

View our most recent eBulletin at www.edonsw.org.au/ebulletin

EDO NSW EBULLETIN – 5 May 2017: Number 1004

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](#).

EDO News & Events	Court & Compliance	Law Reform & Policy Watch
Have Your Say Alerts	Community News	Support EDO NSW

EDO NSW News and Events

How can we make national environmental laws better?

A panel of experts is working on their vision for 'next generation' laws, and is calling on others to contribute.

The Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law (APEEL) is developing a vision for how Australian environmental laws can ensure a healthy, functioning and resilient environment for generations to come.

If you or someone you know has ideas on how we can improve our laws to stop environmental decline, now is your chance to get involved. Your feedback is sought by Tuesday 2 June 2017.

[Read more »](#)

You're invited – our 2017 Gala Dinner, a charity event not to miss

Tables and tickets are selling fast – book now to ensure your seat at our [2017 Gala Dinner](#).

Join our MCs legendary comedy duo Roy & HG and celebrity auctioneer Cecily Hardy for a fabulous night of entertainment. Hear from keynote speaker the Hon. Margaret Beazley AO, watch Dr Karl Kruszelnicki AM, and listen to the stories of some of the communities we've worked with to protect the environment through law.

When: Thursday 15 June 2017, 6:30-10pm

Where: Ivy Ballroom, Level 1, 320 George Street, Sydney (entrance at the end of Palings Lane)

There will be fine food and drink, live music, and a charity auction where you'll have the chance to bid on exciting items, including things that money can't buy.

We'd love you to be there. Don't miss out!

[Book your tickets now »](#)



Gala Dinner 2017

A charity event not to miss!



Community legal centre funding: what it means for your EDO

You may have seen in the news that the Australian Government has announced it will restore funding to community legal centres.

While this is great news for community legal centres, unfortunately EDOs won't receive any of this funding – the cuts made in 2013 to our funding by the Australian Government remain in place.

This funding announcement shouldn't be confused with another recent funding announcement made of a possible 70 percent cut to our State-based funding. We're still fighting to maintain our State-level funding, and will let you know the outcome as soon as we can.

[Read more »](#)

Congratulations Wendy Bowman

Congratulations to our client Wendy Bowman, who has been awarded the internationally prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize. If you'd like to join us in congratulating Wendy, why not [leave a comment on Facebook](#).

We have had the privilege of working with Wendy over many years in her fight to protect Camberwell in the Hunter Valley from the cumulative impacts of coal mining.

[Read more »](#)

Court and Compliance Watch

Tree feller fined for illegal felling

The NSW Land and Environment Court has fined a tree felling company \$16,000 plus costs for lopping and removing trees without consent from Ku-ring-gai Council. The trees were protected by the Ku-ring-gai Tree Preservation Order.

[Read more »](#)

Law Reform and Policy Watch

Recent EDO submissions and reports

- [Inquiry into the rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Draft State Environmental Planning Policy \(Education Establishments and Child Care Facilities\) 2017](#), EDO NSW submission
- [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Infrastructure\) Amendment \(Review\) 2016](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Greater Sydney Commission's draft *Towards Our Greater Sydney 2056*](#), EDO NSW submission
- [NSW Marine Estate Threat and Risk Assessment Draft Report](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Surface Water Status and Issues Papers for the Barwon-Darling and Namoi catchments](#), EDO NSW submissions
- [Reducing emissions from the transport sector](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment Bill 2017](#), EDO NSW submission

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

New legislation introduced to Parliament

Australian Parliament

- *No new relevant bills have been introduced into Parliament since the last eBulletin*

NSW Parliament

- *Crown Land Legislation Amendment Bill 2017*

This Government Bill makes a number of amendments to the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*, including abolishing the Public Reserves Management Fund and including a Crown Reserves Improvement Fund under the Act.

[Read the Bill »](#)

- *Gas and Electricity (Consumer Safety) Bill 2017*

This Government Bill makes a number of amendments to the *Electricity (Consumer Safety) Act 2004*, the *Electricity (Consumer Safety) Regulation 2015* and the *Gas Supply (Consumer Safety) Regulation 2012*, including a number of amendments relating to compliance and enforcement.

[Read the Bill »](#)

- *Transport Administration Amendment (Closure of Railway Line Between Rosewood and Tumbarumba) Bill 2017*

This Government Bill would amend the *Transport Administration Act 1988* to authorise the closure of a railway line between Rosewood and Tumbarumba to create a walking and bicycle rail trail.

[Read the Bill »](#)

Local Environmental Plan tracking

- [Lismore](#) – Reduction of minimum lot size at 270 Dunoon Road.
- [Parramatta](#) – Amendment to allow child care centres on five sites zoned as public recreation.
- [Parramatta](#) – Extensive changes to Parramatta CBD planning controls to implement Parramatta CBD Planning Strategy.
- [Parramatta](#) – Modification to maximum building height and floor space ratio, 107 George Street.
- [Lismore](#) – Rezoning of land at 116 James Street Dunoon.

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

- **Threat abatement plan for 'dieback' water mould**

The Australian Department of the Environment and Energy is calling for public submissions on a draft threat abatement plan for disease caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, or 'dieback' water mould.

Submissions are invited until Monday 24 July 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Community Listings**

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

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](#).

Major Project proposals: Invitation to comment

- [Wetherill Park](#) – Development and operation of resource recovery and recycling facility, Davis Road – Submissions invited until Friday 2 June 2017.
- [Thredbo](#) – Internal alterations and additions, Woodridge Lodge – Submissions invited until Wednesday 17 May 2017.
- [Blacktown](#) – Developer monetary contribution, Oakdale and Erskine Park – Submissions invited until Thursday 1 June 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

- [Robe, SA](#) – Robe golf course extension – Submissions invited until Wednesday 17 May 2017.
- [Hammond Park, WA](#) – Residential development, Wattleup Road – Submissions invited until Wednesday 17 May 2017.

- [Roper Valley, NT](#) – Open cut iron ore mine in the Roper Gulf region – Submissions invited until Tuesday 16 May 2017.
- [East Gippsland, VIC](#) – Development of the Glenaladale mineral sands deposit (Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project) – Submissions invited until Monday 15 May 2017.
- [Kareela, NSW](#) – Dispersal of the flying foxes at Kareela flying-fox camp and Camellia Gardens – Submissions invited until Friday 12 May 2017.
- [Banjup, WA](#) – Residential development, Beenyup Road – Submissions invited until Friday 12 May 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 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](#).

Community News

New this week

Green Globe Awards 2017

Nominations for the 2017 Green Globe Awards open on Tuesday 9 May 2017.

The Awards celebrate excellence in environmental sustainability by businesses, community groups and individuals in NSW. Ten awards are available.

Nominations close on Tuesday 27 June 2017, with the winners announced in September.

[Read more »](#)

Panel session on the changing face of planning approval compliance

The Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) is holding a panel discussion in Sydney on the changing face of planning approval compliance.

Presentations will be given by Kirsty Ruddock, Director of Compliance, Department of Planning and Environment and Peter Briggs, Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills. Presentations will be followed by a Q&A session

When: Wednesday 17 May 2017, 5:30-7:30pm

Where: WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff, Level 27, 680 George St, Sydney

Cost: EIANZ members \$15; non-Members \$30

[Read more »](#)

Twilight Seminar: Class 3 Compensation Claims

EPLA's May 2017 Twilight Seminar will enable discussion by practitioners regularly appearing in Class 3 Compensation matters to raise additional suggestions and comments to be forwarded to the Court as part of EPLA's submission.

When: Thursday 11 May 2017, 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Martin Place Chambers, Level 32, 52 Martin Place, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Forum on Northern Rivers contaminated land and waste

EIANZ is presenting a one day forum on contaminated land and waste. There will be a number of keynote speakers from both government and industry.

When: Wednesday 21 Jun 2017, 8:00am-5:00pm

Where: Ballina, NSW

Cost: EIANZ Members \$125; non-members \$250

[Read more »](#)

Australian Environment Review April 2017

The April edition of the Australian Environment Review focuses on Northern Australia. Articles include analyses of the Northern Territory's environmental assessment laws and the future of water law in the Northern Territory.

[Read more »](#)

Key roles at environment and planning agencies

A number of key positions are currently being advertised at NSW environment and planning agencies:

- Department of Planning and Environment: [Senior Project Officer, Sustainability Advantage](#); and [Director, Strategy and Asset Management](#).
- Office of Environment and Heritage: [Senior Team Leader, Water Floodplains and Coast](#); [Senior Project Officer \(Environmental Programs\)](#); and [Principal Climate & Atmospheric Scientist](#).
- Environment Protection Authority: [Investigator](#); and [Legal Graduate](#).
- Planning Assessment Commission: [Unit Head, Waste & Resource Recovery](#); and [Team Leader](#).

[More NSW environment positions »](#)

From last week

Bushfire Conference: Fire, Fauna and Ferals

The NSW Nature Conservation Council's 11th biennial bushfire conference will explore how fire management can support ecological values across the landscape, from our backyards through to the bushland interface and beyond.

A conference field day will be held on Thursday 1 June, will visit North Head to see restoration and regeneration projects in action.

When: Tuesday 30 to Wednesday 31 May 2017

Where: Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

2017 Regional Environment Conference

The Nature Conservation Council's 2017 Regional Environment Conference will be held in Lithgow. The conference is a chance for conservationists to network, learn new skills, and plan for community action.

On the second day of the conference, participants will go on a field trip to Maiyingu Marragu, Cox's River and Wolgan Valley.

Jemilah Hallinan, our Outreach Director – Community Programs, will take part in a panel session on mining impacts on nature in the Central West and present a workshop on the new Biodiversity Conservation Act.

When: Saturday 3 June to Sunday 4 June 2017

Where: Uniting Church Lithgow, 43 Bridge Street, Lithgow

[Read more »](#)

Australian Environmental Law Digest April 2017

The April 2017 edition NELA's Australian Environmental Law Digest contains analyses on proposed amendments for the strategic planning and approvals processes under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, a recent Federal Court's decision on validity for indigenous land use agreements, and more.

[Read more »](#)

Kiribati Australia Tuvalu exchange program

Pacific Calling Partnership's (PCP) fourth annual Kiribati Australia Tuvalu Exchange Program has begun. The two-week educational and advocacy program provides young Pacific Islander participants training in climate change advocacy and leadership. The four young Pacific Islanders involved this year will take home increased knowledge of the science of climate change and become empowered climate change leaders.

As part of the Program, the PCP is inviting those interested to two events, both at the Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Rd, Homebush West:

- Pacific Barbecue and Cultural celebration, Sunday 7 May 2017, 1.00pm - 4.00pm at
- Pacific Stories – Courageously Encountering God in Climate Change, Thursday 11 May 2017, 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

The Pacific Calling Partnership is also calling for donations of mobile smart phones in good working order to use in a media training session. If you have a spare or unused smart phone you can donate, please email Jill Finnane at jillf@erc.org.au or phone 8762 4200.

[Read more »](#)

NELA National Conference 2017: Save the date

Today is the last day to submit abstracts and speaker suggestions for the 2017 National Environmental Law Association (NELA) national conference, which will be held in Brisbane on Friday 4 August 2017.

The conference theme is 'Addressing Past Harm, Managing Future Risks'. A list of suggested topics and details on how to make a submission can be found at the [NELA website](#).

When: Friday 4 August 2017

Where: King & Wood Mallesons, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane

[Read more »](#)

The Critical Atmosphere: CASANZ conference 2017

Early bird registrations are open for the Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand 2017 conference, to be held in Brisbane in October.

The conference will examine the effects of climate change on human health and wellbeing and our capacity to effectively control and regulate air pollution.

Early bird registrations close on Monday 3 July 2017.

When: Sunday 15 to Wednesday 18 October 2017

Where: Pullman Hotel, Brisbane

[Read more »](#)

International Bar Association Conference Scholarship

The Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Law Section of the International Bar Association is offering a scholarship to attend the 2017 IBA Annual Conference to be held in Sydney in October 2017.

The scholarship will be awarded to young lawyers who wish to participate in the conference, but who face financial difficulties in doing so.

Applications are open to all qualified lawyers age 35 and under. The deadline for applications is Sunday 7 May 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Safeguard our Crown Lands Community Forum

This community forum will provide participants with knowledge of the new legislation and the skills and motivation to improve the management of crown lands and to reduce the likelihood of their inappropriate disposal or conversion to freehold.

Our Outreach Director – Professional Programs Emily Ryan will be presenting on recent changes to Crown Lands legislation.

Tickets are \$45 (\$38 concession), and include morning and afternoon tea, and lunch.

When: Saturday 13 May 2017, 9am to 5:30pm

Where: Rahamim Ecology Centre, 34 Busby St, South Bathurst

[Read more »](#)

Support EDO NSW

Help plan for a sustainable future

The NSW Government is proposing significant changes to planning legislation. Our expert planning lawyers are reviewing the proposed changes and will advise the community on what these changes mean for you and the environment.

[Your donation](#) will help us reach as many people as possible with information on the changes that will decide the way we care for our precious natural areas.

[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 latest 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.

[Subscribe to this weekly eBulletin](#)