

EBA June-July 2006 Newsletter

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Key diary notes

Environment Business Australia forum-Environmental Markets and beyond

A special EBA forum on 11 September dedicated to the memory of Carlton Bartels. Details will be available shortly from EBA, email eba@environmentbusiness.com.au

The annual EBA Business and Sustainability Summit

The annual Business and Sustainability Summit will be held in Sydney on 23 October and will be hosted by PricewaterhouseCoopers. Details of the program and speakers will be released soon, make a diary note now for the full day and evening.

Perspective

Policy tools and a carbon price signal as well as technology please - it's a question of competitive neutrality

Energy and water reforms and greenhouse gas emissions reductions certainly require technology to increase efficiency and provide new and better ways of producing and transporting goods and services.

The private sector can rise to the challenge of providing innovative technologies, infrastructure and financing, but we need the impediments to be removed, and we need a Government enabling framework that is equally innovative. EBA is calling on governments to use their 'powerful tools and levers' like taxation, regulation, procurement and investment and market based instruments, to facilitate a new era of production and consumption "one that will keep Australia competitive when negative externalities have to be included in the price of goods and services" said Fiona Wain, CEO of Environment Business Australia.

"The Federal Government has recognised the need for a market signal on water and we call on them to urgently put in place a carbon price signal."

Competitive neutrality requires that companies who invest in clean energy and production measures are not undermined by others who continue to receive vast indirect subsidies because they do not operate to the same standard as they effectively 'outsource' costs with poor environmental performance. "This is no different to poor occupational health and safety standards - we don't accept that people can be maimed or killed while at work so why should we accept that our economy, quality of life and public health can be undermined by pollution or climate change?" Added Fiona.

EBA has welcomed the Government's inquiries into nuclear fuel and carbon geo-sequestration as these will put a carbon price signal firmly on the table. But rather than ad hoc studies EBA would like to see a full in-depth inquiry into Australia's energy needs and export opportunities and the best way to meet these needs and opportunities with clean energy. We believe industry, investors and the community need to know how Australia will build its next competitive edge and combat climate change at the same time. The true cost of producing and using various types of energy, including the externalities must be evaluated without emotion and without prejudice to either the status quo or emerging technologies/processes. The challenge is to make sure that Australia has its next-generation energy portfolio ready - because that is what the international marketplace will demand.

Environmental father figure comes out on climate change

Sir David Attenborough "the most trusted voice in Britain" was given the entire front page of Britain's Independent Newspaper on 24 May when he declared "I am no longer sceptical. Now I have no doubt at all. Climate change is the major challenge facing the world."

Lowy Institute paper on climate change and international security

Authored by two of Australia's leading experts - Dr Alan Dupont and Dr Graeme Pearman - the monograph takes an in-depth look at the period of "prolonged planetary warming, largely fuelled by modern lifestyles, which is unprecedented in human history in terms of its magnitude and probable environmental consequences ... which pose fundamental questions of human security, survival and the stability of nation states which necessitates judgments about political and strategic risk as well as economic cost." An excellent summation written in straightforward English which everyone should take the time to read. Copies available from the Lowy Institute www.lowyinstitute.org

Westpac CEO on business resilience

Dr David Morgan, CEO of Westpac, has told business that sustainable prosperity needed to confront the "inconvenient truths". Building on his role as one of the founding 6 CEOs of the Business Roundtable on Climate Change, Dr Morgan was speaking to the Trans Tasman Business Circle when he outlined his recommendations to "manage long, manage broad and manage ethically". This argues Dr Morgan maximises future resilience and value. A corporation that delivers value to society is better positioned to ensure ongoing prosperity, says Dr Morgan.

Environment Business Australia

A successful end to the financial year

Environment Business Australia has shown a strong performance this financial year and is geared up for another highly active year raising awareness about the foreseeable scale and relevance of environmental issues as well as the solutions provided by EBA members.

Seeking new staff member - research and communications

To help with the growing work-load EBA is seeking a skilled researcher with good communications skills and a proven ability to prepare in-depth reports and submissions. A good understanding of environmental issues is critical and the successful candidate will probably have good contacts in industry and government. Preference will be given to people who can additionally demonstrate marketing, public relations or media skills/qualifications.

A salary of \$60,000 is offered for a 12 month contract. The position reports to the CEO and will involve close liaison with EBA's member companies, the scientific community, and all three levels of government. The position is available immediately and can be based in either Sydney or Canberra. Send applications to eba@environmentbusiness.com.au

EBA recommends climate change Ministry

In its submission to the National Sustainability Charter inquiry EBA called for the Federal Government to appoint a Minister for Climate Change. EBA recommends the appointment of a Federal Minister for Climate Change "because climate change is not just about the environment - it is going to increasingly affect our economy, agriculture, the built environment, public health. This challenge now needs a Cabinet Minister with authority across jurisdictions, government departments and portfolios to facilitate action to abate GHG emissions and mitigate against remaining GHG emissions. Preparedness for adaptation/response to climate change is also critical. To see EBA's submission see www.environmentbusiness.com.au/policy papers.

International

USA Supreme Court takes on global warming

The case over emissions caps sets up key environmental ruling.

The USA Supreme Court has agreed to consider one of its most important environmental decisions. It has weighed into the acrimonious debate over global warming and whether the government should regulate "greenhouse" gases, especially carbon dioxide from cars. The ruling could be one of the court's most important ever on the environment.

Spurred by states in a pollution battle with the Bush administration, the court said it would decide whether the Environmental Protection Agency is required under the federal clean air law to treat carbon dioxide from automobiles as a pollutant harmful to health. The decision could determine how the nation addresses global warming. President Bush has rejected calls by environmentalists and some lawmakers in Congress to regulate carbon dioxide, the leading heat-trapping "greenhouse" gas going into the atmosphere. Bush favors voluntary actions and development of new technologies to curtail such emissions. But a dozen states argued that carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping chemicals from automobile tailpipes should be treated as unhealthy pollutants. They filed a lawsuit in an effort to force the EPA to curtail such emissions just as it does cancer-causing lead and chemicals that produce smog and acid rain.

A ruling is expected before the end of the year.

While the case doesn't specifically involve carbon releases from power plants, environmentalists said a court decision declaring carbon dioxide a harmful pollutant would make it hard for the agency to avoid action involving power plants which account for 40 percent of the carbon dioxide released into the air. Cars and trucks account for about half that amount.

The EPA said in a statement that the agency "is confident in its decision" not to regulate the chemical under the federal Clean Air Act and plans to argue its case vigorously before the high court.

The states involved, which together account for more than a third of the car market, say the Clean Air Act makes clear carbon dioxide is a pollutant that should be regulated if it poses a danger to public health and welfare. They argue it does so by causing a warming of the earth.

The administration maintains that unlike other chemicals that must be controlled to ensure healthy air, carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels is not a dangerous pollutant under the federal law. And, officials argue, even if it is, the EPA has discretion over whether to regulate it, considering the economic costs involved. The agency should not be required to "embark on the extraordinarily complex and scientifically uncertain task of addressing the global issue of greenhouse gas emissions" when voluntary ways to address climate change are available, the administration argued in its filing with the high court. While a federal appeals court sided with the administration, its ruling was mixed. One judge said the states and other plaintiffs had no standing because they had not proven harm. A second judge said even if the law gave the EPA authority to regulate carbon dioxide, the agency was not obligated to do so. A third judge, in the minority, said the EPA was violating the law by not regulating the chemical.

In their appeal, the states maintained the case "goes to the heart of the EPA's statutory responsibilities to deal with the most pressing environmental problem of our time" -- the threat of global warming. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit were California, Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington.

Source - The Associated Press

US - energy agency predicts 75% more CO2 emissions by 2030

The International Energy Outlook 2006 foresees a rise of global energy consumption by 71% between 2003 and 2030, resulting in an increase of world-wide carbon dioxide emissions by 75% over the same period.

The world economy remains hungry for energy notwithstanding calls for more energy efficiency and the increasing scientific consensus on the dangers of global warming. This can be deducted from a new Energy Outlook published by the U.S. Department of Energy's statistical administration, the EIA (Energy Information Administration).

Main projections for the period 2003 to 2030 mentioned in the report:

- world energy consumption will grow on average by 2% per year from 2003 to 2030 (from 421 quadrillion Btu in 2003 to 722 quadrillion Btu in 2030). The most rapid growth is in non-OECD countries the industrial sector has the highest energy use growth (2.4% per year), whereas the growth of energy use in the transport sector slows down as a result of higher oil prices oil will remain the dominant energy source
- world oil use will grow from 80 million barrels per day in 2003 (86 million today) to 118 million barrels in 2030. OPEC will provide the majority of this increase (+ 14.6 million barrels per day) and there will be more use of non-OPEC oil and unconventional resources biofuels, coal-to-liquids, gas-to-liquids)
- natural gas consumption will increase on average by 2.4% per y
- world coal consumption will increase by 3% per year on average (esp. in China)
- world nuclear capacity will rise from 361 gigawatts in 2003 to 438 gigawatts in 2030, but with significant declines in Europe
- renewables will only grow from 8% in 2003 to 9% in 2030 global carbon dioxide emissions will increase from 25 billion metric tons in 2003 to 43.7 billion metric tons in 2030.

Copies of the IEA are available to purchase from the IEA at:

<http://www.iea.org/w/bookshop/add.aspx?id=255>

Is Al Gore on the campaign trail?

"It is our time to rise again to secure our future" says Al Gore during *An inconvenient truth*, his film about climate change. The former US Vice President also talks about the need for the "next Churchill" a champion on the world stage. Will he enter the running for the Presidency of the USA? There are certainly many who wish he would.

An inconvenient truth is Al Gore's sombre analysis that humanity is sitting on a ticking time bomb. If that sounds like a recipe for serious gloom and doom it is. And it isn't. The film offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's fervent crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks by exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround it.

In the wake of defeat in the 2000 election, Gore re-set the course of his life to focus on a last-ditch, all-out effort to help save the planet from irrevocable change. The film ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as just a political issue - rather, it is the biggest moral challenge facing our global civilization.

China and global warming

China is starting to take measures to tackle the climate change challenge through the 11th Five-Year Plan, running from 2006-2010. The plan calls for greater energy efficiency and a more environmentally sustainable approach to economic growth.

Source WBCSD.

USA provides AP6 funding

US Senate appropriators granted a large portion of the Bush administration's requests for funding of the Asian Pacific Climate Partnership (AP6) following weeks of cuts to the programme's budget requests in various government departments.

Source Point Carbon <https://pointcarbon.com/Home/News/All%20news/Kyoto%20International/article16364-472.html>

Dutch drop taxes on climate friendly cars

The Netherlands is the latest government to drop taxes on climate friendly cars, Australia should follow suit. Dutch car registration tax – payable on purchasing a new car – will be strongly differentiated according to vehicles' environmental performance. The greenest hybrid cars will secure a 6,000 euro (\$12,000) discount compared with standard rates. The least climate friendly cars will pay 540 euros (\$1080) more tax. Cars will be classified into seven categories based on their fuel consumption, CO2 emissions and an efficiency indicator relative to other cars of a similar size. The maximum discounts for conventionally fuelled vehicles will be 1,000 euros.

Source NZBCSD

US competitive edge?

Forty US senators have sent a letter to President Bush on 29 June, urging him to "provide leadership" on climate change, and warning that the US could lose its competitive edge in a "carbon conscious" world.

Source - Environmental Finance

Organic food market growing rapidly

Worth an estimated \$38 billion a year the organic food market is expected to continue to grow rapidly as people become more discerning about what they eat. The Australian industry, currently worth \$128 million a year, is targeting Japan as a major growth market. The USA and the EU are also seen as strong markets. Grain farmers in particular are being encouraged to take advantage of emerging markets.

National News

Victorian Government leaps ahead on sustainability

The Victorian Government has released *Our Environment our Future* - a \$200 million action plan. The broad initiatives bring industry, communities and households into the task of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fighting climate change and using water and energy more efficiently. The Vic Government is mandating that 10% of electricity be sourced from renewables by 2016. The top 250 energy and water using companies must achieve significant efficiencies. Victoria has committed \$21 million for market based instruments to protect land and native vegetation and to reduce damage to the environment. A new research centre on climate change will be set up and the Government confirmed its commitment to emissions trading. For more details visit www.dse.vic.gov.au

South Australia - groundbreaking climate change legislation

Premier Mike Rann has unveiled legislation to enforce greenhouse targets, and announced that South Australia is legislating that 20 percent of the State's electricity must come from renewable energy.

South Australia will become the first State in the nation – and one of only a few places in the world – to enshrine a cut in greenhouse gas emissions in legislation. "Global warming poses a greater threat to humans and our planet than terrorism, with emissions of carbon dioxide, continuing to be the biggest cause of climate change," Mr Rann said.

The *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Bill*, which has been released for public consultation, will commit the State to a target of reducing greenhouse gases by 60 per cent of 1990 levels by 2050. See www.premier.sa.gov.au for details

CoAG on climate change

Greenhouse gas reporting is to become mandatory and CoAG have agreed that December will be the deadline for design of the reporting entity. CoAG cited the need for a "national purpose-built legislation to provide for cost-effective mandatory reporting and disclosure." EBA had recommended using the National Pollutant Inventory as the reporting entity because of the potential reductions in cost and red-tape; the successful trial using the NPI conducted by Victoria; and most importantly the need for reporting to be transparent and in the public domain. If a purpose-built model is not available by December the system is likely to default back to the NPI. To see EBA's submission see www.environmentbusiness.com.au/policy papers.

Other CoAG agreements in this area included:

- additional public fora will be held by the CCCG during 2006-07; and
- the CCCG will report by December 2006 on options for undertaking energy technology roadmaps to address gaps in technology support.

CoAG on water

On water CoAG agreed to further discussions between the Commonwealth and States and Territories to ensure that a small number of large projects of state and national significance receive appropriate support from the Australian Government Water Fund.

CoAG also noted that the National Water Commission would be reviewing progress on water trading as of 1 January 2007 and that current plans indicate that a comprehensive system for permanent trade in water entitlements

between the southern Murray-Darling Basin States under the NWI should be in place by 1 July 2007. CoAG agreed efforts will be made to accelerate the introduction of this system.

The full text of the CoAG communique on outcomes of the meeting can be seen at www.coag.gov.au

Prime Minister talks

The Prime Minister's speech on water and energy emphasised the need for clean energy; action to combat climate change and also the need for implementation of the national water plan of action. While emphasising the need for water trading, the PM fell short on recognising the need for economic signals to catalyse technology developments to curb greenhouse gas emissions. EBA is calling for a carbon price signal and preferably a national emissions trading scheme.

Federal inquiry into the science and application of geosequestration

The Federal Government House of Representatives Science and Innovation Committee has announced a new inquiry into the potential management of greenhouse gases using the process of geosequestration - capturing carbon dioxide emissions and storing them underground.

Further details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/scin/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4150 or emailing scin.reps@aph.gov.au Submissions are due by 18 August.

Review of the National Pollutant Inventory NEPM

The National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) has released for public consultation a draft variation to the *National Environment Protection (National Pollutant Inventory) Measure*, an impact statement and other supporting documents.

Major changes proposed to the NPI NEPM include a name change; inclusion of transfers; inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions (now on hold due to CoAG's recent decision preferring a custom designed reporting entity); substance and threshold changes; removing the exemption for agriculture reporting; and changes to publication requirements.

While the inclusion of greenhouse gases has been overruled by CoAG, if senior officials are unable to design an alternative reporting mechanism by the December 06 deadline the States and Territories have reserved the right to revert to the NPI.

The NEPC has called for submissions on the draft variation and impact statement, particularly on the inclusion of greenhouse gas reporting in the NPI. The closing date for submissions is **15 September 2006**. Copies of the documents and information about the review are available at www.nepc.gov.au.

As part of the consultation process, the NEPC will be conducting public forums in all Australian capital cities from 24 July to 8 August 2006. The schedule of public meetings, forum venues and contact details are available at www.nepc.gov.au.

Dam the rivers and transfer water as needed: Queensland blueprint

EBA is concerned at the lack of industry voice regarding the Queensland Government's announcement that dams are the water plan for the future. EBA is planning a forum for industry and government to discuss the merits of various technology approaches to water security - details will be announced soon.

The QLD Government has said that it plans to [build](#) a \$400-500 million dam at Wyaralong, near Beaudesert in the state's south-east, inundating some 1,480 hectares. Premier Peter Beattie said it would provide around 21,000 ML of water a year, with construction complete by 2011.

Premier Beattie also unveiled the timetable for a staged construction of the controversial [Traveston Dam](#) project on the Mary River. Stage one is a \$1.7 billion, 180,000 ML dam expected to yield 70,000 ML/year from 2011. Stage two will see \$250 million invested to raise the wall of the Borumba Dam by 2025 to deliver an extra 40,000 ML/year.

Beattie said measures such as desalination and recycling were also being explored but high population growth meant new mass storage facilities were needed. "It is true that climate change has affected the reliability of rainfall

to supply dams, however, that is why we are developing a water grid to connect our water storages throughout south-east Queensland," [he said](#).

Source WME News

NSW water plans

The NSW Government has appointed National Water Commissioner Peter Cullen to head a panel of independent experts to advise the government on Sydney's water planning.

A Sydney recycling plant is planned to treat 27 billion litres of recycled water a year for greywater use in Sydney's outer west. The water will also help to restore environmental flows to rivers on the outskirts of Sydney

Source AFR

Victoria launches coal drying plant

A demonstration plant able to remove 70% of the water from brown coal has been launched in Victoria. The mechanical thermal expression demonstration plant will process 15 tonnes of coal an hour. Removing water from high-moisture brown coal reduces GHG emissions and increases generation efficiency.

Source: Environmental Manager

Labor launches new innovation policy

Stephen Smith, the Labour Party's spokesman for industry, infrastructure and industrial relations has launched a new innovation policy that would allow companies to convert R&D tax concessions into loans and give venture-capital investors tax deductions on their income tax according a report in the AFR on 7 July. The policy paper proposes an enterprise investment scheme similar to the UK's which would allow early-stage venture capital to write off 20 per cent of investment against income tax. Innovation certainly needs all the help that a government enabling framework can provide as outlined in numerous EBA papers. For more details www.alp.org.au/policy

Corporate social responsibility report

The long-awaited Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services on Corporate Responsibility: Managing risk and creating value report has been tabled in Parliament. For a copy of the report see: http://wopared.parl.net/Senate/committee/corporations_ctte/corporate_responsibility/report/index.htm

Stranded irrigation assets

A Productivity Commission Staff Working Paper on 'Stranded Irrigation Assets' presents the results of research on the options to address the perceived adverse financial consequences of stranded irrigations assets. The paper is available at <http://www.pc.gov.au/research/swp/strandedirrigation/index.html>

Gas for baseload in Victoria

Victoria has given the green light to a \$1 billion gas-fired power station proposed by Origin Energy. This would be the first approval of a base-load power station in the State for nearly 20 year.

Source AFR 14.7.06

Head of Queensland's Water Commission

Elizabeth Nosworthy, a former lawyer and deputy chairwoman of Babcock & Brown has been appointed head of QLD's Water Commission with the task of educating the business community and the public on water use.

Source AFR 6.7.06

National Water Commission releases report to CoAG

The Commission's report on water reform calls for governments to increase their commitment to National Water Initiative reforms. The full report can be seen at www.nsw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm

Fuji Xerox Australia turns to 100% renewable energy across all company sites

Fuji Xerox Australia (FXA) today announced that it will introduce 100 per cent green power from renewable energy sources at all its company sites across Australia. Over the next four years FXA will increase its use of renewable energy sources by 25 per cent annually, aiming to purchase 100 per cent green electricity by the year 2010.

For more information on Fuji Xerox Australia's environmental policy visit:

http://www.fujixerox.com.au/about_us/environment.jsp

New EBA Members

Attunga Capital P/Limited

Attunga Capital Pty Ltd is a specialist investment manager whose philosophy is to create long term wealth for investors by seeking out niche asset classes and applying unique skills to deliver superior performance. Our initial funds are the Attunga Enviro Investment Fund and the Attunga Enviro Opportunities Fund.

Contact - [Ian Gibson Director](#)

Level 25, Chifley Tower, 2 Chifley Square, Sydney NSW 2000

T: 02 9293 2553 F 02 9293 2828

Website: www.attungacapital.com.au Email: info@attungacapital.com.au

Abatement Solutions – Asia Pacific

Abatement Solutions - Asia Pacific provides specialised advisory services in climate change policy, project-based abatement, emissions trading, and carbon strategy. Our expertise is founded on a deep understanding of current emissions trading and abatement policies, combined with our ongoing involvement in development of domestic and international mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For broader engagements in policy and strategy development, AS-AP partners with leading international firms to provide a combination of local knowledge and a global network of skills and experience.

Contact [Rob Fowler - Managing Director](#)

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EBA Member news

Global Renewables - major UK contract

Global Renewables closes in on the \$5 billion Lancashire waste contract GRD Limited has announced that its subsidiary Global Renewables has reached a key milestone in the closure of the Lancashire waste contract, one of the largest and most significant PFI (Public Finance Initiative) contracts of its type to be awarded in the United Kingdom. The Cabinets of Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council, the two contracting authorities, have authorised the move to financial closure of the contract involving £340 million (A\$850 million) of direct capital investment and a total contract value of over £2 billion (A\$5 billion).

Global Renewables was selected in September last year as preferred bidder to design, install and operate an integrated network of waste management facilities for sorting, recycling, mechanical and biological treatment, and composting of household waste. The announcement today for a 765,000 tonnes capacity network (600,000 tonnes per year of processing capacity) represents the point at which both parties have agreed the contractual and technical details, and dates will now be set for the financial close and operational start of the project.

Fur further information contact Cliff Lawrenson, Chief Executive, GRD, Tel +61 8 9278 1888; Ms Melanie Siggs, Head of Corporate Affairs UK, Global Renewables, + 44 (0) 161 601 4920

Swiss Re

Swiss Re's Australian CEO, Keith Scott, is to move to Hong Kong where he will be the group's Chief Operating Officer for Asia-Pacific. We hope Keith's interests in sustainability and climate change issues mean w will continue to see him involved with EBA. The incoming head for Australia is Russell Higginbotham who has been heading Swiss Re's Life & Health business in Japan and Korea.

Lend Lease changes in senior management

Murray Coleman will move to London to head up Bovis Lend Lease in the UK. Sergio Casari will move from Madrid will be the new head in Australia.

Company News

Geodynamics

Dr Bertus de Graaf has left Geodynamics the hot deep fractured rock energy company. Adrian Williams is the acting CEO.

WSP Environmental

Part of the WSP Group (LSX: WSH), has acquired three specialist environmental businesses in Australia - creating a new environmental player in the country. WSP acquired ARK, RES and RegConnect forming an \$8million business with forty consultants specialising in environmental, health and safety, risk management and corporate services.

Queensland news

Water News

Still big controversy about proposed sites for new dams. There are "no dams" signs popping up everywhere and the Bruce Highway just north of Cooroy through to north of Gympie is littered with pleas to government and the community to stop the proposed Traverston Crossing dam on the Mary River which will inundate some 900 properties including several school buildings. There is passionate public debate and calls for demand management measures and alternate sources such as rainwater tanks and recycled water. If it has achieved one thing it has at least made these conversations public. A decision about dam site selection is expected from the Premier next week.

Ministerial Regional Community Forum

Minister for Small Business, Information Technology Policy and Multicultural Affairs Hon Chris Cummins MP hosted a Ministerial Regional Community Forum at Kawana on Micro-economic development on the Sunshine Coast. EBA State President Fiona Waterhouse was among a panel of local entrepreneurs selected to speak about their experiences in small business and ideas about fostering innovation and micro-economic development on the Sunshine Coast. She spoke about the opportunities for the environment industry.

Sustainable Building Awards

The second Noosa Living Smart Glossies awards were held on Saturday 24th as part of the Noosa Long Weekend festivities. Under the theme "Green is the new black" leading architect Phil Harris ([Troppo Architects](#)), Kerry and Lindsay Clare ([Architectus](#)) and Gabriel Poole ([GEPDC](#)) opened the event with provocative presentations on smart, sustainable, affordable design making powerful arguments against the unsustainable McMansion tide which still dominates urban development. Fiona Waterhouse and her partner and I were lucky to win the EcoSpecifier Resource Saver award for their home/office development in the Noosa Hinterland where they have recycled a whole house. In 2004 they relocated and have started sustainably renovating a 100 year old colonial cottage which was destined for landfill in Brisbane. More information and a database of sustainable technologies, products and services are located at www.livingsmartnoosa.com

Sustainable Housing Program

The Queensland Sustainable House Program seems to be in full swing with 25 houses now built or planned to be built throughout Queensland. Sustainable Home Zilzie was recently opened by the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Racing Hon Robert Schwarten MP and Livingstone Shire Mayor Mr Bill Ludwig and Sustainable Home Brisbane is about to be opened. Sustainable Home Gold Coast continues to draw strong visitor numbers, with around 1000 visitors on its opening day and more than 500 visitors a week in its first two months. It continues to average a steady 150 visitors every week. More information www.sustainable-homes.org.au

Queensland update: Fiona Waterhouse Qld Chapter President - Environment Business Australia, Director - Sustainable From Scratch www.sustainablefromscratch.com

Qld Chapter President - Environment Business Australia www.environmentbusiness.com.au

E: sfs@tbatl.com.au T: 07 5447 0421

Opportunities

Grants

Local govts, community organisations, industry groups and others looking for up to \$100,000 for projects to cost-effectively reduce greenhouse emissions have until Aug 15 to lodge expressions of interest for a fed [strategic abatement](#) (LETA-SA) grant. Meanwhile, local councils have until July 24 to apply for fed community greenhouse abatement grants worth \$28,000. And they have until Feb 12 2007 to apply for a \$4,000 grant to prepare a GHG emissions inventory. www.greenhouse.gov.au.

Applications close on Aug 25 for second round funding under the fed community water grants program, which provides grants of up to \$50,000 (\$250,000 in some circumstances) for practical projects that save water or improve water quality. www.communitywatergrants.gov.au/.

Source: *Environmental Manager*

National Water Commission calling for proposals

Australian Government \$200 million Raising National Water Standards Programme is calling for proposals. Applications close on 15 September. Details from www.nwc.gov.au/water_fund/water_standards.cfm or email the National Water Commission on rnws@nwc.gov.au or call 02 6102 6088

Department of Environment and Heritage invites tenders for the assessment of the vulnerability of the National Reserve System (NRS) to climate change. For details see <http://www.tenders.gov.au> or email adaptation_projects@deh.gov.au or phone Anna van Dugteren on 02 6274 1119

Renewable Energy Development Initiative Round 3 - Call for funding applications

Applications are now being invited for Round 3 of the Australian Government's *Renewable Energy Development Initiative (REDI)* program, which closes on Wednesday 13 September 2006 at 5pm (AEST).

REDI will provide grants of matching funding from \$50 000 up to a limit of \$5m for eligible renewable energy technology services of up to three years in duration.

The *Renewable Energy Development Initiative (REDI)* is a competitive merit-based grant and aims to support the development of new renewable energy technology products, processes or services that have strong early stage commercialisation and greenhouse gas emissions reduction potential.

Project applications are invited from the solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and hydro sectors and ocean energy harnessing technologies.

In supporting such projects, the *Renewable Energy Development Initiative (REDI)* will contribute to the reduction of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions and enhance the international competitiveness of Australian businesses by encouraging innovation and generating national benefits for the Australian economy.

The *Renewable Energy Development Initiative (REDI)* provides up to \$100 million over seven years to eligible applicants in the form of matching grants to undertake new renewable energy technology activities. To date, 16 projects have already received more than \$33m in Australian Government funds.

Applications for Round 3 close 13 September 2006, at 5pm (AEST).

Career Opportunities

Dynamic person sought for Environment Business Australia -

We are seeking a skilled researcher with good communications skills and a proven ability to prepare in-depth reports and submissions. A good understanding of environmental issues is critical and the successful candidate will probably have good contacts in industry and government. Preference will be given to people who can additionally demonstrate marketing, public relations or media skills/qualifications.

A salary of \$60,000 is offered for a 12 month contract. The position reports to the CEO and will involve close liaison with EBA's member companies, the scientific community, and all three levels of government. The position is available immediately and can be based in either Sydney or Canberra.

Please address application and CV to the CEO at eba@environmentbusiness.com.au

South Australian Museum

The South Australian Museum is seeking a Director with vision, strategic leadership skills and an international reputation in a specific scientific discipline. For information call Heidi Jones 08 8100 8807 or see www.hdnder.com.au

List of positions available with Principal Consulting Group for the month of July

This section is sponsored by Principal Consulting Group, "the recruitment specialist of choice for a growing number organisation in Australia's environment business sector." Please visit www.principalconsulting.com.au for more information



Exceptional Environmental Opportunities

Our goal is to set an industry wide benchmark for excellence in environmental performance across all areas of our business.

Outstanding career opportunities for:

Senior Environmental Specialists (7 positions) - responsible for delivering high level technical and policy advice in:

- **Noise** – ref EBA3253N
- **Air** – ref EBA3253A
- **Land Management** – ref EBA3253L
- **Heritage** – ref EBA3253H
- **Biodiversity** – ref EBA3253B
- **Sustainability** – ref EBA3253S
- **Planning/EIA** – ref EBA4076

Senior Environmental Officers (2 positions) - responsible for delivering strategies to ensure continual improvement in environmental performance across the business:

- **Environmental Performance Improvement** – ref EBA4082

These positions offer tremendously rewarding career opportunities for environmental specialists working with all facets of the organisation, including planning and delivery of some of the most significant major infrastructure projects in NSW. Your responsibilities will include provision of high level technical advice, policy and strategy development to the Executive and Government to deliver exceptional environmental outcomes.

Your established professional credibility, technical expertise and experience will have a major impact in shaping the future of the organisation whilst having a direct influence on Government policy.

Opportunities exist for motivated individuals with excellent communication and inter-personal skills, the ability to drive and manage change, negotiate and network with influence and have a positive impact on a large organisation and its stakeholders.

All positions will be based in Sydney.

Principal Consulting Group has been exclusively retained to undertake this recruitment assignment. Please email scottwhite@principal.net.au for a position description (quoting the job reference number and job title), or telephone Scott White on 1300 362 643 for a confidential discussion. Applications must address the selection criteria and technical capabilities outlined in the PD.

Applications close Monday 7 August 2006.

[Senior Ecologist, Sydney](#)

Multi-disciplinary consulting group are looking for a Senior Ecologist to join their successful Sydney practice.

[Principal Statutory Planner – Melbourne](#)

This dynamic, multi disciplined consulting firm has an exciting opportunity for a Principal Statutory Planner to join and lead their planning group.

[Environmental Scientist \(Consulting\), Melbourne](#)

High profile engineering consultancy with enviable reputation is experiencing rapid growth and wishes to appoint an Environmental Scientist within their dynamic Melbourne office.

[Senior Environmental Planner – Sydney](#)

This private multi-discipline firm has an exciting opportunity for a Senior Environmental Planner to join their planning team in Sydney.

[Environmental Community Consultant – Sydney](#)

This dynamic consulting group has an exciting career opportunity for an Environmental Community Consultant to join their Sydney office.

[Senior Environmental Engineer – Brisbane](#)

This dynamic environmental consulting group has an exciting opportunity for a Senior Environmental Engineer to join their team in Brisbane.

[Geomorphologist – Brisbane](#)

This dynamic environmental consulting group have an exciting opportunity for a Geomorphologist to join their team in Brisbane.

[Project Manager, Contaminated Land - Melbourne](#)

A multi-disciplinary consultancy with an enviable reputation seeks Contaminated Land Project Managers to become part of their Melbourne team. As Project Manager, duties may include proposal writing, delivery of environmental projects, report writing, client liaison and project management.

[Senior Environmental Engineers/Scientists – Brisbane & Cairns](#)

Due to strong growth of their business, this leading environmental consultancy firm, whose focus is in Urban Development and Natural Resource Management, is looking to make the strategic hire of two Senior Environmental Engineers/Scientists to join their dynamic teams based in Brisbane and Cairns.

[Engineering Opportunities \(Water/Wastewater\), Perth](#)

High profile multi-disciplinary consultancy is seeking civil, mechanical and electrical engineers to join their Perth office. Opportunities exist at various levels for engineering professionals with two or more years of professional experience and an interest in water and wastewater.

[Senior Social Planner, Melbourne](#)

International consulting group looking to grow their sustainability and planning group with the strategic hire of a Senior Social Planner. Responsible for leading and developing the social planning team, which provides an extensive range of consulting services to both urban and rural clients.

[Contaminated Land Consultants/Project Managers, Australia Wide locations](#)

A number of leading consultancies require Contaminated Land Consultants and Project Managers. Opportunities exist in most Australian cities and at various levels.

[Water Resources Team Leader, Melbourne](#)

The continued growth of this multinational consulting firm has resulted in an opportunity for a Water Resources Team Leader to join their Melbourne office.

Opportunities with Enesar Consulting

Enesar Consulting is a leading provider of environmental and social impact assessments and technical investigations to mining, petroleum and infrastructure clients in Australia and overseas (34 countries). Established over 30 years ago, the firm has developed an enviable reputation for successfully managing project development approvals and permitting. Enesar is growing rapidly and is part of the listed Australian public company, Coffey International Limited.

Opportunities with Enesar include:

[Senior EIA Consultants, Melbourne](#)

These roles will encompass project management and delivery of major infrastructure, mining and oil/gas projects on an international scale.

[Environmental \(EIA\) Consultants \(Oil/Gas\) – Perth and Brisbane](#)

With an increasing project load and projected business growth Enesar currently have opportunities in their Perth and Brisbane offices for experienced environmental

Events

DATE	CITY	EVENT
		Click event to link to event website
July		
4-6	Rockhampton	31 st Annual Queensland Water – Industry workshop – operation skills www.wioa.org.au
27-28	Sydney	Energy Efficiency Conference, Exploring the business and environmental opportunities. www.informa.com.au
August 2006		
2-3	Queanbeyan, NSW	PPAM Congress 2006-Governance supporting partnerships www.ppamcon.au
16	Canberra	<i>Water for irrigated agriculture</i> organised by the ATSE Crawford Fund, to be held at Parliament House. Details from www.crawfordfund.org or email tlangly@mira.net Tel: 03 9437 3224
18	Queensland	International Association of Agricultural Economists 26th Conference. Gold Coast. Further information: http://www.iaae-agecon.org/AusConf/index.html
22	Melbourne	Clean Technology AustralAsia, Finance and Investment Forum www.cleantechforum.com
September 2006		
4-7	Brisbane	9 th River symposium, managing rivers with climate change and expanding populations www.riversymposium.com
8-9	Sydney	APEC Economic Leaders Meeting
11	Melbourne	Environmental Markets and beyond A special EBA forum on 11 September dedicated to the memory of Carlton Bartels. Details will be available shortly from EBA, email eba@environmentbusiness.com.au
9-13	Brisbane	IUAPPA World Congress. Clean air partnerships-coming together for the future www.iuappa2007.com
18-21	Adelaide	Global Windpower 06, www.auswind.org/global06/sponsorship.html
October 2006		
8-11	Melbourne	International land care conference. People and environment, creating future landscapers, lifestyles and livelihoods www.internationallandcareconference2006.com.au
23	Sydney	EBA Business and Sustainability Summit
27	Hong Hong	ECO Expo Asia http://sourcing.tdtrade.com
November		

28 -1 st Nov	Perth	2 nd IWA ASPIRE Conference and Exhibition www.awa.asn.au/events/aspire
30-31	Germany, Town hall Wuppertal	International conference, Energy autonomy through the storage of Renewableenergies” http://www.eurosolar.org/new/en/storage2006.html http://www.wcre.org
December		
4-7	Tasmania	30th Hydrology and Water Resources Symposium. Launceston, . Further information: www.cdesign.com.au/hydrology2006
6-8	New Delhi, India	<i>5th World Wind Energy Conference & Renewable Energy Exhibition presented by WWEA and InWEA More information: www.wwec2006.com</i>

Reference

EBA Newsletter contact

Please contact Robyn Kennedy at the EBA secretariat for advertising rates on 02 6270 1333 or email eba@environmentbusiness.com.au **Deadline for articles 20th of each month.**

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