

EPA Board Communique

20 May 2008



The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Board Communique has been developed to provide information on matters discussed by the Board at its monthly meetings.

Establishment of a Board Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Board endorsed the establishment of an Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee for a 12-month period. The Committee will consider the audit and risk management areas of responsibility of the Board, and oversee development and implementation of an EPA Corruption Prevention Strategy. The Committee will comprise of Board members, Mr Stephen Hains (Chair), Ms Yvonne Sneddon and Mr Allan Holmes.

Site Contamination Regulations and establishment of an Auditor Accreditation Committee

In November 2007, the SA Parliament passed the *Environment Protection (Site Contamination) Amendment Bill 2007* amending the Environment Protection Act. The object of these new provisions is to establish processes for carrying out assessments of known or suspected site contamination and, if appropriate, remediation of the sites.

The draft *Environmental Protection (Site Contamination) Regulations 2008* have now been prepared and the Board noted that they are undergoing a period of public and key stakeholder consultation between 24 April and 6 June 2008. A key aspect of these Regulations is to establish the process for accrediting site contamination auditors.

Two members of the Board, Mr Andrew Fletcher and Ms Linda Bowes, will work with EPA staff to discuss the best methods of establishing a Site Contamination Auditor Accreditation Committee.

Environmental Management of Landfill Facilities (Municipal Solid Waste and Commercial and Industrial General Waste) - January 2007 (Landfill Guidelines)

The Landfill Guidelines, released in January 2007, provide a comprehensive document that assists landfill operators with their General Environmental Duty obligations and attaining compliance with Environment Protection Policies related to landfill facilities.

The Board received an update report on the progress of the Landfill Guideline, which advised that of the 161 landfills recorded in the EPA's information system, 31 closed prior to 1 July 2008; 92 are intending to close between 1 July 2008 and 1 July 2010; 34 are intending to remain operational post 1 July 2010 and 4 are currently undecided. The Board also noted that since the release of the Landfill Guidelines, the EPA has worked collaboratively with local government and private landfill operators to help them meet their obligations under the Guidelines.