

## **e-Bulletin**

### **No. 16 of 2018, 27 September 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.

**In the last fortnight we have been working with our sister organisation EDO NSW on a court challenge to the approval of an underground coal gasification trial plant at Leigh Creek. This process was banned in Queensland after causing extensive contamination. Unfortunately an application for an order to prevent work from starting was unsuccessful. Our client remains strongly opposed to this operation.**

**We are also continuing work on providing feedback to the South Australian government on improving protection of built heritage, better management of pest species and further aspects of the new planning system.**

**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.

## **NEWS AND EVENTS**

### **South Australia**

- **DATE CHANGE - EDO Annual General Meeting**
- **SA Government releases 41 report cards on the environment**

- 100,000 cubic metres of sand to be moved to West Beach

## NOTICES AND INQUIRIES

### South Australia

- SA Parliamentary Inquiry – The moratorium on genetically modified crops
- Ongoing planning reform drop-in sessions

## PREVIOUS NOTICES: REMINDERS

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### South Australia

#### [DATE CHANGE - EDO Annual General Meeting](#)

The date for the Environmental Defenders Office (SA) Annual General Meeting has been changed, and will now be held in November.

It is anticipated that a major item for consideration by members will be whether EDO SA consents to merge with other EDO offices to form a national organization. More information on this will be provided to members as soon as possible.

All welcome, but only members can vote.

If you are interested in nominating for the Management Committee please email Gabrielle Bond, EDO Administrator at [edo@edosa.org.au](mailto:edo@edosa.org.au).

**When:** Monday, **26 November 2018**, 6:00pm.

**Where:** **Flinders University City Campus:** Room 2.3, Level 2, 182 Victoria Square (cnr Flinders St), Adelaide

Drinks and nibbles provided.

### **[SA Government releases 41 report cards on the environment](#)**

The South Australian Department of Environment and Water has released a series of report cards detailing the current conditions and trends of the State's environment. The 41 report cards cover a range of areas such as water resources, native vegetation, and soil. They also set out various environmental pressures, such as pest plants and animals, climate, and air quality; and summarise the government's management responses, including, marine protected areas, land protected areas, and water management.

The general tenor of the report cards indicate a continuing deterioration in the State's environment, with indicators marked 'getting worse' outnumbering those marked 'improving' by 2 to 1. Most noticeably - all climate indicators showed deterioration, as did the overwhelming majority of indicators tracking the health and numbers of native fauna and flora, whether they be on land, or in river or marine environments.

The report cards can be viewed by following the above headline link.

### **[100,000 cubic metres of sand to be moved to West Beach](#)**

The South Australian Government has committed to a 2-year program to cart in approximately 100,000 cubic metres of sand to Adelaide's West Beach. The move is a temporary fix to address the extensive dune erosion and sand loss issues that are ongoing in the area. The fresh sand - enough to cover five AFL fields to a depth of 2 metres – will be sourced from the Semaphore South breakwater, which the Government says is currently experiencing an accumulation.

A report prepared for the Government by the Danish Hydraulic Institute said that about 500,000 cubic metres of sand has disappeared from West Beach since the late 1990s, and that this had accelerated since about 2011- primarily due to human influences on the coastline.

Longer-term solutions to the sand loss problem are currently being evaluated.

The sand carting works will start on Monday 15 October 2018.

## NOTICES AND INQUIRIES

### South Australia

#### [SA Parliamentary Inquiry – The moratorium on genetically modified crops](#)

A Select Committee of the Legislative Council has been established to inquire into and report on the moratorium on the cultivation of Genetically Modified (GM) crops in South Australia, with specific reference to –

- (a) The benefits and costs of South Australia being GM-free for the state, its industries and people;
- (b) The effect of the moratorium on marketing South Australian products both nationally and internationally including:
  - i. Costs and benefits to South Australian industries and markets of remaining GM-free;
  - ii. Costs and benefits to South Australian industries and markets from lifting the moratorium on cultivating GM crops in South Australia;
  - iii. Current or potential reputational impacts, both positive and negative, on other South Australian food and wine producers, that may result from retaining or lifting the moratorium;
  - iv. Consideration of global trends and consumer demands for GM crops/foods versus non GM-crops/foods;
- (c) The difference between GM and non-GM crops in relation to yield, chemical use and other agricultural and environmental factors;
- (d) Any long term environmental effects of growing GM crops including soil health;
- (e) The potential for contamination of non-GM or organic crops by GM crops, including:
  - i. Consideration of matters relating to the segregation of GM and non-GM crops in the paddock, in storage and during transportation;
  - ii. The potential impacts of crop contamination on non-GM and organic farmers;
  - iii. Consideration of GM contamination cases interstate and internationally; and
- (f) Any other matters that the Committee considers relevant

Submissions are due by **19 October 2018**.

### [Ongoing planning reform drop-in sessions](#)

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure is holding Open House Drop-in sessions to provide clarification and information on the development and implementation of the Planning Reforms brought about by the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

New dates and sessions have been added covering various topics. Further information may be found by following the above headline link.

The next drop-in session will feature Sally Smith, General Manager Planning and Development. It will take place in the ground floor meeting room at 50 Flinders Street, Adelaide on **28 September 2018** from 10:00am-1:00pm.

To register, email [DPTI.PlanningEngagement@sa.gov.au](mailto:DPTI.PlanningEngagement@sa.gov.au)

### [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

### 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

[SA Parliamentary Inquiry - Management of Overabundant and Pest Species in South Australia](#)

- Submissions are due by **5 October 2018**.

[Updating the National Waste Policy](#)

- Submissions are due by **5 October 2018**.

[Draft State Public Health Plan - consultation](#)

- Submissions are due by **5 October 2018**.

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

- Submissions are due by **10 October 2018**.

[NRM Act to be replaced by 'Landscape South Australia Act' – discussion paper released](#)

- Submissions are due by **15 October 2018**.

[New SA planning system – Consultation on new ways of assessing development](#)

- Submissions are due by **17 October 2018**.

[New SA planning system – Consultation on new ways to monitor development](#)

- Submissions are due by **17 October 2018**.

[New SA planning system – Consultation on the Accredited Professionals Scheme Draft](#)

- Submissions are due by **17 October 2018**.

[Planning and Design Code: Transport and integrated movement policy consultation](#)

- Submissions are due by **3 December 2018**.

[Planning and Design Code: Environment and natural resources policy consultation](#)

- Submissions are due by **3 December 2018**.