

## **e-Bulletin**

### **No. 5 of 2018, 13 April 2018**

#### ***The environment's legal team since 1992 - protecting the public interest - evening the odds***

The EDO is an independent community legal centre specialising in public interest environmental law. We provide legal advice and assistance, engage in law reform and participate in legal education activities for the South Australian community.

**If you are seeking advice on any environmental or planning issue please visit our website <http://www.edosa.org.au> or email [edosa@edo.org.au](mailto:edosa@edo.org.au)**

**Our services are only possible with the support of the South Australian community. Your donation will enable us to continue our fight to defend the environment using the law. Please consider a tax deductible donation - all amounts over \$2 are tax deductible.**

**Click here to [join us](#) or [make a tax-deductible donation](#).**

We are also on [Facebook](#).

**Please feel free to share this eBulletin with your networks.**

### **UPDATE ON EDO WORK**

In the last fortnight we have been advising community members on dust and odour pollution issues, protecting state listed built heritage and have finalised our submission to the Senate Inquiry regarding siting of the national nuclear waste facility in South Australia.

### **NEWS AND EVENTS**

#### **South Australia**

- Invitation to meeting regarding the future of EDO(SA) - Tuesday 24 April
- EDO Public Seminar – An update on ICAC
- Forum: Implementing the Murray-Darling Basin Plan

## Commonwealth & Interstate

- Law Council of Australia 2018 Environmental Law Symposium

## NOTICES AND INQUIRIES

### Commonwealth

- EPBC Act “Targeted Review”
- Senate Inquiry – Rehabilitation of power station ash dams
- Review of National Gene Technology Scheme – Preliminary Report consultation

## PREVIOUS NOTICES: REMINDERS

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### South Australia

#### [Invitation to meeting regarding the future of EDO\(SA\) - Tuesday 24 April](#)

Dear friends of the EDO,

As you may be aware the EDO(SA) has been involved in discussions about a proposal to form a new national organisation with other EDO offices.

Our members will decide this important matter. As the next step we are having a meeting to discuss the draft constitution for the proposed national organisation. Later in the year we will convene a meeting of members to vote on the proposal.

**When:** **Tuesday 24 April, 6pm** - light refreshments will be provided

**Where:** Flinders University City Campus, [182 Victoria Square](#) (corner Flinders St), Room 4, Level 1

**RSVP:** by 20 April to [edosa@edo.org.au](mailto:edosa@edo.org.au) or phone 8359 2222

Please note: if your membership has lapsed, you can renew in person at this meeting, [online](#) or by post.

## [EDO Public Seminar – An update on ICAC](#)

ICAC CEO, **Michael Riches**, will provide an overview and update on the workings of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption since its inception in SA. Specific cases will be referred to and a review of procedures and ethics addressed, followed by a panel discussion and time for questions.

*Light refreshments will be available prior to the seminar.*

**WHEN:** Thursday **April 26, 2018** at 6pm - 7:30pm

**WHERE:** Flinders University City Campus, Room 1, level 1, 182 Victoria Sq, Adelaide.

**BOOK:** [Here](#). \$5, all tickets.

## [Forum: Implementing the Murray-Darling Basin Plan](#)

Are you confused about what's going on in the Murray-Darling Basin?

This free forum will explore the implementation process for the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, and current concerns about environmental, social and economic issues related to the outcomes.

The discussion will include concerns raised in the 'Murray-Darling Declaration' signed by 12 respected scientists and economists.

### Presenters:

*Maryanne Slattery, Senior Water Researcher, the Australia Institute*

Is implementation of the Basin Plan on track to deliver equitable environmental, social and economic outcomes?

*Dr Anne Jensen, Environmental Consultant, Healthy Rivers Ambassador for MDB*

Is the Basin Plan on track to deliver its predicted environmental outcomes?

*Prof Lin Crase, Murray Darling Declaration, Head of School of Commerce, UniSA:*

Is economic investment in the Basin Plan on track to deliver predicted water savings?

**WHEN:** 19 April 2018 at 6pm - 8pm  
**WHERE:** The Joinery, 111 Franklin St, Adelaide, SA 5000  
**CONTACT:** kathy.whitta@conservationsa.org.au · (08) 8223 5155

## **Commonwealth & Interstate**

### **[Law Council of Australia 2018 Environmental Law Symposium](#)**

The Legal Practice Section's Australian Environment and Planning Law Group will be hosting the 2018 Environmental Law Symposium at the New South Wales Law Society on 19 April 2018.

#### *Key Speakers:*

- Justice Brian Preston SC, Chief Judge (Land and Environment Court, NSW)
- Greg McIntyre SC, Barrister (Environment, Heritage & Human Rights)
- Kevin Smith, CEO (Queensland South Native Title Services)
- Dr Rebecca Nelson, Senior Lecturer (University of Melbourne)

The event will also include a special presentation honouring the contribution of Justice Murray Wilcox AO QC to environmental jurisprudence in Australia.

The Symposium will be followed by the annual Mahla Pearlman Oration to be delivered by the Hon Robert French AC.

**WHEN:** 19 April 2018, from 11:30 am.  
**WHERE:** Law Society of NSW, 170 Phillip St, Sydney, 2000.  
**REGISTER:** [HERE](#)

## **NOTICES AND INQUIRIES**

### **South Australia**

## [Regular SA Government Consultations](#)

Below are links to a number of SA Government agencies and bodies who undertake regular environmental audits or assessments open for public consultation. Whilst there are too many such consultations for us to list them all fully in the e-Bulletin, the links are included here as they may nevertheless be of interest to readers. The e-Bulletin will publish consultations in these categories where we deem them to be of wide public importance.

[Current Crown Developments and 'Category 3' Developments before SCAP](#)

[Current Ministerial Development Plan Amendments](#)

[Current YourSAy consultations](#)

[Current EPA license applications](#)

[Current DSD mining proposals](#)

[Current DSD petroleum proposals](#)

## **Commonwealth**

### [EPBC Act "Targeted Review"](#)

The Minister for the Environment and Energy and the Minister for Agriculture and Water have jointly announced that Dr Wendy Craik will undertake a short-term targeted review to reduce 'red-tape' and find practical ways to help farmers meet the requirements of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act).

The Government says that the review will "...help unpack the issues faced by farmers to find real solutions while maintaining the high environmental standards Australia is renowned for." The reviewer will report to Government in mid-2018.

The review will undertake "targeted consultation" to understand farmers' concerns, and has committed to allowing farmers and key agricultural stakeholders an opportunity to raise their views at the headline link above, although a time is yet to be specified.

### Senate Inquiry – Rehabilitation of power station ash dams

On 8 February 2017, the Senate referred an inquiry into the rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities to the Environment and Communications References Committee for inquiry and report.

On 27 March 2018, the Senate resolved to vary the terms of reference to expand the inquiry to include consideration of the rehabilitation of power station ash dams, in particular, to examine "...the effectiveness of existing and past power station ash dams with regard to repairing environmental damage and safeguarding human health."

Submissions are due by **18 April 2018**.

### Review of National Gene Technology Scheme – Preliminary Report consultation

Australia's National Gene Technology Scheme (the Scheme) was designed with the intention of protecting the health and safety of people and the environment from the risks associated with gene technology.

The Scheme is a national cooperative of all state, territory and Commonwealth governments set out in the Gene Technology Agreement 2001 (the Agreement). The Scheme consists of the Agreement, the *Gene Technology Act 2000 (Cth)* (the Act), the Gene Technology Regulations 2001 (Cth) (the Regulations) and corresponding state and territory legislation. Regular reviews of the Scheme are required under the Agreement. Since the commencement of the Gene Technology Scheme in 2001, two reviews have been conducted (in 2006 and 2011).

The Terms of Reference require the latest review to include, but not limited itself to, assessing and making recommendations in relation to:

1. Current developments and techniques, as well as extensions and advancements in gene technology to ensure the Scheme can accommodate continued technological development.
2. Existing and potential mechanisms to facilitate an agile and effective Scheme which ensures continued protection of health and safety of people and the environment.
3. The appropriate legislative arrangements to meet the needs of the Scheme now and into the future, including the Gene Technology Agreement.
4. Funding arrangements to ensure sustainable funding levels and mechanisms are aligned with the level and depth of activity to support the Scheme.

This review has now reached its third phase of consultation with the release of a Preliminary Report containing 33 listed findings. A copy of the Report is available by following the headline link above.

Submissions are due by **24 May 2018**.

### **Regular Commonwealth Government Consultations**

Below are links to Federal Government agencies and bodies who undertake environmental audits/assessments that may be open for public consultation. Whilst there are too many such consultations for us to list them all in the e-Bulletin, the links are included here as they may nevertheless be of interest to readers. The e-Bulletin will publish consultations in these categories where we deem them to be of wide public importance.

[EPBC Act Public Notices and Invitations to Comment](#)

[Department of the Environment and Energy - Public Consultation Notice Board](#)

### **PREVIOUS NOTICES: REMINDERS**

[House of Representatives Inquiry - the management and use of Commonwealth environmental water](#)

- Submissions are due by **12 April 2018**.

[Murray-Darling Basin Plan 5yr assessment – Productivity Commission consultation](#)

- Submissions are due by **19 April 2018**.

[Planning and Design Code Discussion Paper – Future Land Use](#)

- Submissions are due by **20 April 2018**.

[Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission Issues Paper consultation](#)

- Submissions are due by **30 April 2018**.

[Accredited Professionals Scheme discussion paper](#)

- Submissions are due by **30 April 2018**.

[Review of the Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement](#)

- Submissions are due by **2 May 2018**.

[Product stewardship consultation - action on environmental impacts of products](#)

- Submissions are due by **4 May 2018**.