

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

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EP3 ON THE MOVE

The Institute's 20th Anniversary roadshow, *EP3 - The Third Wave in Environmental Practice*, is in full swing. Events have already been held in Brisbane and Townsville and, as the current edition of *The Environmental Practitioner* is being finalised, the roadshow is moving around New Zealand.

There is still time for members to join the events in Melbourne (3 October), Hobart (5 October), Perth (9 October), Adelaide (11 October), Canberra (16 October) and Sydney (19 October).

The Sydney event will be preceded by the Institute's annual face-to-face Council meeting on 17-18 October and the Annual General Meeting on Thursday evening, 18 October. The climax to the



Judith Roper-Lindsay, EIANZ New Zealand President, welcomes participants to the EP3 Auckland event.

roadshow will be the Gala Ball on the evening of Friday 19 October in Sydney, when the Institute's inaugural Merit and Service Awards will be presented.

All members have been sent information about the EP3 roadshow events and the Gala Ball, and the information is also on the Institute's website. Members who are planning to attend these functions are encouraged to book as soon as possible to facilitate the work of the organisers.

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand would like to thank the following EP3 sponsors:

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Our environment, our future 

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LOOKING AT THE BIG PICTURE

Environmental assessment procedures have been around in Australia and New Zealand for over 30 years and, throughout this period, have undergone a gradual evolution in terms of becoming more formal and generally more complex. Most environmental practitioners would probably agree that, while the efficiency of some procedures may be open to question, they have been effective overall in raising environmental awareness, not only at the assessment stage but also in encouraging better environmental planning leading up to that stage and higher standards of implementation following it.

The direct and indirect benefits of the present procedures, however, relate almost entirely to individual projects, as this is the basis on which most environmental assessment legislation is presented. Consequently, a mindset has developed among many bureaucrats and decision makers which discourages them from addressing the wider context in which decisions should be made.

Several years ago, it was discovered that, due to an administrative oversight, all of the extractive operations within a New South Wales shire were operating outside the provisions of the relevant statutory plan. I approached the shire planner and suggested that this situation, which clearly needed to be rectified, provided the ideal opportunity to address the cumulative impacts of all such operations in a comprehensive manner. I was told that this could not be done - the legislation would not allow it! In other words, the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*, rather than encouraging environmental best practice, was preventing it.

My experience in the application of NSW, ACT and Commonwealth environmental assessment legislation generally is that there is a gross imbalance between the professional environmental effort required to address issues and the importance of those issues in achieving a sustainable future for the world. Small projects, often with minimal impacts, commonly demand a level of environmental scrutiny which is quite out of proportion to their impacts or costs. Major policy decisions, however, may at best be supported by only a superficial attempt at assessing their long-term environmental implications.

While the desirability of addressing cumulative or strategic impacts may be acknowledged in the supporting documentation that accompanies EIS procedures, in reality this is seldom attempted and indeed



is usually impractical under current procedures. On one occasion, when I undertook a comprehensive cumulative assessment at a general level for a large number of projects within a specific geographical area, it received a very negative response from the bureaucrats, who seemed unable to cope with anything different from their standard approach.

So we are left with a situation of devoting increasing levels of professional environmental resources to analysing often trivial impacts of minor projects in excessive detail without considering whether these really matter in the wider scheme of things. In the meantime, global environmental concerns such as climate change, forest clearing, depletion of ocean fish stocks, desertification and overconsumption, continue with no real solutions in sight.

Such global problems are at a level where most environmental practitioners feel powerless to do anything about them. Between these two extremes, however, there are other levels where a more holistic approach to environmental planning and assessment would be achievable, if only the legislation and its application were a little more flexible, and were 100 percent in support of best environmental practice, instead of sometimes precluding it.

I have proposed a session at next years IAIA conference in Perth (see page 10), which would be devoted to 'big picture' issues in impact assessment. I would be pleased to hear from any members who might like to contribute to this session on the basis of their experience in cumulative or strategic impact assessment, or related topics.

David Hogg
Editor



Opinions expressed in this newsletter reflect the views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc. unless specifically stated.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Welcome to *The Environmental Practitioner* third quarter publication. As you read this newsletter, the EP3 forums celebrating our 20th Anniversary are well and truly underway. I am penning this article as I wing my way to Townsville for the second forum.

I strongly encourage all members to attend these forums, where we are discussing the future needs of the environment and consequently the future skill sets needed from environmental practitioners.

At each forum we are asking all participants to provide us with their opinions on the four identified environmental priorities of water, energy and climate change and sustainability:

First, we are seeking views on the severity of the priority issue, and second we are asking how well are we prepared as practitioners to address these issues. We believe the greatest challenges facing environmental practitioners into the future are the issues that are most severe and that we are least prepared for. We are also seeking views on what we, as environmental practitioners, believe needs to be done to address these challenges. I look forward to some robust discussions.

At the end of the EP3 forums we will collate the responses to these questions and discussion into an Institute *Blueprint for the Future*. The Blueprint will be a statement that provides direction to governments and others as to how we should manage the future. We hope to have over 1,000 practitioners contribute their views to the Blueprint.

It is a very busy time in Australia politically, as we head to a Federal election later this year. Through our External Relations and Policy and Practice Committees, the Institute has developed an 'Asks document', which we have forwarded to all major Australian political parties. We want politicians to consider these 'Asks' in future environmental policy setting. Please see the website for these 'Asks'.

You will have received a recent email to members outlining the Institute's inaugural 'Merit and Service Awards'. These awards recognise individuals who have significantly contributed to the development of our profession. They are in three categories:

- EIANZ Outstanding Service Awards, at Institute or Chapter level and at the local or Divisional level
- EIANZ Young Professional Award
- Certified Environmental Practitioner of the Year Award

The awards will be conferred at the Institute's Gala Celebration Ball in Sydney on 19 October.

The Council has now approved the appointed Ms

Anne Young as our new Office Manager. Anne was acting as the temporary Office Manager, liked the work and asked to be considered for the position. We warmly welcome Anne and look forward to having a wonderful long term working relationship with her.



The Council has also reassessed the requirements of the Chief Executive Officer. This position will now be replaced by the position of a 'Development Manager' who will help develop and implement Institute initiatives, internally and externally, including attracting and retaining sponsors. Please see page 4 for further details, if this type of work interests you.

The Institute is entering into a contract with the Queensland Department of State Development to deliver three programs. These are:

1. Formalising the structure of the Institute's Professional Development Programs
2. Creating a professional development program for environmental graduates to step towards certification - Staged Training for Environmental Practitioners (STEPS) and
3. Preparing an Environmental Best Practice database and cataloguing publications into a practitioners' bibliography.

If you would like to know more about these projects or be involved please contact me. The management of the projects will be undertaken by the Professional Development Committee, the Students and Young Professionals Committee and the Policy and Practice Committee.

Please note that we have an Annual General Meeting coming up in Sydney on 18 October, when the Executive members of the Council are due for re-election. I have lodged a nomination for a further two-year term as President and would like to see some of the projects we have initiated brought to fruition.

In the next edition of *The Environmental Practitioner*, I look forward to reporting on the successful completion of the EP3 events and the development of our *Blueprint for the Future*, the proposed output from the EP3 Series.

Bill Haylock
President

* See also article on page 7.



Position Vacant **EIANZ Development Manager**

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand is the peak professional body for environmental practitioners in our region and it promotes independent and interdisciplinary discourse on environmental issues. The Institute supports competent and ethical environmental practitioners in their delivery of best environmental practices. The Institute is undertaking a series of initiatives to help with ongoing professional development and improvement in the environmental services sector.

The Institute wants to appoint a new position of Development Manager with key duties to help implement these exciting initiatives for developing professional environmental practice. The role includes being responsible for all aspects of managing the initiatives, interacting and coordinating various Institute committees (which are instigating the initiatives), undertaking associated sponsorship and funding activities and liaising and reporting to the Executive and Council of the Institute.

Key Competencies: The successful applicant will need excellent organisational and communication skills with good analytical and research skills. The ideal person would be a practical and motivated team player. Good judgment and strategic thinking will be greatly valued. A background in science, engineering, planning or law would also be desirable.

Position Description: A copy of the position description can be downloaded from the Institute's website: www.eianz.org. The purpose of the Development Manager's role (working in the context of the Institute's Corporate Plan) is to:

1. promote development of the Institute and the services that it provides to the environmental profession;
2. develop and strengthen the Institute's external relations; and
3. develop and secure sponsorship / benefactors for the Institute.

Salary: Negotiable (base and commission)

Job Type: Permanent, full-time

Location: Any major centre in Australia or New Zealand

For further information: Contact Mr Bill Haylock, President of the Institute on (07) 3239 9700 or email: president@eianz.org

Please send your application to:
The President
Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
GPO Box 211, Melbourne, 3001 Victoria Australia
or office@eianz.org

Closing Date: cob 28 September 2007



Bill Haylock, EIANZ President at the Brisbane EP3 event explaining how environmental practitioners have the ability to really make a difference to our future by the work which they do.



Update on the External Relations Committee

The External Relations Committee supports the President and the Institute in its external relations work. Formally, the Committee's responsibilities are to:

- support to the President on his or her role as principal spokesperson for the Institute;
- prepare submissions to public inquiries and responses to public reports relevant to the aims of the Institute; and
- develop networks within government, industry, the media and related professions to facilitate external communications.

To facilitate its work the Committee has representation from across the Divisions/Chapters. Our current members are listed below.

Recently John Ashe took the decision to stand down from the Committee. John re-activated the Institute's external relations work several years ago and as Chair built a strong foundation for the committee's work. We will greatly miss his contribution.

The Committee has been supporting the EP3 events and identifying opportunities to engage stakeholders in government, related professional and industry bodies, and the media. We have made a submission to Australia's political parties on what we believe Australia's next Government needs to do for the environment, and continue to coordinate Institute submissions to public inquiries on environmental issues.

Justin Sherrard, Chair

External Relations Committee members

Nicola Bryden, ACT
Andrew Sedger, NSW
Pene Burns, NZ
Rex Verity, NZ
Adam Beck, SEQ
Ann Shaw Rungie, SA
Axel von Krusenstierna, Tas
Tiernan Humphries, Vic

EIANZ SECRETARY WANTED

Expressions of interest are sought for the office of Secretary, as the incumbent will not be continuing and no response was received to the call for nominations in August. The role is critical to ongoing development of the Institute and will suit a highly organised individual with good interpersonal skills and the ability to combine analytical and strategic thinking. If you are interested in the role please contact Stuart Reeh by email at secretary@eianz.org or phone 0402 791 100 for further information.



Rosemary Menkens, Shadow Minister for the Environment Queensland, explains why environmental professionals are fundamental to the future sustainability of Queensland at the Brisbane EP3 event.

Certified Environmental Practitioner Program

The next CEnvP Intake at year-end closes on 21 December 2007. As the application process is quite rigorous, we recommend reserving several weeks to fill out your application and get the required references and additional materials.

For information about the application process, see the CEnvP website at www.cenvp.org.

Please contact registrar@cenvp.org with any questions regarding this intake. Intakes occur on a biannual basis in June and December.



PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Stuart Reeh
Secretary

I will be proposing several changes to the Rules of Association at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held in Sydney on 18 October 2007.

Removing the Need for Nominations

I propose to remove the requirement under Rule 3 (12)(b) for applicants seeking full membership of EIANZ to obtain nominations from two current members.

In my time within the Institute, from applicant to Secretary and chair of the Membership Review Committee, I have observed several issues arising from the requirement for nominations:

- it adds effort and time to the application process;
- a lack of consistency in application across the Institute;
- duplication of the central review process;
- confusion regarding the purpose of nominations (they are often misconstrued as acceptance rather than endorsement); and
- increased administrative load.

These are significant issues, particularly given that nominations are of far less value in determining an applicants' eligibility for full membership than the evidence of their qualifications and experience. The Membership Review Committee is supported by guidance notes and pre-processing by staff in Central Office, while applicants are provided with guidance regarding eligibility criteria and information expected from applicants. I believe that the membership review process is sufficiently rigorous and robust without requiring nominations.

Changes to Timing of Membership Renewals

I propose also to amend Rule 4(2) to spread the timing of membership renewals across the year, based on each member's anniversary of joining the Institute.

At present, all members are required to pay their annual subscription fee at the turn of the financial year. This creates a significant peak in workload for our staff in Central Office, placing heavy strain on our ability to provide a responsive service to members on other matters. This has led to extraordinarily long hours being worked by the Membership Administrator and Office Manager, adding to costs and placing an unsustainable workload on staff. Any plans to increase membership numbers will further increase this end of year workload.

In order to allow Central Office to better serve our members, I propose that renewal dates be changed from the end of financial year to the anniversary of membership, which will spread the workload across the year. The change would require a transitional year with each member paying for the period between the start of the financial year and their anniversary of joining EIANZ (members would be provided with written advice to explain the pro-rated calculations).

Both proposals will make significant changes to the way that the Institute operates. They are not suggested lightly, and have been discussed by Council before being put forward.

Further details on both proposals will be provided with the formal notice of the Annual General Meeting, which will be circulated later this month. Should you wish to discuss either proposal please contact me by email at secretary@eianz.org.



EIANZ/ CEnvP MERIT AND SERVICE AWARDS

The EIANZ and CEnvP Program have developed a number of awards to recognise outstanding service and contributions to environmental practice. These awards recognise the legacy that such achievement provides to the environment profession.

We encourage those who know of practitioners making such contributions to complete a nomination form so that these people are given due recognition by the community and their peers.

Please find further information on the awards below. We look forward to receiving your nominations for the first awards to be conferred at the EP3 Gala on 19 October at The Ballroom, Citigate Central, 169-179 Thomas Street, Sydney.

Bill Haylock, MEIANZ, CEnvP
President, EIANZ

Award Categories

EIANZ Outstanding Service Awards

The EIANZ recognises outstanding contributions to the Institute with two awards provided on an annual basis. The first award recognises outstanding service at the Institute or Chapter level of the organisation. The second award recognises outstanding service at the local or Division level. Each recipient will receive with the award a sustainability prize with value in excess of \$1000.

EIANZ Young Professional Award

The EIANZ Young Professional Award recognises young environmental professionals who have made an outstanding contribution to environmental outcomes through professional practice. The nominees must be under 30 years of age. Only one person will be awarded annually, receiving with the award a cash prize of \$1000.

Certified Environmental Practitioner of the Year Award

The Certified Environmental Practitioner of the Year Award recognises outstanding contributions by CEnvPs to environmental practice. Only one person will be awarded annually, receiving with the award a sustainability prize with value in excess of \$1000.

Nominations

How to Make a Nomination

To submit a Nomination, you will need to complete the Nomination Form below, providing a written statement on how the Nominee meets the criteria, and attaching any additional supporting material. Nomination forms should be sent or faxed to: EIANZ and CEnvP Merit & Service Awards, EIANZ Central Office, GPO Box 211, Melbourne, Vic 3001, +61 3 9650 1242.

2007 Awards

Download Nomination Forms

[EIANZ Outstanding Service Awards - 2007](#)

[EIANZ Young Professional Award - 2007](#)

[Certified Environmental Practitioner of the Year Award - 2007](#)

Important Dates

1 September, 2007 - Nominations open

30 September, 2007 - Nominations close

19 October, 2007 - Awards announced and presented at the [EIANZ EP3 Gala Dinner](#), Sydney

Further information

Website: www.eianz.org

Enquiries: info@eianz.org



Dr Neil Kirkpatrick, Associate Director of Arup UK gives his views on the role of environmental consultants and the importance of teamwork to the Brisbane EP3 event.

ADVICE FOR CONTRIBUTORS

All members are invited to contribute material to *The Environmental Practitioner*. Contributions may include:

- short articles (up to 2 pages or 1300 words) on topics of interest to other members;
- news items of members' achievements (e.g. senior appointments, awards);
- letters to the Editor;
- brief notes on other items of general interest;
- photographs of EIANZ functions; and
- requests for advice or assistance.

Material should be sent by e-mail as Word attachments. Please proofread carefully before sending. Photographs should be sent as a jpeg file or an alternative format suitable for editing.
Deadline for next issue (December): 10 November 2007.

The e-mail address for newsletter contributions is newslettereditor@eianz.org.



DON'T FORGET! ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS ARE ALL ABOUT ASPECTS AND IMPACTS!

Rod Hamon*

We are confronted by an ever-increasing list of environmentally related legislation. The noble aim of this is to improve the global environment for Earth's inhabitants and future generations. Environmental Management Systems can assist an organisation meet its increasingly heavy burden of responsibility and, in many cases, can also aid in cost savings.

An Environmental Management System (EMS) is a set of processes and practices that enable an organisation to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency. Whilst this may sound daunting, it is essentially all about minimising an organisation's impact on the environment.

The International Standard, ISO 14001:2004, uses the terms environmental *aspects* and *impacts* to describe the key elements of this process.

An *aspect* is an element of an organisation's activities, products or services that can interact with the environment. (Examples listed in ISO 14001 include: emissions to air, releases to water, releases to land, use of raw materials and natural resources, use of energy, waste and by-products, and physical attributes such as visual impact).

An *impact* is any change to the environment wholly or partially resulting from an organisation's activities, products or services.

Essentially the relationship between aspects and impacts is one of cause and effect.

Having a satisfactory Environmental Management System is therefore all about identifying the environmental aspects and eliminating or controlling those that have a significant impact on the environment. The importance of environmental aspects is demonstrated by the fact that, of the nineteen clauses of ISO 14001, twelve contain reference to the term *environmental aspects*.

A methodical approach to evaluating an organisation in terms of its impact on the environment would be to consider the various aspects as they relate to each of the organisation's activities, products and services. Then consider the environmental impacts of each of these aspects. Some form of risk analysis of these impacts will enable a determination of those that are considered significant.

Because environmental aspects and associated impacts are central to any Environmental Management System, they should play a key role in every facet of an organisation's operation. For example, aspects and significant impacts must feature foremost in the Environmental Policy and must also be given greatest consideration when reviewing legislation and other requirements.

Below is a summary of the references to environmental aspects in ISO 14001 and how these requirements can be interpreted.

* Rod Hamon is a Lead Environmental Auditor with RABQSA and lectures on this subject. He is also the Certification Manager for a major international certifying body.

Clause of ISO 14001	Clause Title	Phrase used in ISO 14001	Requirement
4.2	Environmental policy	... a commitment to comply with applicable legal requirements...that relate to its <i>environmental aspects</i> .	The environmental policy is the motivator for implementing and developing an organisation's system so that it can improve its environmental performance. The policy should reflect the scope of an organisation's activities and the unique nature and scale of its environmental impacts.
4.3.1	Environmental aspects	...to identify the <i>environmental aspects</i> of its activities, products and services...	An organisation should determine the environmental aspects associated with its activities, including its processes, products and services. It should also consider new or modified activities, processes or equipment. The next step is to review these aspects and associated impacts and establish criteria and a method for determining those that are significant.



Clause of ISO 14001	Clause Title	Phrase used in ISO 14001	Requirement
4.3.2	Legal and other requirements	...to determine how these (legal) requirements apply to its <i>environmental aspects</i> .	Having determined an organisation's environmental aspects, the next step is identifying the associated legal requirements.
4.3.3	Objectives and targets	When establishing and reviewing its objectives and targets, an organisation shall take into account... its significant <i>environmental aspects</i> .	An organisation should establish measurable objectives and targets aimed at continual improvement. These improvements should be consistent with its environmental policy and significant aspects.
4.4.2	Competence, training and awareness	The organisation shall ensure that... persons performing tasks on its behalf that have the potential to cause a significant <i>environmental impact(s)</i> ...are competent... ...the significant <i>environmental aspects</i> related ...with their work...	The need for competence, training and awareness applies to any person performing tasks on behalf of an organisation. It therefore includes employees and contractors. The Standard emphasises the importance of competence for individuals where there is a potential to cause significant environmental impacts.
4.4.3	Communication	With regard to its <i>environmental aspects</i> ...the organisation shall... communications...	Systems for handling internal communications and receiving external communications is particularly important where they relate to the environmental aspects of an organisation.
4.4.4	Documentation	The environmental management system documentation shall include...documents, including records...related to its <i>significant aspects</i> .	To ensure effective planning, operation and control of its processes, an organisation must establish necessary documents and records - particularly those that relate to significant environmental aspects.
4.4.6	Operations control	The organisation shall identify and plan its operations that are associated with the identified significant <i>environmental aspects</i> .	In establishing and planning its operations, an organisation must identify those that have the potential to impact on the environment. Care should be taken to ensure these are carried out under specific conditions.
4.4.7	Emergency preparedness and response	The organisation shall respond to actual emergency situations and accidents and prevent or mitigate associated <i>environmental impacts</i> .	It is important to establish well-defined procedures for potential emergency situations, especially those that may impact on the environment.
4.5.1	Monitoring and measurement	The organisation shall establish, implement and maintain procedures to monitor and measure...key characteristics...that can have a significant <i>environmental impact</i> .	An organisation should regularly monitor and measure the key characteristics of its operations that can have a significant environmental impact.
4.5.3	Nonconformity and corrective/preventive action	...identifying and correcting nonconformities and taking actions to mitigate their <i>environmental impacts</i> .	Nonconformities will occur from time to time; therefore procedures should be established to deal with these situations. The aim is to have systems that mitigate any environmental impacts and to prevent recurrence.
4.6	Management review	Input to management reviews shall include... changing circumstances, including developments in legal and other requirements related to its <i>environmental aspects</i> ...	An organisation's top management should review the environmental system at planned interval to ensure its suitability, adequacy and effectiveness. Among the topics to be considered at these reviews should be any changing circumstances. These changes may involve processes, products, services, legal requirement and other requirements related to its environmental aspects.



IAIA 08 – *The Art and Science of Impact Assessment*

28th Annual Meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment

4 – 10 May 2008 Perth Convention Exhibition Centre

Hosted by: Australian Department of the Environment and Water Resources, Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand, Murdoch University, Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation, and Western Australian Environmental Consultants Association

Come and join us in Perth for IAIA08! This 28th annual meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment will bring together around 800 impact assessment and environmental practitioners from all over the world, representing government, industry, academia and the not-for-profit sector. IAIA08 represents a unique opportunity to participate in a truly multi-disciplinary, international conference at the cutting edge of contemporary thinking on governance and decision-making towards a more sustainable future.

IAIA08 Conference Theme – *The Art and Science of Impact Assessment*

Impact assessment has developed over the past 35 years as a tool for incorporating sound scientific knowledge into decision-making. As practice has evolved and new forms such as SEA have emerged, it has become increasingly apparent that expertise in the biophysical sciences must be complemented by an understanding of social and political processes. Impact assessment is therefore best seen as both science and art, and it is only in this way that it can fulfil its potential as a tool for influencing decision-making processes.

The current trajectory of global development highlights the need for fundamental change in the way in which we think, act and make decisions. This conference will explore questions of the role of impact assessment in promoting societal change towards sustainability, and particularly how the biophysical and the social sciences can be meaningfully alloyed with the art of policymaking to contribute to the change process. This is the challenge that impact assessment practitioners are now called upon to meet.

What works? What doesn't work? What challenges lie over the horizon for impact assessment? We hope that you will come and share with other participants your ideas, your experience, your concerns and your hope for the future on these themes and the topics listed.

Conference Topics

IAIA08 participants will be encouraged to highlight how the various instruments of impact assessment

can assist developers, industry, decision-makers, development cooperation providers, and the public to integrate environmental, social, and other concerns into decision-making in the fields of:

- Climate change
- Energy issues
- Water
- Resource development
- Tourism
- Land use planning, transportation, landscape and aesthetics
- Coastal zone planning and management
- Development cooperation
- Poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals
- Environmental impact of trade agreements
- Environmental practice in Australia and New Zealand

In considering the art and science of impact assessment, attention will also be given to:

- Governance
- Environmental ethics and law
- Enforcement and compliance
- Effectiveness
- Methods and instruments of impact assessment
- Environmental offsets and compensation
- Capacity building
- Engaging with indigenous people and the role of traditional knowledge in impact assessment and decision-making

In addition to these topics, papers and posters are welcome on all aspects of impact assessment, governance and decision-making.

What do IAIA Conferences Offer?

- Above all, IAIA conferences provide a unique opportunity for delegates to interact and work together to influence how impact assessment is applied in practice
- IAIA is the only international, interdisciplinary conference dedicated to the art and science of impact assessment



- Exclusive mix of high-level speakers covering environmental, social, health and strategic impact assessment
- A very participatory Conference experience, with numerous in-depth workshops, theme forums, Q&A sessions, practitioners' forums and concurrent sessions

Important dates

- early October 2007:** Preliminary Programme available, registration opens and paper and poster abstract submissions open
- 7 February 2008:** Deadline for paper and poster abstract submissions
- 28 February 2008:** Presenting author registration deadline
- 4 - 10 May 2008:** IAIA08 in Perth!

Minerals, Management and Magic: Special Pilbara Technical Tour

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime experience on a special post-conference technical tour to the extraordinary Pilbara Region of Western Australia. You will spend a week camping in the outback, visit world class mining and gas processing operations, experience eco-tourism at its best in the beautiful Karijini gorges, see ancient aboriginal rock art, and learn about indigenous culture, and snorkel the amazing Ningaloo Reef. See Preliminary Programme (available early October at www.iaia.org/conferences/iaia08) for further information and registration. Numbers strictly limited!

For further information about IAIA 08, please see www.iaia.org.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who were accepted for membership in July and August 2007.

Australian Capital Territory

Kristine Nash Associate

New South Wales

Dr Anne Kerle Member
 Julian Watson Member
 Angela Riepsamen Member
 Mikila Lawrence Member
 Clair Baxter Member
 Angela Maroney Member
 Craig Tucker Member
 Braith Gilchrist Member
 Glen Frost Associate
 Tania Mouawad Associate
 Sally Perry Student
 Philippa Scott Student
 Inika Taylor Student

Victoria

Andrew Roberts Member
 Louise Buckley Member
 Rory Bracken Member
 Kate Milburn Member
 Jillian Adams Member
 Melissa Grimes Member
 Hilary Chapman Member
 Jacqueline Taylor Associate
 Nicole Enting Associate
 Emma Healy Student
 Clare Grandison Student

Tasmania

Siobhan Saxby Student

South East Queensland

Linda Rapson Member
 Leigh Saunders Member
 Joanne Flint Member
 Andrew Thorrold Member
 Mellissa Zulpo Member
 Christopher Milligan Member
 Rebecca Voyer Member
 Melody Stoneham Member
 Dr Shireen Fahey Member
 Stephen Johnson Member
 Anne Chan Member
 Annemarie Skelly Associate
 Veronica Cavanough Associate
 David Menzies Associate
 Daniel Potter Student

Western Australia

Julian Seah Member
 Bruno Rikli Member
 Benjamin Smith Associate
 Dr Digby Short Associate
 Callum Mair Associate

New Zealand

Emma Wiggins Member
 Douglas Clover Member
 Natalie Webster Member
 Dr Paul Weber Member
 Clyton Moyo Member
 Sarah Gray Member

South Australia

Emi Kato Associate
 Tamara Sinkinson Student



DIVISION NEWS

NSW DIVISION

EIANZ Launches Ethi-Call Discussion Service for Members

Environmental practitioners are often balancing the need to protect the environment with the wants of employers or clients. When facing an ethical dilemma at work, you may be unsure about what to do.

The culture and complexity of the modern workplace means that no matter how many guidelines exist, it is not always possible to know how to act in certain situations.

The NSW Division of EIANZ, in partnership with the St James Ethics Centre, successfully launched the Ethi-Call service for members as part of its AGM in August. This service offers free and confidential advice, which can be anonymous if desired, to anyone in Australia who is experiencing an ethical dilemma in their work. The aim is to explore the issue to find a solution that feels 'right for you'.

Professional ethics has always been a strong feature of the EIANZ in its history, it developed its own code of ethics which can be found on the website www.eianz.org.

Your own work environment may also have a code of ethics and a commitment to ethical practice. Even so, there may be times when you find yourself in a 'grey area' where there is no clear or obvious solution to a particular problem. Furthermore, it is often difficult to discuss these types of dilemmas at work or at home.

The Ethi-Call service offers the opportunity to explore the situation in a safe space without jeopardising your job, your relationships or yourself.

The service can help you shine some light on the problem and help you find your own answer. Because the focus is on exploration, an Ethi-Call session may reveal some new and creative options and insights.

St James Ethics Centre does not report the result of calls in any way to EIANZ. The service is as anonymous as you would like it to be.

How does it work?

Most counselling sessions are conducted by telephone but face-to-face counselling is also available at the Centre. In most cases appointments can be made within 24 hours. Individual or small group sessions are available.

The Ethi-Call service is available from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday (except public holidays and the month of January).

Call toll free on 1800 672 303 from anywhere in Australia.

For more information visit St James Ethics Centre's website www.ethics.org.au.

Do you have a workplace related ethical dilemma?

About St James Ethics Centre

St James Ethics Centre is an independent not-for-profit organisation, incorporated as an association under New South Wales law. The Centre is a public benevolent institution and has no political or religious affiliations.

The Centre provides a non-judgemental forum for the promotion and exploration of ethics.

The Centre's mission is to encourage and assist individuals and organisations to include the ethical dimension in their daily lives, and thereby help to create a better world.

Ethi-Call counsellors are a group of professionals with broad experience in a variety of fields who volunteer their time to the Centre. The Counsellors were trained by Susanne Ross MAPsS who was Director of Counselling 1996-2006. Ensuring a quality service, the Counsellors have individual and group supervision with Suzanne in her current role as Consulting Fellow.



EIANZ: HOW IT BEGAN

The following account is adapted from Environment Institute of Australia. The first ten years 1987-1997 by Mary Lou Morris.

It all started because of an abiding commitment to the conservation and wise management of environmental resources. There was an increasing perception among individuals employed in the numerous facets of environmental work throughout Australia that a special forum was needed to support this vital commitment.

Such a body would have to satisfy the professional concerns of the spectrum of disciplines under the broad umbrella of 'environment'. Indeed, it must provide regular opportunity for trans-disciplinary interaction among environmental practitioners. This would distinguish such a forum from organisations which had their principal focus on a single aspect of the environment such as law, biology, planning, mining, engineering, education and many others. It was felt and voiced at many conferences, seminars and meetings that such an organisation would be greeted enthusiastically and perhaps, even, with a sign of relief. Indeed, that was the reaction of many professionals working in this field.

Thus, for a few years prior to official formation, the concept of having a professional Institute for individuals working in environmental fields was seriously considered by those faced with the increasing challenges of environmental management, decision-making, consultancy and education. At a meeting of tertiary environmental educators in Melbourne in 1985 it was decided that the School of Australian Environmental Studies at Griffith University should pursue the matter.

In April 1986 there was a workshop held at Griffith University to discuss the considerable groundwork undertaken to define a path toward professional affiliation. Speakers and delegates at the workshop represented a broad cross-section of public/ private sectors and environmental disciplines. It was resolved that an incorporated body be formed which was to be tentatively known as the Australian Environmental Practitioners Institute or Environment Institute of Australia or by some other name with the principle objectives of:

- a. facilitating liaison and communication between environmental practitioners from disparate backgrounds and professions; and
- b. promoting environmental knowledge and awareness, and ethical and competent environmental practice.

An Interim Committee was formed and Dr Tor Hundloe was appointed convenor. Simon Molesworth was a member of this earliest group

leading the development of our professional association. The Interim Committee had responsibility for defining the constitution and by-laws for formal incorporation. Wide consultation was a hallmark throughout the drafting of these fundamental documents.

Even before the Institute was formed, the first issue of *The Environment Institute of Australia Newsletter* was published in February 1987. It consisted of one folded A3 page and the lead article was entitled *The Need for a Professional Institute*. Rob Neumann was the initial Editor and he persisted in this demanding role through the formative years of the Newsletter, ensuring its survival as the central communication system for this new national organisation.

The October 1987 issues of the Newsletter heralded the first National Conference and inaugural AGM of the Environment Institute, to be held in Sydney on 19-20 November 1987. Formal incorporation of the Institute, with acceptance of the 600 membership applications processed to date, occurred at that momentous gathering in Sydney. It was indeed a remarkably strong response in the short period since the announcement of a new professional body being specifically developed by and for environmental practitioners.

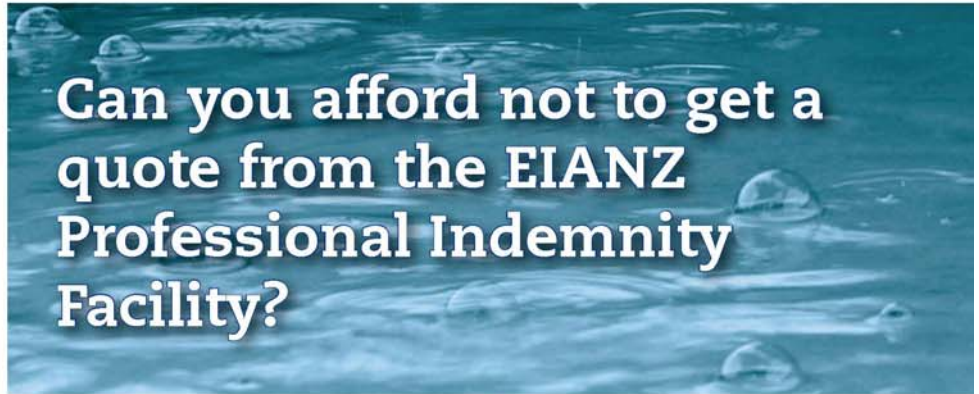
Sir Ninian Stephen, then Governor General of Australia, gave the opening address which officially launched the Environment Institute of Australia. On 19 November 1987, over 270 delegates heard Sir Ninian note the emergence of an enormous and frightening ability of humans to change the environment for economic gain, the realisation of the consequences of this change and at the same time the development of the ability - through technology, expertise, professional diversity - to do something about it.

The Governor General stressed the need to develop the debate over economic reality and protection of the environment, realising that solutions which meet the needs of both perspectives do not come easily. It was recognised that the Environment Institute would clearly have a role in this regard.

At the first Annual General Meeting of the EIA, immediately following this inaugural conference, the first National Council was elected with Tor Hundloe as President. It was immediately agreed that the first formal meeting of the new Council would confirm formal acceptance of members and the use of the abbreviation MEIA to signify Member, Environment Institute of Australia.



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**ENVIRONMENT
INSTITUTE OF
AUSTRALIA AND
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QUEENSLAND STATE PLANNING POLICIES ON AIR, NOISE AND WATER: SUBMISSIONS INVITED

The Queensland Government is proposing to prepare a State Planning Policy (SPP) which will integrate Environmental Protection Policies for air, noise and water with land use planning and development assessment. This policy will apply throughout Queensland. Public submissions are invited on issues to be addressed by the SPP and how these issues should be addressed.

Information on the proposed SPP and the associated Environmental Protection Policies to which the SPP will link is available on the website: http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/about_the_epa/public_consultation/.

The closing date for submissions is 29 October 2007.



Peter Hartley from Maunsell chairs the Auckland EP3 event.



Dr Ron Black tells the Brisbane EP3 event how the Environmental profession has come so far since the days of "telling the people".

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Fresh Water: New Perspectives in Water in Australia

Edited by Emily Potter, Alison Mackinnon, Stephen McKenzie and Jennifer McKay. e-book \$39.95, print-on-demand \$49.95

In a 2006 survey, EIANZ members ranked water as the most important environmental issue facing Australia.

This book offers a range of innovative insights into the history, politics, ethics and cultures of water in Australia, and its global environmental context, that suggest a need to radically rethink our relationship with this fundamental substance.

Contributors from fields as diverse as anthropology, environmental science, indigenous studies, cultural theory, law, urban planning and visual arts discuss the various ways in which we are caught up with water, and the environmental futures that we must enable if we are to sustain ourselves and to let water live.

Visit www.mup.com.au to purchase the book or for more information.



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BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ENVIRONMENTAL BEST PRACTICES

Are there any environmental best practice publications which you find to be a useful reference and would recommend to clients or colleagues as an information source? Perhaps you or your organisation have prepared such a document and would like to encourage its wider use.

The Institute, through its Policy and Practice Standing Committee, is compiling a bibliography of such documents (printed or electronic) to assist its members.

If you can suggest any publications for listing in this bibliography, please forward information in the following format to David Hogg at dhpl@bigpond.com.

1. Title of publication.
2. Author/organisation.
3. Publication date.
4. Format (i.e. printed, electronic, both).
5. Number of pages.
6. Intended readership (e.g. professional engineers, construction contractors, general community).
7. Is the publication currently available?
8. If so, source of publication (i.e. address for obtaining printed material, website for electronic publications).
9. Purchase price (if any).
10. General comments on scope of publication (e.g. topics covered, relevant geographical area if applicable).
11. Any restrictions on availability or use?
12. Special features, other comments etc.
13. Your own phone contact details (in case of any queries).

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