

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERT COURSE

Friday 9 May 2025 | Sydney



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

FRIDAY 9 MAY 2025

8:45am - 8:50am	Welcome to Country Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
8:50am- 9:00am	Opening <u>Nick Thomas (Clayton Utz)</u> & <u>Kevin Roberts (EIANZ NSW President)</u>
9:00am - 9:45am	1. An introduction to Court room evidence <u>Justice Brian Preston (Chief Judge, NSW Land & Environment Court)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Admissibility and reliability of opinion evidenceRules of Court for expert witnessJoint expert conferencing and joint reports (and associated process)Expert’s role in court (ie. party-appointed, “parties’ single expert”, Court-appointed)Concurrent evidenceLand & Environment Court as a specialist tribunal
9:45am - 10:15pm	2. The role of an environmental expert <u>Dr Rhidian Harrington (H2F)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">When and how to engage an expertKnowing one’s area(s) of expertiseManaging the engagement initially and as an ongoing relationshipExperts dealing with third parties (eg. lawyers, clients, other expert witnesses)
10:15am - 10:45am	MORNING TEA
10:45am - 11:30am	3. Preparation of expert reports - core principles <u>Nick Thomas (Clayton Utz)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The purpose of an expert reportAn expert report in various contexts (eg. application for approval, transaction, audit, dispute resolution)Commissioning a reportPreparing a reportReviewing a report
11:30am - 12:15pm	4. Environmental experts - your (other) questions answered <u>Dr David Robertson (Cumberland Ecology / SLR Consulting)</u> & <u>Dr Jillian Comber (Comber Consultants)</u> <p>Questions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">How easy is it to transition into being a Court specialist?What aspects of the current expert system do you think work well, and what aspects need the greatest improvement?What is the most challenging experience you have had as an expert? How did you deal with it?
12:15pm - 12:30pm	5. Ethical responsibilities of an expert <u>Andrew Morison (Business + Nature)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">What are ethics for environmental professionals?The key ethical responsibilities of an expertCode of Conduct
12:30pm - 1:15pm	LUNCH
1:15pm - 2:00pm	6. Open forum: Joint expert conferencing and joint reports (and associated process) <u>Senior Commissioner Susan Dixon (NSW Land and Environment Court)</u> <p>Discussion of experiences in dealing with environmental expert evidence</p>
2:00pm - 2:45pm	7. The expert in Court <u>Fenja Berglund (Martin Place Chambers)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oral v. written evidenceAdditional ethical duties in CourtExamination-in-chief and cross-examinationQuestions from the BenchSite inspections
2:45pm - 3:00pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3:00pm - 4:30pm	8. Hypothetical - preparing an expert report <u>Damon Roddis (Zephyr Environmental)</u> & <u>Dr Steven Berveling (Martin Place Chambers)</u> <p>Review and discussion of an expert report using the hypothetical information</p>
4:30pm - 4:45pm	CLOSING, SUMMATION AND EVALUATION FORMS Kevin Roberts (EIANZ NSW President)

Thanks to our event sponsor

CLAYTON UTZ