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EDO NSW EBULLETIN – 27 January 2017: Number 990

The EDO NSW eBulletin is a free weekly bulletin that includes news, events, public notices and opportunities for public comment listed in our online resource [Have Your Say](#).

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EDO NSW News and Events

Community gains access to information on super trawler bycatch

More good news for the community's right to know.

The Australian Information Commissioner recently granted our client, the Australian Marine Conservation Society, access to information about the marine bycatch of the super trawler, Geelong Star.

It's a positive outcome for anyone seeking information from government agencies – the Commissioner's determination sends a clear message that the public has a right to know about the impact of industries on the environment.

[Read more »](#)



Court and Compliance Watch

Waste management company fined for offensive odours

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has fined Cleanaway Operations Pty Ltd \$15,000 for failing to upgrade the odour control system at its Padstow liquid waste treatment facility after they were ordered on the 1 November 2016 to do so.

[Read more »](#)

Law Reform and Policy Watch

Submission on the NSW Draft Coastal Management State Environmental Planning Policy

Our submission on these important reforms focuses on the impacts of expanded urban development in and near sensitive coastal environments. Our main recommendation is that the new coastal SEPP explicitly confirm that exempt and code-complying development is not permitted in or adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas.

The submission builds on our previous work on coastal management reform in NSW, which you can read about in our previous blog post [Housing, housing everywhere but not a DA in sight: the possible consequences of expanding complying development on sensitive coastal environments](#).

[Read our submission »](#)

Recent EDO submissions and reports

- [Draft Coastal Management State Environmental Planning Policy](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Review of the load-based licensing scheme](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Gwydir Water Resource Plan Surface Water – Issues Paper](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Proposed Medium Density Housing Code – Statement of Intended Effect and Draft Medium Density Design Guide](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Review of State Environmental Planning Policy on Koala Habitat Protection](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Inquiry into flying-fox management in the eastern states](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Inquiry into the impacts of climate change on marine fisheries and biodiversity](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Senate Inquiry into retirement of coal fired power plants](#), EDOs of Australia submission

Read all of our law reform submissions and briefing papers [on our website](#).

New legislation introduced to Parliament

[Australian Parliament](#)

The Australian Parliament is in recess until 7 February 2017.

[NSW Parliament](#)

The NSW Parliament is in recess until 14 February 2017.

Local Environmental Plan tracking

- [Penrith](#) – Planning proposal seeking to amend zoning, building and lot size of land for high density residential use to allow for future development on Victoria Street, Werrington.
- [The Hills](#) - Planning proposal to prohibit animal boarding or training establishments throughout The Hills local government area.
- [Fairfield](#) - Proposal to correct a mapping issue involving lot sizes on Dual Occupancy land in northwest and south Abbotsbury.
- [Sutherland](#) - Proposal to amend Sutherland Shire Local Environmental Plan 2015 by rezoning the land to a Business Park, removing Council's obligation to acquire the properties and enforcing development standards in order to continue the construction of the Woollooware Bay cycleway without disrupting local businesses.

To access the LEP tracking system, visit the Department of Planning and Environment [website](#). Read more about LEPs in our [Fact Sheets](#). Visit your [local council's website](#) to see if there are any planning proposals or LEP changes open for public comment.

Have Your Say Alerts – Opportunities to Comment

This eBulletin provides alerts for opportunities to comment on changes to law and policy, and activities that may impact the environment in your area. For a comprehensive list of current opportunities to have your say on a range of environment and planning matters, visit our [Have Your Say site](#).

This online resource [also helps the community to effectively engage](#) with decision-makers and [request a workshop](#) for your community. We are always trying to improve our community resources and are currently seeking feedback on the effectiveness of Have Your Say. You can help us out by [checking out the site](#) and [completing a short three-question survey](#).

Consultations

- **Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Community Listing Consultations**

- [Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains](#) – Submissions invited until Friday 10 March 2017.

For a full listing of threatened species and endangered ecological community listings currently open for public comment, visit the [NSW Office of Environment and Heritage website](#) and the [Australian Department of the Environment website](#).

- **Fisheries assessments**

- *No new assessments have been placed on exhibition since the last eBulletin.*

For a full listing of fisheries assessments currently open for public comment, visit the [NSW Department of Primary Industries website](#) and the [Australian Department of the Environment website](#).

Legislative reviews

- *No new legislative reviews have been announced since the last eBulletin.*

Major Project proposals: Invitation to comment

- [White Rock Wind farm, Glen Innes](#) - Modification involving construction and operation of a new electricity transmission line, a new switchyard and

substation to connect to the grid – submissions invited until Tuesday 21 February 2017.

- [Springvale Coal Mine, Lidsdale](#) - Modifications to the Springvale Extension Project – Submissions invited until Tuesday 28 February 2017.

For a full listing of major project proposals currently open for public comment, visit the Department of Planning and Environment's [website](#). To learn more about the planning process for major projects, read our [Fact Sheet](#) on State Significant Development and State Significant Infrastructure.

EPBC Referrals: Invitation to comment

- [Deer Park, VIC](#) - Proposed Sports Pavilion Development, Quinn Street – Submissions invited until Wednesday 8 February 2017.
- [Clovelly Beach, NSW](#) - EGS Survey Pty Ltd marine acoustic survey of the seabed – Submissions invited until Tuesday 7 February 2017.
- [Marble Bar, WA](#) - Iron Ore Mining Project, Pilbara Region, Atlas Iron Limited – Submissions invited until Tuesday 7 February 2017.

Referrals under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) can be viewed on the Australian Environment Department's [website](#). To learn more, read our [Fact Sheet on the EPBC Act](#).

Plans of Management: Invitation to comment

- *No new National Park plans of management have been placed on exhibition since the last eBulletin.*

The full listing of plans of management for protected areas can be viewed on the [Office of Environment and Heritage website](#). To learn more about the Plans of Management, see our [Fact Sheet on Protected Areas](#).

New Coal and Petroleum Exploration Licence Applications

- *No new coal or petroleum exploration licence applications have been listed since the last eBulletin.*

To view current coal and petroleum (including CSG) exploration licence applications and approvals, visit the Minerals and Petroleum [website](#). The [NSW Government Gazette](#) also contains a list of all exploration and mining lease applications and determinations. Public comment can be made on coal and petroleum (including CSG) exploration licence applications on the Minerals and Petroleum [website](#). To learn more, read the EDO NSW publication [Mining Law in NSW: A guide for the community](#).

*****UPDATE***Senior environment and planning vacancies**

A number of key environment and planning positions are currently open:

- Office of Environment and Heritage: [Director Sustainability Programs](#); [Director Community & Compliance](#); [Director Park Cultural Values And Planning](#); [World Heritage Area Advisory Committee \(Chair and four members positions\)](#).
- Department of Planning & Environment: [Senior Scientist, Koala Ecologist; Team Leaders, Regional Planning \(2 positions\)](#); [Specialist Planning Officers \(2 positions\)](#); and [Specialist Planning Officer](#).
- Department of Justice: [Associate To The Chief Judge Of The Land And Environment Court](#).

[More NSW environment positions »](#)

How conservatives can lead on climate action under President Trump

Former US Republican Party Congressman Bob Inglis will speak at the University of Sydney about climate action from a conservative perspective. The event will be chaired by Robert Hill AC, with panellists Rob Stokes, NSW Minister for Planning, and Dr Scott Heron.

The event is free, but bookings are essential.

When: Tuesday 14 February 2017, 6pm – 7.30pm

Where: Business School Lecture Theatre, Abercrombie Building, University of Sydney, Abercrombie St, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Young environmental lawyer of the year

Nominations are open for the Mahla Pearlman Award for the Australian Young Environmental Lawyer of the Year. The award is given to a young lawyer who has made a significant contribution to environmental law. Recipients have carried out extra work giving back to the legal community as well as to the community at large.

Nominations for the Award close Friday 10 February 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Mahla Pearlman Oration 2017

Professor Jane McAdam, University of New South Wales, will deliver the 2017 Mahla Pearlman Oration, *Should I Stay or Should I Go? Shaping International Responses to Climate Change, Disasters and Displacement*.

The Mahla Pearlman Australian Young Environmental Lawyer of the Year Award will be presented at the Oration. The Oration is free.

When: Thursday 9 March 2017, 5pm – 7pm

Where: Court 21, Federal Court of Australia, Queens Square, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Future of environmental law symposium

The Law Council of Australia's 2017 Future of Environmental Law Symposium will focus on the interrelation of business law and the environment. It will also honour the contributions of the Hon Justice Michael Barker of the Federal Court of Australia, and Professor Christine Trenorden, founding member and Senior Judge of the South Australian Environment, Resources and Development Court.

When: Friday 10 March 2017, 9am – 5pm

Where: The Langham, 89–113 Kent Street, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Lawyers Weekly partner of the year awards

The Lawyers Weekly Partner of the Year Awards recognise outstanding performance by partners in law firms across a range of categories, including planning and environment, native title, and energy and resources.

Nominations for this year's award need to be lodged by Friday 3 February 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Environmental law year in review

The Australian Centre for Climate and Environmental Law (ACCEL) is holding its inaugural 'Year in Review' in February 2017. At this one-day event, speakers will provide insights on the implications of key developments in climate and environmental law in 2016, in areas such as biodiversity, coastal management, natural resources, and mining.

Our CEO Sue Higginson and our Policy & Law Reform Director Rachel Walmsley will both be presenting at the event.

Early bird registrations close on Friday 27 January 2017.

When: Friday 24 February 2017

Where: Stockland Building, level 18, 133 Castlereagh St, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Online database of international coal litigation strategies

Climate Change and Environmental Legislation

How can climate change be accommodated within environmental law? This one day conference will consider how environmental laws can be reformed to accommodate climate change and sustainable development concepts, internationally and in Western Australia.

The conference is being presented by NELA WA, the International Bar Association, Glen McLeod Lawyers and Murdoch University.

When: Friday 17 February 2017

Where: Murdoch University, 90 South St, Murdoch, WA

[Read more »](#)

Environmental Law: What Can We Do Better?

A selection of papers from the National Environmental Law Association Conference 2016 are now available online, including our Policy and Law Reform Director Rachel Walmsley's presentation on '[Biodiversity laws – Are we making progress?](#)'

[Read the papers online »](#)

Women's environmental leadership program 2017

Are you a woman, an active environmentalist and living in Australia? The Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA) program is calling for applications for its 2017 program.

WELA is designed by and for women environmentalists. The 12-day 2017 residential program will examine critically ideas about women taking even more environmental leadership in Australia.

Applications for WELA 2017 close on Friday 10 February 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Support EDO NSW

Help protect our precious biodiversity

The NSW Government has passed legislation that changes the way we will manage biodiversity in NSW, and it's not good news for the environment.

Even though the biodiversity and local land services bills have been passed, many of the details on how to implement these laws have not yet been decided. We still have a lot of work to do, and we need your help.

Your [donation](#) will help us continue working to ensure that our laws will protect our biodiversity for generations to come.

[Please make a donation today.](#)

Other ways you can help us defend the environment

You can have an even greater impact by becoming a [Friend of the EDO](#). Our regular donors are an invaluable source of funding and help us ensure we are ready to respond when the community needs our help.

Visit [our website](#) for even more ways to support our work.

Environmental Defender

Read more about how your support can help protect the environment in the July 2016 edition of our supporter newsletter, [Environmental Defender](#).

EDO NSW has been providing critical legal support to NSW communities for 30 years. We are the only legal centre in NSW specialising in public interest environmental issues.

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