

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

Keeping our environment undamaged due to discharges to the land, river, air and ocean environments. Ensuring human activity is properly regulated to protect the environment especially: septic tank, industrial waste, odour and air emissions that impact on peoples enjoyment of their environment.

What aspects of the EPA's work do you value and wish to preserve in the future?

Works approval processes, environmental effects statements and review by EPA. Regulatory oversight to ensure businesses and others are brought to account if they are breaking the rules. Includes people dropping litter, wastewater treatment plant operation that create odour and other odour or air emissions that impacts on the amenity of an area. For example, if a drag strip is proposed for an area with residential uses nearby, make sure the Council planning decisions are appropriate to protect the environment from fuel spills, noise does not impact on neighbours and smoke emissions from tyres do not cause nuisance for neighbours.

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

By having an open dialogue and responding to those organisations in a timely fashion. Being clear who is doing what and when. Having early input into any Council strategic planning decisions that may impact the environment.

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

Making it clear to the community the EPA role in this area and having modern reporting tools. Providing timely feed back to the community on what actions have been taken.

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

Appropriate planning scheme zones that separate incompatible uses. Better understand the sensitivity of the environment in certain areas and document the need to protect these in the planning schemes. Eg is an provides habitat for Koala or certain lizards, habitat corridors should be required as part of any future urban development plan.

What role should the EPA play in emergency management?

Where there is potential for damage to the environment from a chemical spill or similar. Scientific knowledge on the detrimental impacts of fire and flood on the environment and how best to assist in recovery efforts.

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

make sure these activities are no longer ignored and they are brought into compliance with current standards if the activity is causing environmental damage.

What can the EPA do to avoid potential future problems?

No Answer

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

Substantial role. EPA is the only agency protecting the environment from inappropriate discharges to land, water ways, air and oceans. Human health is only a minor component of the EPA's role.

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

Be a conduit and mechanism to ensure new businesses and existing businesses are meeting their obligations re GHG emissions. They should not be making the policies but regulating compliance for CO2 and other gas emissions to the environment.

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?

Adequately resource the agency and not introduce unnecessary red tape

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

No Answer

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No Answer