What do you think are the key environmental challenges which will impact the EPA in the future?

quality of air, water especially with an increasing population

What aspects of the EPA's work do you value and wish to preserve in the future? All aspects - litter, air pollution, waste & water.

How can the EPA effectively work in partnership with other government agencies to meet the environmental challenges of the future?

Provide data and predictions for future to help prepare other government agencies regulate and make laws to ensure air/water quality

How can the EPA's role in safeguarding the community against the health impacts of pollution be clarified or strengthened?

EPA should have the ability to declare certain products/chemicals/practices as hazardous and regulated to reduce pollution.

How could statutory frameworks more effectively prevent future environmental risks and land use conflicts?

standards could be set by number of humans residing in given area, study and review what has worked (& what hasn't worked) in other cities around the world who faced population growth as is expected in Melbourne and the state

What role should the EPA play in emergency management?

first responders along with fire, ambulance, police for spills and other environmental dangers

How can the EPA better identify and, where necessary, address problems that are the result of past activity?

more resources needed to trace problems to the source and then the ability not only to regulate but also to enforce

What role should the EPA play in improving environmental outcomes beyond those necessary to safeguard human health?

Human health is affected by health of all ecosystems (land, air & water/marine) so the EPA should have a regulator and enforcer role to protect all of those areas which in turn protects human health

What role should the EPA play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

a major role! Again this effects human health so should rank at the top of the list along with the ability to enforce laws for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. How do you see environmental justice being applied to the work of the EPA? No Answer

What can we adopt from other regulators and regulatory models to implement best-practice approaches and ensure that the EPA can rise to key future challenges? Research & study of what has worked in other places in the world (as similar to ours as possible) and getting best practice going within reasonable time frame (within months to 1 year)

Are there any other issues relevant to the Terms of Reference that you would like to raise?

The ability to enforce regulations/laws which aim to protect air & water quality. More engagement and education of the general public to the issues we face (globally) as awareness is the first step in preventing future problems. Ban smoking in all public areas to help improve air quality. Enforce litter and pollution laws to help improve water quality. Regulate hazardous materials & items, for example helium balloons, (including ones that are hazardous to marine life, fish, birds.) And regarding landfill and waste generation, educate the public to reduce, reuse and recycle before creating new waste.

What can the EPA do to avoid potential future problems?

That's a tough one. I think we are still trying to manage current problems so again would suggest education campaigns to the mainstream masses so people are aware of the problems we have currently including plastic pollution on land & waterways, air quality issues and the fallouts from climate change (as mentioned increase in bushfires, etc). Only when we acknowledge the existence of a problem can we solve it and then prevent it from occurring again in future. Thank you!