 19 Pursue better regulatory reforms including leading and developing national initiatives
- 20 Improve service delivery and transparency through modernising online services
- 21 Provide a healthy and safe working environment
- 22 Continue to build our capability and advance our organisational performance

A high performance culture

The dedication and expertise of our staff are our greatest strengths.

Our focus is to further the development and support of our staff and to build a culture of professionalism, high performance and continuous improvement. These focus areas together with our 'ways of working' will further our organisation is a *great* place to work and a leading regulatory body.

Our 'ways of working'

- Work as one team
- Have a 'yes if' approach to what we do
- Work in a healthy and safe manner at all times
- Focus on outcomes
- Have a strong external and internal customer-focus ethos
- Be professional and accountable
- Use our resources wisely
- Deliver what we promise on time, every time

Our commitment to high performance

Work health and safety

It is everyone's responsibility to make sure we return home safe and well every day

Leadership

Identify, support, develop and demonstrate leadership capability across the EPA

Performance

Ensure accountability and recognise good performance

Service

Recognise that service-excellence starts from within

Capability

Build and improve our capability to enable us to meet our current and future challenges

Knowledge and Information

Foster a culture of information sharing and knowledge management

Innovation

Encourage innovation to enable better organisational and environmental outcomes

Strategy

Be outcomes focused and able to address future challenges and opportunities

Further information

To find out more about how the EPA is contributing to a better environment visit www.epa.sa.gov.au



EPA Strategic Plan 2012–15
Sets the strategic direction and framework for the EPA over a three-year period and supports the objectives and targets of South Australia's Strategic Plan and the SA Government's seven strategic priorities



State of the Environment Report 2013

The sixth report for South Australia reports the condition of the state's environment and the key environmental challenges to be faced



EPA Communications and Engagement Framework 2013–15
Our public statement of the role communications and engagement play in supporting the delivery of EPA strategic priorities



Annual Report

EPA performance and achievements are reported annually against strategic priorities of the EPA and South Australian Government



Annual Compliance Plan

As a respected and effective advisor and regulator, the EPA has published its regulatory approach and set out its annual compliance objectives and activities

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