



Office of the Environmental Protection Authority Annual Report 2014-2015



Statement of Compliance

For year ended 30 June 2015

Hon Albert Jacob, MLA

Minister for Environment

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.



Anthony Sutton

A/General Manager

28 August 2015

Contact us

This report was prepared by the Strategic Planning and Policy Division, Office of the Environmental Protection Authority. It is available in alternative formats on request.

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General Manager's foreword



The Office of the Environmental Protection Authority was established in 2009 to support the Environmental Protection Authority and work with other Government departments to ensure environmental values are protected and development is managed in an environmentally responsible manner.

As part of this support to the EPA, the OEPA provides advice on developing environmental policies and guidance, and conducts environmental impact assessments of significant development proposals, planning schemes and scheme amendments.

In conjunction with the Department's duties to the EPA, the OEPA is directly responsible to the Hon Albert Jacob MLA, Minister for the Environment, for the management of Ministerial approval statements. The OEPA is also responsible for administering and auditing the compliance of development proposals with their implementation conditions on behalf of the Minister.

The OEPA completed a comprehensive review of the EPA's policy suite this year, with the publication of five new policies during 2014–15 providing guidance on environmental matters and requirements for timely and efficient EIA process. This review was important to ensure a contemporary framework is being utilised, with four out-of-date policies withdrawn and a further four revised. In addition, the EPA's interim strategic advice on environmental values in the Perth and Peel regions was finalised during 2014–15, for release in August 2015.

Significantly, the State and the Commonwealth Governments signed a new Assessment Bilateral Agreement, which came into effect on 1 January 2015. This agreement now accredits the EPA's Assessment on Proponent Information –Category A level of assessment and further reduces duplication of processes.

I am pleased to report that in our first year of reporting against new performance indicators, the EPA's satisfaction with environmental impact assessment and environmental management services provided by the OEPA exceeded set targets. This is important because it confirms that the work produced by the Department provides significant value to the EPA.

Thirty-one environmental impact assessment reports were prepared for the EPA and published in 2014–15, covering a diverse range of mining, industrial, infrastructure and oil and gas proposals. Almost half of these reports were requests to change existing conditions, with the majority relating to extension of time limits for proposal implementation. All assessments met agreed timelines, a rise from 88 per cent the previous year.

There were 259 statutory planning schemes and amendments referred to the EPA in 2014–15, representing an approximately 10 per cent increase from the previous financial year.

The OEPA completed a substantial amount of post-approval work in the year, assessing 32 requests for changes to proposals.

Importantly, 99 per cent of project-specific conditions did not require significant change following the appeals process, illustrating the recommended conditions are not only designed to avoid, minimise or mitigate potential impacts to the environment, but that they can be practically implemented.

During the year, the OEPA completed 60 compliance audits focusing on mining proposals within Banded Iron Formation (BIF) ranges. Of audits completed this year, 97 per cent of projects were found to be compliant with Ministerial conditions. In the small number of cases found to be non-compliant, I am pleased to report remedial action was taken in every case within the time specified.

Business improvements continued in 2014–15, with a focus on improving consultation and feedback from proponents and the public. One initiative implemented by the OEPA is a close-out letter to proponents following the transmittal of the EPA's assessment report to the Minister. Feedback has been sought on the OEPA's risk-based approach to assessment and the use of key environmental factors as well as the timeliness of assessments, suitability of policy and guidance material and the proponent's interaction with OEPA officers. Overall, the feedback received has been positive and supports the OEPA's approach to assessment.

During the year, the OEPA updated referral forms to reflect the EPA's contemporary policy suite. This update has resulted in a significant improvement in the quality of information provided. In addition, the use of the online consultation hub continued to increase this year, proving it is a useful tool for the public.

Major progress was made on the development of a case management system and in the embedding of electronic records management. This work will continue to ensure the OEPA is well placed to deliver its services in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention the OEPA's productive and professional working relationships with other government departments, environmental non-government organisations and industry peak bodies. These relationships are crucial to the effective performance of the OEPA and we appreciate the contributions made by these groups and individuals.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the continuing collaborative working relationship with the Chairman and Members of the EPA. In particular, on behalf of the staff of the OEPA, I wish to thank outgoing Chairman Dr Paul Vogel for his service over the past eight years and wish him all the best in his future endeavours.



Kim Taylor

General Manager

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority

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Overview



Executive summary

Performance highlights

- The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's environmental impact assessment services during the year was 89%.
- 99% of project-specific conditions did not require significant change following the appeal process.
- 100% of environmental impact assessments met agreed timelines.
- 97% of projects audited during the year are compliant with Ministerial conditions.
- The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's provision of environmental management services during the year was 92%.
- A comprehensive review of the EPA's policy suite was completed during the year.

Operational structure

The OEPA delivers its services through three divisions:

Assessment and Compliance Division

The Assessment and Compliance Division provides environmental impact assessment support to the EPA for significant proposals (that is, proposals involving major projects, industrial, mining, petroleum and infrastructure developments) and strategic proposals. The division also monitors compliance with Ministerial approval conditions.

The division:

- is responsible for administering the environmental impact assessment processes on behalf of the EPA, for significant proposals and strategic proposals;
- provides environmental impact assessment advice to the EPA on all major infrastructure proposals;
- prepares draft EPA reports and recommendations to the Minister for Environment on environmental assessments;
- assists the Minister for Environment in issuing and managing Ministerial approval statements and conditions of implementation; and
- monitors the implementation of proposals.

Strategic Policy and Planning Division

The Strategic Policy and Planning Division's role is to provide advice and support to the EPA, the Minister for Environment and other parts of Government by:

- providing technical and policy advice in relation to environmental impact assessment of significant proposals and schemes;
- providing technical and policy advice on environment issues in general;
- coordinating the development, analysis, implementation and review of environmental policies and guidelines;
- managing the formulation and review of statutory Environmental Protection Policies;
- contributing to strategic environmental planning;
- providing environmental impact assessment advice to the EPA on major subdivisions, town planning schemes and amendments and regional schemes;
- developing strategic partnerships with stakeholders, including industry, environmental organisations and other Federal, State and local Government agencies;
- conducting investigations to improve understanding of the natural environment and inform successful policy approaches;
- providing media liaison and internal and external communications services; and
- identifying emerging environmental pressures and innovative technical or policy solutions.

Business Operations Division

During 2014–15, the Business Operations Division provided services including ministerial liaison, legal advice and Freedom of Information (FOI) and financial management, as well as executive support and administrative services to the EPA. This division also facilitated and administered the service agreements with the Department of Parks and Wildlife and the Department of Environment Regulation during the year.

Enabling legislation and the role of the OEPA

Enabling legislation

The Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) was established as a department in 2009 under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Responsible Minister

During 2014–15 the OEPA reported to the Honourable Albert Jacob MLA, Minister for Environment.

The role of the OEPA

The role of the OEPA is to provide services to the EPA to enable it to undertake its statutory functions, in accordance with s17A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

In servicing the EPA, the OEPA conducts environmental impact assessment (EIA) of significant development proposals and planning schemes. It also develops statutory policies, guidelines and strategic advice to manage environmental impacts and protect the environment.

This support helps the EPA provide the Minister for Environment with EIA reports and recommendations on proposals and schemes, and with advice on environmental policy and environmental issues generally.

In line with s22(1), the OEPA is directly responsible for servicing the Minister in performance of his functions under the EP Act, particularly for granting and managing Ministerial approval statements for projects under Divisions 2 and 3 of Part IV of the EP Act.

The OEPA is also responsible for administering s48 of the EP Act in auditing compliance with conditions set under these Ministerial approval statements, reporting on non-compliance to the Minister, and undertaking enforcement action as necessary on behalf of the Minister.

Subsidiary legislation

Subsidiary legislation relevant to the OEPA's functions includes:

- Environmental Protection Regulations 1987
- Environmental Protection (Swan Coastal Plain Lakes) Policy 1992
- Environmental Protection (Gnangara Mound Crown Land) Policy 1992
- Environmental Protection (Peel Inlet – Harvey Estuary) Policy 1992
- Environmental Protection (Kwinana) (Atmospheric Wastes) Policy 1999
- Environmental Protection (Kwinana) (Atmospheric Wastes) Regulations 1992
- Environmental Protection (Goldfields Residential Areas) (Sulphur Dioxide) Policy 2003
- Environmental Protection (Goldfields Residential Areas) (Sulphur Dioxide) Regulations 2003
- Environmental Protection (South West Agricultural Zone Wetlands) Policy 1998

- Environmental Protection (Western Swamp Tortoise Habitat) Policy 2011.

It should be noted that other parts of the EP Act are administered by the Department of Environment Regulation.

Organisational structure



Our vision

An environment that is highly valued and protected

Our purpose

We support the EPA and work with other departments, industry and the community to ensure environmental values are protected and development is managed in an environmentally responsible manner.

Performance management framework

Each year the OEPA is required to meet a number of targets set by the State Government. These targets relate to Government-desired outcomes, financial management, services to be delivered and performance targets to be achieved. The agreement is a transparent way for the State Government to monitor the operational performance of the OEPA.

The OEPA evaluates, measures and reports on the effectiveness of its services in achieving its desired agency level outcomes through Key Performance Indicators or 'KPIs'. KPIs comprise both Effectiveness and Efficiency Indicators.

Effectiveness Indicators show the extent to which the department achieved its department-level outcome and the Efficiency Indicators show the cost of services delivered by the department.

New KPIs were developed during 2013–14 and were applied during 2014–15.

The OEPA's management framework is consistent with the Government goal for social and environmental responsibility, which is to ensure that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State.

The desired outcome is provision of quality advice to the EPA and the Minister for Environment on significant proposals, compliance and environmental issues.

To achieve this outcome, the OEPA performs three services:

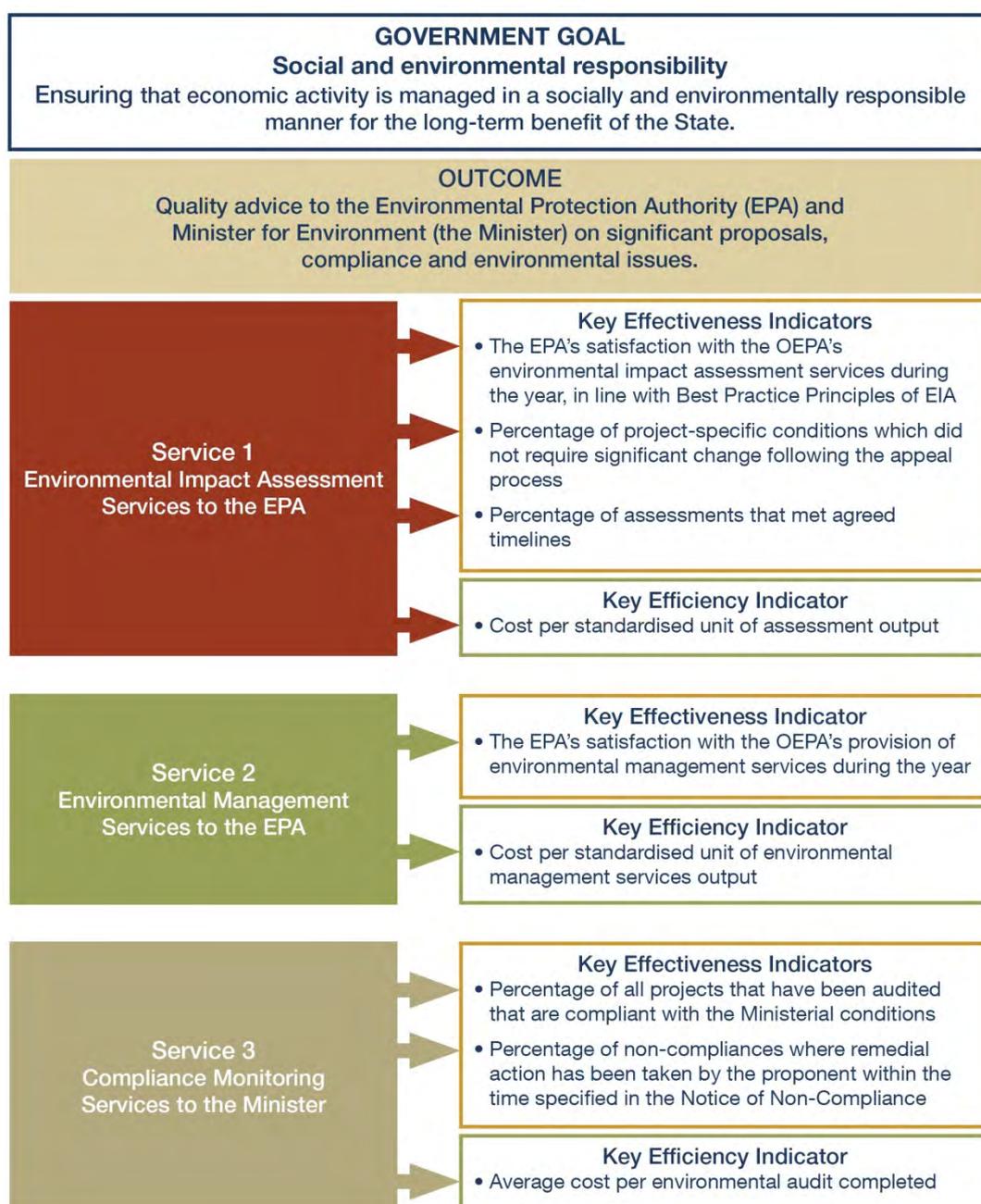
1. Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA
2. Environmental Management Services to the EPA
3. Compliance Monitoring Services to the Minister

To deliver these services, the OEPA undertakes three key functions:

Environmental impact assessment is undertaken to ensure the environmental impacts of significant development proposals and planning schemes are properly assessed and that appropriate conditions are applied.

Environmental management policies and strategic advice contribute to EPA and Government environmental policy so that environmental values are protected.

Compliance and enforcement is undertaken to ensure projects and planning schemes are audited and comply with Ministerial approval conditions and the Minister is advised of any non-compliance.

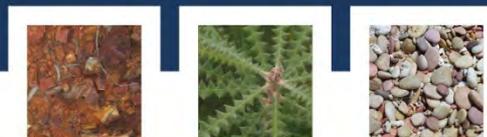


Changes to Outcome Based Management Framework

In 2012, the OEPA began a review of its key performance indicators to ensure they were robust, contemporary and fit for purpose. As part of this review, the OEPA engaged Dr Gordon Robertson PSM, a former Deputy Auditor General, as a consultant to review the existing KPIs, and recommend improvements that would satisfy the OEPA's performance reporting requirements.

The structure to capture data for the new KPIs was finalised during 2013–14, and a KPI Manual and tracking sheet developed. The revised services and indicators were endorsed by Treasury, the Office of the Auditor General and the Minister for Environment and the performance of the OEPA was measured against the new framework during 2014–15.

Agency performance



Report on operations

Service 1: Environmental impact assessment services to the EPA

Conduct, for the EPA, environmental impact assessment of significant proposals and schemes.

Key effectiveness indicators

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual
The EPA's satisfaction with the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority's (OEPA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) services during the year, in line with Best Practice Principles of EIA	n/a	75%	89%
Percentage of project-specific conditions which did not require significant change following the appeal process	n/a	75%	99%
Percentage of assessments that met agreed timelines	88%	80%	100%

In undertaking assessments on behalf of the EPA, officers follow *Environmental Assessment Guideline 8 – Environmental principles, factors and objectives* (EAG 8). This EAG outlines a framework of environmental principles and policies, environmental factors, environmental objectives, and guidance material as the basis on which the EPA makes decisions on the environmental acceptability of proposals and schemes. The guidance, revised in January 2015, is applied consistently to all assessments under Part IV of the EP Act.

In order to gauge the standard of assessment services provided by the OEPA to the EPA, for each assessment the EPA rates the quality of the OEPA's EIA services against principles derived from the International Association for Impact Assessment's *Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment Best Practice* (IAIA, 1999). This is done independently by each member involved in the assessment through a structured survey (Figure 1).

The rating for each of five principles is combined to provide the percentage satisfaction for the indicator.

Meeting number:					
Item:					
Summary:					
Survey question:					
With reference to the attached principles derived from principles of best practice EIA, how do you rate the quality of the Environmental Impact Assessment service provided by the OEPA? (tick the level of quality that best applies)					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
1. Practical					
2. Efficient					
3. Rigorous					
4. Participative					
5. Fit for purpose					

Figure 1: Rating tool for environmental impact assessment services to the EPA

This is the first year the EPA’s satisfaction with the OEPA’s EIA services has been a formal key effectiveness indicator, and the average rating for each principle is shown below. The OEPA’s services significantly exceeded the target set.

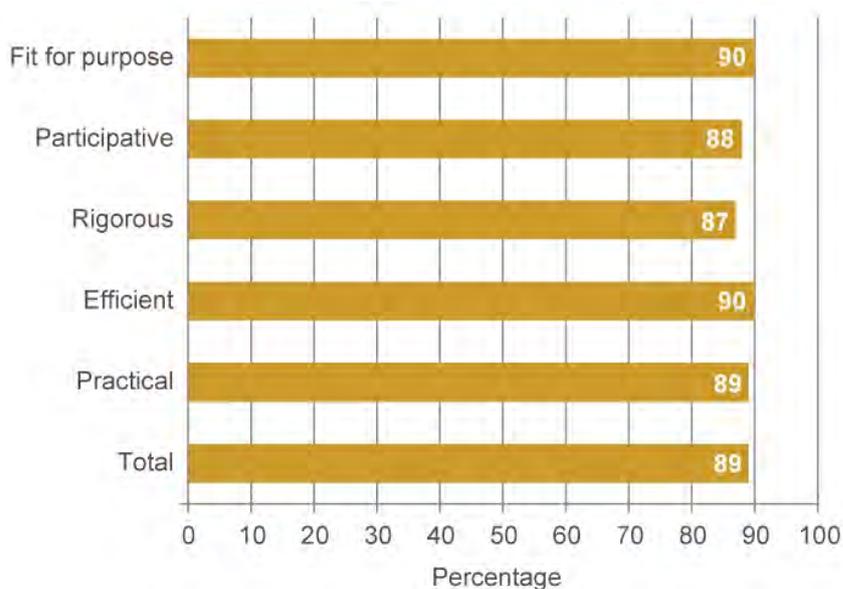


Figure 2: The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's EIA services in line with Environmental Impact Assessment Best Practice

A total of 329 development proposals and planning schemes were referred to the EPA for consideration in 2014–15: an increase of approximately 4.8% over 2013–14.

Of these, the EPA determined that 19 referred proposals warranted formal assessment. A further 65 referrals did not require assessment but specific advice was provided to proponents and approval agencies, two-thirds of which was in relation to planning schemes (44 scheme advice; 21 public advice on development proposals).

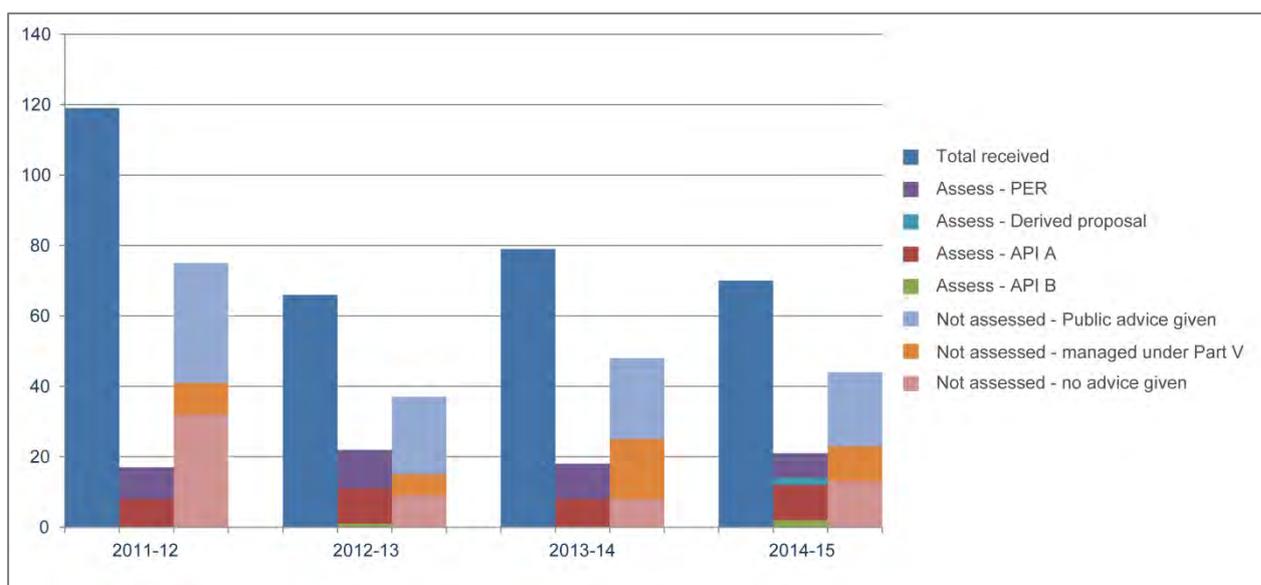


Figure 3: Breakdown of referrals of development proposals (s38)

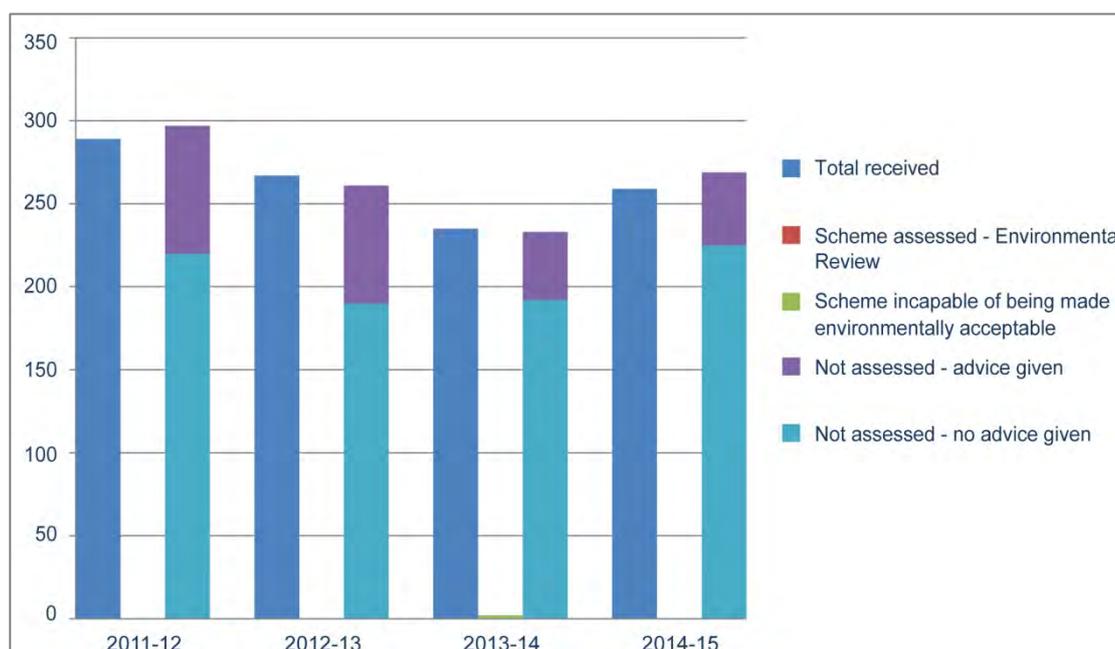


Figure 4: Breakdown of referrals of schemes and scheme amendments (s48)

During 2014–15, the EPA completed 31 reports, with the type and number of assessments shown in Table 1. A list of all proposals assessed is shown in Appendix 1.

Table 1: Completed assessments

TYPE OF ASSESSMENT	2013-14	2014-15
Public Environmental Review and Environmental Review and Management Programme	9	6
Assessment on Proponent Information – Category A	8	9
Assessment on Proponent Information – Category B	-	2
Changes to Conditions – Section 46	16	14
Derived proposal – Section 46(6)	1	-
Planning – Section 48A	1	-
TOTAL	35	31

Table 1 includes EPA Report 1550 which was completed and transmitted to the Minister for Environment in June 2015, but released publicly on 2 July 2015.

Environmental impact assessment of mining proposals

Overview

The EPA completed 12 assessments for mining proposals during 2014–15: three Public Environmental Review (PER)/Environmental Review and Management Programme (ERMP) assessments, seven Assessment on Proponent Information (API) – Category A assessments and two API – Category B assessments. Iron ore proposals dominated the completed assessments with 10 (83%) of the assessments relating to iron ore proposals. Of the iron ore assessments, 60% were for proposals in the Pilbara Region and 40% were for proposals on the Yilgarn Craton geological formation in the Midwest and Goldfields regions.

The Kintyre Uranium Assessment was the last proposal to be assessed at the Environmental Review and Management Plan level, following the 2009 review of EIA processes and subsequent changes to the levels of assessment that could be applied. This was the second uranium assessment to be completed, with three others still under assessment. The OEPA continues to consider the important role of other State agencies in maintaining a consistent approach to assessment and regulation of uranium projects.

The time taken for the completion of API – Category A assessments for mining proposals reduced during 2014–15, coinciding with the release of the EPA’s Environmental Assessment Guideline 14 *Preparation of an API – Category A Environmental Review Document* (EAG 14) in January 2015. The average time taken for API – Category A assessments where the level of assessment was set from January 2015 onwards was less than three months, compared to nearly 12 months for other API assessments completed during 2014–15.

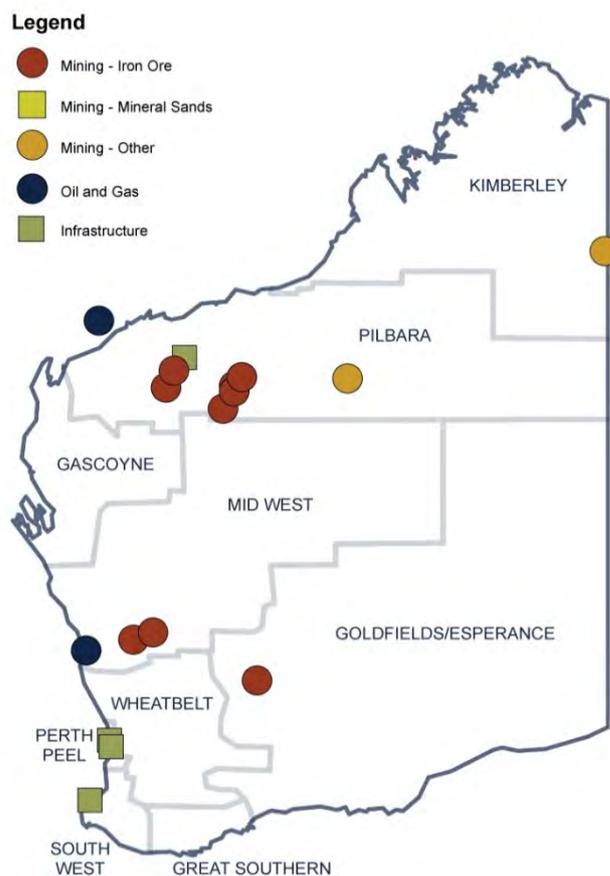


Figure 5: Location of proposals where the assessment report and recommendations to the Minister were completed during 2014–15

The trend of mining proposals, and in particular iron ore proposals, dominating the assessment workload is likely to continue. Of the 19 proposals referred during 2014–15 where the EPA decided to formally assess, 16 are mining proposals (84%), of which 14 are proposals relating to iron ore mines (74%). There is also an increasing trend of extensions to existing iron-ore projects (to sustain or increase production), rather than new “greenfields” developments.

Case Study

Koodaideri iron ore and infrastructure project

The proposal, by Mount Bruce Mining, is to construct and operate an open cut iron ore mine and associated infrastructure, including a railway, approximately 110 kilometres west-northwest of Newman in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. The proposal includes an open cut iron ore mine, ore processing areas, waste dumps, waste fines storage facility, a railway and an infrastructure corridor to link the proposal to Rio Tinto’s Yandicoogina operation. It will require over 12,000 ha of clearing and will have a mine life of over 30 years, generating up to 70 million tonnes of ore each year.

The proposal is in an area of high biodiversity and is located within the catchment of the Fortescue Marsh, a nationally and internationally important wetland. The EPA decided to assess the proposal at the level of Public Environmental Review (PER) due to its large scale and the number of complex environmental factors. This proposal was also assessed under a bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth Government because of the clearing of habitat that supports threatened species and communities listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The key environmental factors evaluated were Terrestrial Fauna, Subterranean Fauna, Flora and Vegetation, Hydrological Processes, Inland Waters Environmental Quality, Human Health, and the integrating factors of Rehabilitation and Decommissioning, and Offsets. The EPA's assessment identified potential impacts to threatened terrestrial fauna (specifically the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python), impacts to troglofauna (air-breathing subterranean fauna), and disturbance to the Declared Rare Flora, *Hammersley Lepidium* and a Priority 1 flora species, *Sauropus* sp. Koodaideri detritals. Protection of habitat for the terrestrial and subterranean fauna within the Mine Development Envelope was a key concern of the EPA, particularly in the context of potential cumulative impacts on the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat from other proposals.

In its role of supporting the EPA's assessment of the proposal, the OEPA focused on achieving good environmental outcomes. Assessment Officers attended a site visit to understand the context of the proposal and attended workshops with the proponent to develop protection zones for terrestrial and subterranean fauna. The OEPA also helped in the development of offsets for the proposal which reflected the significant residual impact of the large amount of clearing of native vegetation in 'good to excellent' condition and the clearing of important Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat foraging habitat between the mine pits.

The assessment concluded that the proposal could be implemented subject to conditions, including outcome-based conditions requiring avoidance zones for critical terrestrial fauna habitat and declared rare flora, and protection zones for important terrestrial and subterranean fauna habitat. The conditions also included management plans for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed bat, Northern Quoll, Koodaideri Spring and the Priority 1 *Sauropus flora* species, to minimise the impacts on the species, and an offsets condition to counterbalance the significant residual impacts of the clearing of vegetation and habitat.

The Western Australian Minister for Environment approved the proposal and the conditions recommended by the EPA, and issued the Ministerial Statement on 10 March 2015. The Commonwealth Department of Environment approved the proposal on 9 May 2015, requiring the proponent to

implement the Western Australian conditions, with some variations to the offsets condition.

In response to the OEPA's invitation to provide feedback on its management of the assessment process, the proponent:

- welcomed the focus on key environmental factors;
- appreciated the good guidance on policies and expectations given by OEPA officers; and
- found that the level of engagement and extensive consultation with the OEPA was constructive and beneficial.

Environmental impact assessment of industrial proposals

Overview

The EPA completed two industrial assessments during 2014–15. Both the Gorgon Gas Development Fourth Train Expansion proposal and the Kwinana Waste to Energy Project were assessed as Public Environmental Reviews.

The Gorgon Gas Development Fourth Train Expansion is an expansion of the existing liquefied natural gas (LNG) proposal which has current Ministerial Statements of approval with associated implementation conditions. A key consideration of the assessment was whether the existing conditions would be capable of managing the potential impacts of the expansion. The OEPA had a key role in validating the application of the existing conditions to the expansion proposal. The EPA found that the proposal could be managed to meet the EPA's objectives subject to the conditions in the existing Ministerial Statements issued for the original project. No further referrals for land-based LNG plants were received in 2014–15.

Waste management continues to be an issue in the urban environment, resulting in referrals of proposals for both landfills and waste processing facilities. Since the release of the EPA and the Waste Authority's strategic review of *Environmental and health performance of waste to energy technologies* (April 2013) four formal assessments of Waste to Energy (WtE) projects have been completed, all of which intend to use municipal solid waste (MSW) as feedstock. The most recently completed of these – the Kwinana WtE Project – is discussed in more detail below. There is one formal assessment in progress, targeting wood waste, which is due to be completed in July 2015, but no referrals of further large-scale WtE proposals in the metropolitan area were received in 2014–15. The future trend is likely to be toward proposals for smaller facilities targeting niche wastes or servicing regional areas.

Case Study

Kwinana Waste to Energy Project

The proposal by the Kwinana WtE Project Company was to construct and operate a WtE plant and brick making facility in Kwinana Beach. The facility would receive and process up to 400,000 tonnes of residual municipal solid waste supplied by local governments and would export up to 36 megawatts of electricity into the South West Interconnected System each year. A brick-making facility would also be incorporated to reuse the ash produced in combustion to make by-products such as bricks and pavers.

The level of assessment was set at Public Environmental Review (PER) in October 2012.

The OEPA helped the EPA identify the preliminary environmental factors and prepared a draft Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) describing the scope and content to be included in the proponent's PER document. The EPA approved the ESD in May 2013, and the proponent's PER document was released for a six-week public review in June 2014.

A total of 32 public submissions were received during the public review period. The key issues raised related to concerns regarding technology, air quality, cumulative impacts, potential health risks, the waste hierarchy, suitability of ash for reuse, and consistency with the EPA and Waste Authority's strategic review on WtE technologies. The OEPA consolidated and summarised these submissions, and provided them to the proponent for a response. The EPA determined that the key environmental factors to be evaluated were Air quality and Ash reuse.

The OEPA coordinated the assessment of the Kwinana Waste to Energy Project consistent with the previous WtE assessments through application of the recommendations in the strategic review. The corporate knowledge and experience previously gained contributed to improved timeliness during stages of this assessment.

Among issues raised in submissions and addressed during the assessment was that the proposed site is located in the Kwinana Industrial Area which includes many existing industries, leading to concerns about cumulative impacts. The OEPA consulted with the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) to address community concern over the potential for combined emissions from the recently assessed East Rockingham WtE and Materials Recovery Facility, and cumulative impact in general. The Kwinana Waste to Energy Project's contribution to ambient pollutant concentrations was determined to be acceptably small, and cumulative emissions would not compromise ambient air quality criteria.

The OEPA also worked with the DER to ensure that the EPA's recommended conditions were complementary to the DER's works approval and licensing process in order to avoid regulatory overlap.

The proponent's selection of robust well proven technology with a proven record of meeting stringent emission limits, along with a continuous emissions monitoring system, provided confidence that the proposal could be managed to meet the EPA's objectives.

The EPA concluded that the proposal could be implemented subject to recommended conditions including requiring a publicly-available Waste Acceptance Monitoring and Management Plan, which will describe and record the waste types accepted on site and disposed off-site, and an Ash Reuse Management Plan.

EPA Report 1538 Kwinana Waste to Energy Project was published in February 2015.

Following the completion of the EPA report, the OEPA invited the proponent to provide feedback on the environmental impact assessment process. The proponent recognised the professionalism of the OEPA's environmental officers in undertaking the assessment, and commended the EPA and the Waste Authority on their efforts in producing the section 16(e) strategic review which guided the assessment.

The proponent also highlighted that timeliness is probably their most significant concern and encouraged the OEPA to further develop its defined process timelines to the extent that a proponent has greater visibility and assurance of the status of its assessment at any point in time.

Environmental impact assessment of infrastructure proposals

Overview

The EPA has considered a broad range of significant infrastructure proposals in the marine and terrestrial environments in 2014–15. This has included the consideration of proposals for port developments, road and rail infrastructure, pipelines, tourism and aquaculture developments. The EPA also completed its assessment of the State Government's proposal for the Shark Hazard Mitigation Drum Line Program for 2014–17.

The Perth metropolitan area has been an area of particular interest with the EPA assessing the environmental impacts of a number of State significant infrastructure projects for the development of major roads, railway and water pipelines. Being in the metropolitan area these proposals are often located in

sensitive and constrained environments where the cumulative loss of native vegetation and fauna habitat is a key issue.

In the Pilbara region the OEPA has been in discussions with proponents during the early stages of planning of infrastructure projects for iron ore export. As with assessment of mining proposals, the application of the EPA's newly developed guidance for preparation of API – Category A documents (EAG 14) provides a more streamlined approach to infrastructure assessments, allowing them to be undertaken in a timely manner, while still achieving good environmental outcomes.

Case Study

Balla Balla Infrastructure – Rail and Conveyor Project

The Balla Balla Export Facilities, located midway between Port Hedland and Karratha, were originally proposed to allow the export of ore from Forge Resources Swan's approved Balla Balla Magnetite Mining Project. The export facilities were assessed by the EPA and recommended for approval in June 2013. Subsequently, it was identified that there is additional port capacity available for use by third parties.

The Balla Balla Infrastructure – Rail and Conveyor Project proposal was to construct and operate a combination of railway and overland conveyor to connect the export facilities with the Flinders Pilbara Iron Ore Project, approximately 200 kilometres to the south in the central Pilbara Region. The OEPA advised the proponent on the application of EAG 14 in the preparation of the environmental review documents, and the proposal was assessed at the API – Category A level.

The key environmental factors evaluated were flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, rehabilitation and decommissioning and offsets.

The proponent applied the EPA's mitigation hierarchy (avoid, minimise, rehabilitate and offset) during the design of the proposal and considered six alternative rail corridors to minimise potential impacts to the environment. In selecting the final rail corridor the proponent has:

- avoided Nunyerry Gorge, home to a relatively large population of the conservation significant Northern Quoll;
- relocated the northern rail loop to reduce the impact to a Priority Ecological Community (PEC) P3 'Horseflat Land System of the Roebourne Plains;
- relocated the crossing of Sherlock River to minimise potential impacts to riparian vegetation and indirect impacts associated with watercourse crossings; and

- minimised impacts on vegetation through progressive rehabilitation of areas not required for operations.

Officers of the OEPA attended a site visit in February 2015 of the Flinders Pilbara Iron Ore Minesite, the Balla Balla Infrastructure Rail and Conveyor proposal alignment, the Balla Balla Magnetite Mining Project and the Balla Balla Export Facilities. The site visit provided valuable context of the proposal and environment and how it links with the previously approved proposals.

The EPA recommended that the proposal could be implemented to meet its objectives subject to a set of conditions. The proponent will be required to:

- prepare a Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Management Plan, detailing actions to minimise impacts from fire, weeds and changes to surface water flows;
- prepare a Conservation Significant Fauna Management Plan, ensuring construction and operation activities minimise impacts to fauna, in particular the Northern Quoll, Bilby and Pilbara Olive Python; and
- ensure qualified fauna-rescue personnel clear open trenches of trapped fauna at least twice daily.

The EPA also recommended the proponent rehabilitate disturbed areas using locally native flora species and contribute to a government-established conservation offset fund to mitigate for significant residual impacts on vegetation in 'good to excellent' condition.

The application of EAG 14 saw the assessment of the proposal completed in three months from the date of receiving the referral from the proponent. The EPA released its report and recommendations in March 2015 and the Ministerial Statement was issued by the Minister for Environment in June 2015, an overall period of six months from the proponent's referral to final approval.

Feedback from the proponent on their experience of the OEPA's service throughout the EIA process was that:

- application of the risk-based focus was an efficient use of their resources, as they could target studies towards the factors that were of most importance to the proposal, resulting in high-quality scientific data;
- the OEPA performed tasks in a timely manner and worked with the proponent to meet or reduce timeframes wherever possible;
- the EPA's guidance material was useful in highlighting information required for the assessment process;
- the proponent was impressed with the OEPA's assistance, willingness to provide advice, and continuous interactions throughout; and

- the professionalism and experience of the OEPA staff allowed the proposal to progress through the assessment process with no issues.

Environmental impact assessment of planning schemes and scheme amendments

Under the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, all schemes and scheme amendments must be referred to the EPA for consideration. The EPA is then required to determine whether or not each scheme or scheme amendment requires formal environmental impact assessment under Part IV of the EP Act or, in rare cases, is environmentally unacceptable.

In 2014-15, the EPA considered 259 schemes and scheme amendments. The EPA determined that none of these raised environmental issues that could not be managed through planning and other regulatory processes, and that formal environmental impact assessment was not required. The EPA did, however, provide environmental advice, to be implemented through the planning process, for 44 of the schemes and scheme amendments. This advice helps responsible authorities and other stakeholders ensure that environmental impacts are avoided.

In addition to assisting the EPA with these statutory tasks during 2014-15, the OEPA also worked on improving referral and processing systems relating to schemes and scheme amendments.

A new referral form was developed and released for use by responsible authorities. The streamlining procedures for dealing with scheme amendments that pose little environmental risk were also implemented across the entire State. These low-impact schemes and scheme amendments are fast-tracked through the EPA process, taking on average 13 days to process compared to 22 days for non-streamlined referrals.

The OEPA also worked with the Department of Planning during 2014–15 on *Planning Makes it Happen* reforms to amend the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and the EP Act so that only schemes and scheme amendments not exempted by regulations made under the EP Act will require referral to the EPA. The proposed regulations will exempt schemes and scheme amendments that present little environmental risk. It is anticipated that the legislative amendments will be introduced into Parliament during 2015–16.

Post assessment

The OEPA provides post assessment support to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act for:

- changes to proposals after assessment (section 45C)
- amendment of implementation conditions by inquiry (section 46)

- minor changes to implementation conditions (section 46C)
- review and approval of Environmental Management Plans
- change of Nominated Proponent (sections 38(6) and 38(7)).

Changes to proposals – Section 45C

Changes to proposals may be approved by the EPA Chairman (as the Minister for Environment's delegate) under s45C of the EP Act. Changes to proposals may not be approved if it is considered they might have a significant detrimental effect on the environment in addition to, or different from, the original proposal. There were 32 changes to proposals approved under s45C during the year.

Amendment of implementation conditions – Section 46

Under s46 of the EP Act the Minister may request the EPA to inquire into and report on the matter of changing implementation conditions relating to proposals. Fourteen s46 reports were transmitted to the Minister in 2014–15. The most common reason for a requested change to conditions during the year was to extend the Time Limit for Proposal Implementation for up to five years for commencement of proposals.

An increasing number of proponents are seeking to consolidate implementation conditions across a number of Ministerial Statements. The consolidated conditions provide a basis for reducing duplication, contemporising conditions and streamlining reporting and compliance.

Minor changes to Implementation Conditions – Section 46C

The Minister may change the implementation conditions if the Minister considers the changes are of a minor nature and necessary or desirable in order to standardise conditions relating to different proposals.

There has been a small but increasing number of section 46C changes as newer, contemporary conditions, are applied to older Statements.

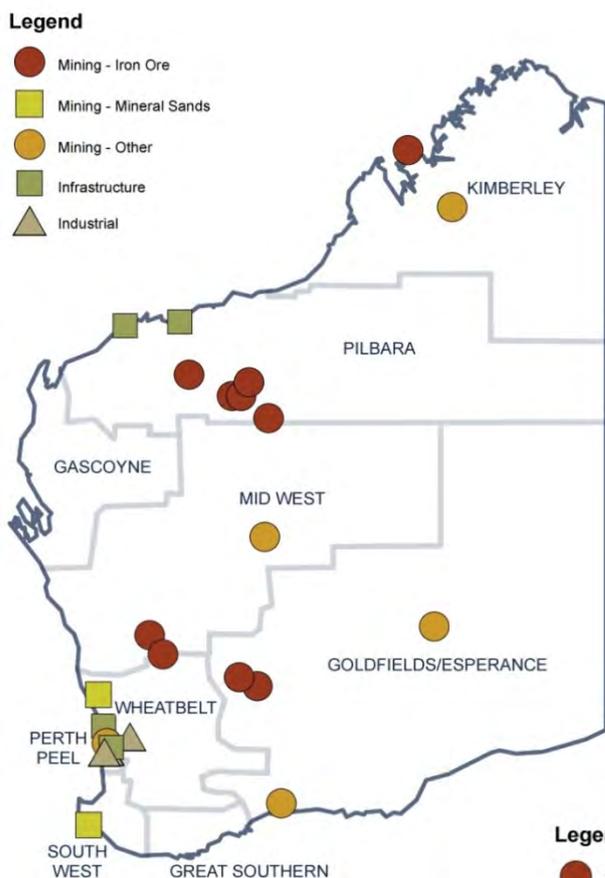


Figure 6: Location of proposals subject to section 45C changes to proposals during 2014–15

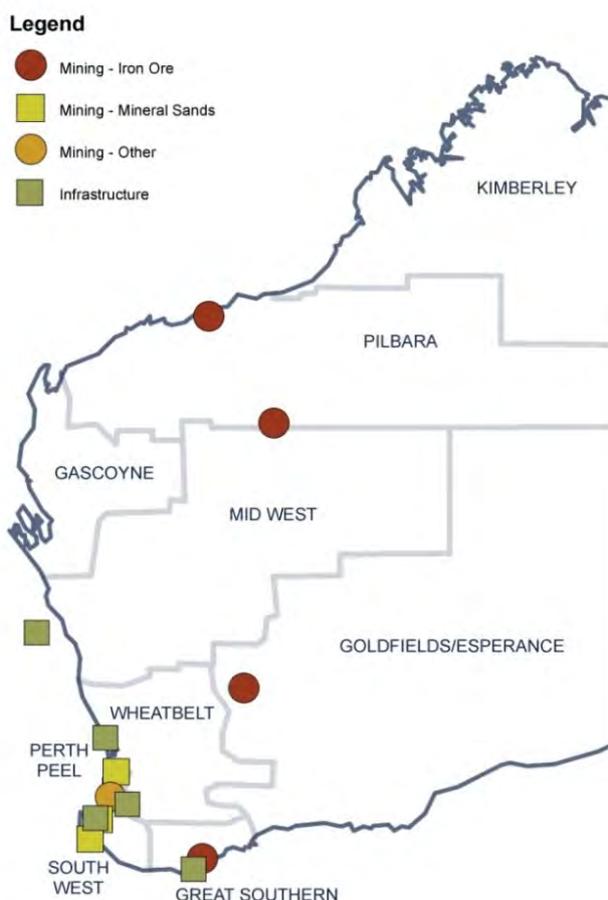


Figure 7: Location of proposals subject to section 46 changes to implementation conditions during 2014–15

Service 2: Environmental management services to the EPA

Develop, for the EPA, statutory policies, guidelines and strategic advice to manage environmental impacts and protect the environment.

Key effectiveness indicator

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual
The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's provision of environmental management services during the year	n/a	80%	92%

The effectiveness of the OEPA's provision of environmental management advice to the EPA is rated in

Meeting number:					
Item:					
Purpose and scope:					
Survey question:					
In light of the quality described, how would you rate the Environmental Management (policies, guidelines and strategic advice) service provided by the OEPA? (tick the level of quality that best applies)					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
1. Clear purpose: The policy/ guideline/ strategic advice addresses an identified problem.					
2. Rigorous: The policy/ guideline/ strategic advice is based on robust science/ evidence/ research/ learning/ experience.					
3. Readable: The policy/ guideline/ strategic advice is in plain language and readily understandable to the target audience.					
4. Applicable: The policy/ guideline/ strategic advice is practical in its application.					
5. Consistent: The advice provided is consistent with EPA policy framework (e.g. factors and objectives)					
6. Informed by stakeholder input: Where appropriate, stakeholder input has been taken into account					

Figure 8: Rating tool for environmental management services to the EPA

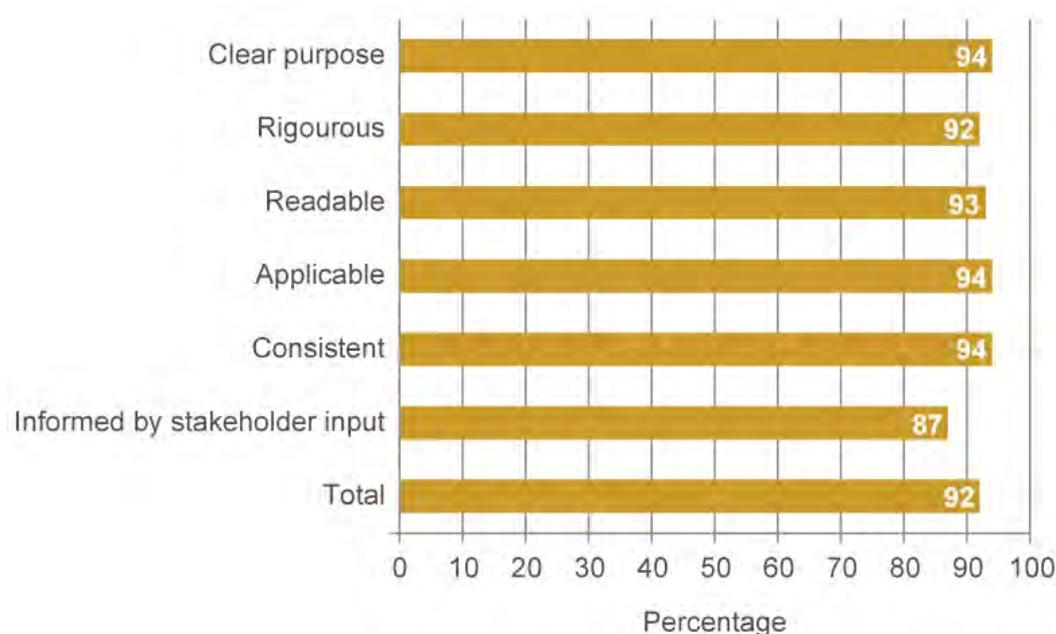


Figure 9: The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's provision of environmental management services during the year

Policy and guidance

Bilateral Agreement

On 3 October 2014 the State of Western Australia and the Commonwealth Government signed a new Assessment Bilateral Agreement under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The new agreement came into effect on 1 January 2015.

A previous bilateral agreement had operated since 2002; however, the new agreement has an expanded scope and now accredits the EPA's Assessment on Proponent Information – Category A (API – Category A) level of assessment and the clearing of native vegetation permit process administered by the Department of Environment Regulation under Part V of the EP Act.

The process for conducting a Public Environmental Review under the new Bilateral Agreement has not changed. However, the agreement requires that proponents of proposals that are assessed at the level of API – Category A release their draft assessment documentation, providing information on the likely significant impacts of their proposal on matters of national environmental significance, for public comment for at least 14 calendar days. The public participation process for API – Category A proposals is being facilitated by proponent invitations for public comment being hosted on the EPA's consultation hub. Other features of the API – Category A process remain the same, providing for a timely assessment process.

Three proposals were completed under the 2002 bilateral agreement during the reporting period.

The EPA received one referral under the new Bilateral Agreement. However, on 26 June 2015 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment's delegate reconsidered the previous decision that the proposal was a 'controlled action' based on new information made available during the EPA's assessment, and decided to revoke that decision. This means that the proposal is no longer a 'controlled action' and does not require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Perth-Peel strategic assessment

During 2014–15, the OEPA has continued to actively contribute to the Strategic Assessment of the Perth and Peel regions and associated implementation considerations, being undertaken by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and the Government of Western Australia. The strategic assessment is being led by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

The assessment is being undertaken in anticipation of the growth of the Perth and Peel regions and the potential environmental impacts of the development required to support a city of 3.5 million people.

The Commonwealth will assess the potential impacts on matters of national environmental significance, protected under the EPBC Act.

In parallel, the EPA is developing strategic environmental advice on other State environmental values in the region. The EPA's interim strategic advice is expected to be published in early 2015–16, providing a preliminary response to the four draft Sub-regional Planning Frameworks released for public comment by the Western Australian Planning Commission in May 2015.

The parallel consideration of State and Commonwealth environmental issues early in the planning process will allow for streamlined environmental and planning approvals and more strategic environmental outcomes.

Regulatory framework for shale and tight gas

In December 2014, the EPA published Environmental Protection Bulletin 22 – *Hydraulic fracturing for onshore natural gas from shale and tight rocks*. The bulletin replaced EPB 15, and was developed to provide additional information to guide the potential referral of larger scale proposals involving hydraulic fracturing. It also updates the regulatory framework which has evolved significantly over the past few years.

Throughout 2014–15, the OEPA continued to work closely with the Department of Mines and Petroleum and other agencies on preparing the *Guide to the Regulatory Framework for Shale and Tight Gas in Western Australian*. It also provided ongoing input to the Interagency Working Group for Shale and Tight Gas, and the Interagency Science Needs Working Group.

During 2014–15 the EPA received one referral involving the use of hydraulic fracturing techniques –the West Eregulla 2 Exploration Well. The EPA determined that this proposal did not require formal impact assessment, but provided public advice on the proposal on 20 January 2015. There were no appeals against the EPA’s decision not to assess the proposal.

Memoranda of Understanding

The OEPA has been progressing new or updated cooperative arrangements with other departments, in the form of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), to minimise duplication of environmental assessment and management processes. A MOU with the Department of Parks and Wildlife was finalised and published on 4 March 2015 and builds on previous arrangements; standardising and simplifying interaction in relation to environmental impact assessment and the development of environmental policies. MOUs with the departments of Water and Aboriginal Affairs will be finalised shortly, and the OEPA is continuing to develop MOUs with the departments of Environment Regulation, and Mines and Petroleum.

Comprehensive Policy Review Project

The comprehensive review of the EPA policy suite, initiated in 2012–13, was completed during the year. The purpose of the review was to ensure that the EPA has an up-to-date policy suite which provides clear guidance to proponents and the community. Five new policies have been published in 2014–15, with three providing guidance or advice on environmental matters and two policies conveying requirements for a timely and efficient environmental impact assessment process. Four out-dated EPA policies have been withdrawn, and four revised. In just over two years there has been a 30% increase in new EPA policies with 49% of older policies withdrawn.

Over many years the EPA has also published more than 50 pieces of strategic advice to the Minister for Environment under section 16(e) of the EP Act. In 2014–15, each piece of advice was reviewed and 21 have been retained as current EPA advice. The remainder have been archived and, although still available, should be used for historical reference only.

The EPA will maintain a continuous program to ensure that all policies are regularly reviewed and kept up to date.

New and revised policy and guidance

The EPA continues to produce new policies and guidance which provide clear and consistent advice to proponents and the public on:

- the EIA process;
- addressing EPA factors and objectives; and
- articulating the EPA's position on important environmental matters.

Environmental Assessment Guidelines

In 2014-15, four new Environmental Assessment Guidelines (EAGs) were released. EAGs are issued by the EPA to provide advice to proponents and the public generally on the procedures and minimum environmental requirements that the EPA expects to be met during the environmental impact assessment process.

Consideration of environmental impacts from noise (EAG13) was released in September 2014 and was developed to help proponents understand how the EPA considers the impacts from noise emissions throughout the environmental impact assessment process. In March 2015 the *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Protecting the Quality of Western Australia's Marine Environment* (EAG 15) was released to set out the EPA's expectations for the management of marine environmental quality in WA and includes the lessons learned from over ten years of implementation.

Preparation of an API – Category A Environmental Review Document (EAG 14) addresses the preparation of an environmental review document for an Assessment on Proponent Information (Category A) level of assessment. The purpose of the guidance is to convey, primarily to proponents and consultants, the EPA's expectations regarding the content and form of the environmental review document and the process that will be followed. This guidance has been particularly well-received by proponents and has contributed to greatly reduced timelines for API – Category A assessments since it was released in January 2015. The case study of the Balla Balla Infrastructure – Rail and Conveyor Project in this report outlines the effectiveness of following EAG 14.

The EPA's referral form has also been revised with an accompanying EAG (*Referral of a proposal under s38 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986* - EAG 16) developed to assist proponents on the process and information requirements of referring a proposal.

An updated version of the *Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans*, prepared jointly by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) and the EPA, was released in May 2015. *Environmental principles, factors and*

objectives (EAG 8) and *Application of a significance framework in the environmental impact assessment process* (EAG 9) were also revised with the new versions being published in January 2015.

WA Environmental Offsets Guidelines

In August 2014, the Minister for Environment released the WA Environmental Offsets Guidelines. The Guidelines are the culmination of several years' work with industry to develop clear direction for the application of environmental offsets through all environmental approval processes in WA. The Guidelines complement the WA Environmental Offsets Policy (2011).

The EPA formally adopted the WA Environmental Offsets Guidelines, withdrew two offset policies, and revised Environmental Protection Bulletin 1 to clarify how the EPA considers offsets through the environmental impact assessment process under Part IV of the EP Act.

Strategic advice

The EPA published strategic advice on the *Cumulative environmental impacts of development in the Pilbara region* in August 2014. This advice identifies the key environmental values and threats of the Pilbara region, documents some of the cumulative impacts that have occurred through land use and development, and recommends opportunities to protect the values, recognising the ongoing economic importance of the region.

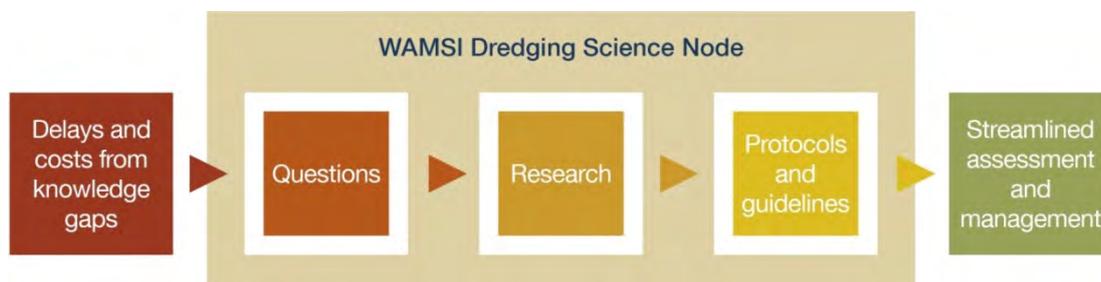
WAMSI Dredging Science Node

Practically all major dredging proposals considered by the EPA have an element of uncertainty about the likely extent, severity and duration of impacts on marine ecosystems. In response, the EPA has recommended environmental offsets be applied to address some of the critical information gaps. The EPA has also encouraged a strategic approach to the use of these offset funds leading to the establishment of a Dredging Science Node (DSN) in March 2013 within the Western Australian Marine Science Institution (WAMSI).

The combined offset funds from three major dredging projects amounted to \$9.5 million and this attracted a further \$9.5 million through co-investment from WAMSI research providers. The objective of the \$19 million program is to “enhance the capacity within both Government and the private sector to predict and manage the impacts of dredging”.

The Dredging Science Node has been designed to address key areas of uncertainty and deliver outcomes to increase the confidence, timeliness and efficiency of the assessment, approval and regulatory processes associated with dredging projects. In addition to the scientific publications that will come from the research program, specific guidelines and protocols for the

prediction, monitoring and management of environmental impacts associated with dredging programs will be developed and packaged into a 'compendium of best practice' that will be freely available.



The research is being undertaken by a range of State and Commonwealth government agencies and 10 research institutions with the involvement of over 50 scientists. To manage the program, officers from the OEPA's Marine Ecosystems Branch undertake the roles of Node Leader Policy and the Node Science Coordinator while an officer from the Australian Institute of Marine Science occupies the role of Node Leader Science. From 1 July 2015 WAMSI has agreed to fully fund the Science Coordinator role.

There are eight research themes in the program relating to dredging pressures and impacts on corals, seagrass, filter feeders and reproductive processes of corals, fin fish and other common marine biota. The program will be delivered in four stages:

- literature and data reviews;
- field work and laboratory studies;
- synthesis of findings and other knowledge; and
- transfer and take-up of the new knowledge and understandings.

Stage 1 was completed for all themes in 2014–15 and involved reviews and analysis of the scientific literature and the extensive environmental monitoring datasets provided by Chevron Australia, Woodside Energy and Rio Tinto Iron Ore. Analysis of these datasets has helped improve understanding of dredging-related pressure gradients and associated measured biological responses and has provided valuable input for the design of field and laboratory experiments. Research teams are now focussing on the field/laboratory studies to develop and test pressure:response relationships and this work will continue over the next 12 months.

The status and initial findings of each project in the Dredging Science Node were presented at a three day Research Conference organised by WAMSI and held from 30 March to 1 April 2015 in Perth. The WAMSI Dredging Science Node was strongly supported by the Premier and Science Minister Colin Barnett who presented at the conference, where he said

There are millions of cubic metres of dredging needed to support our economy. But because we don't know the full impact of dredging, we have to take quite a precautionary approach when setting conditions on companies to have confidence the environment is protected.

This leads to perhaps unnecessarily complex monitoring and management programs. The research to be shown at the WAMSI Conference will help reduce uncertainty and better protect our marine environment, as well as reduce any unnecessary management burdens on industry.

Service 3: Compliance monitoring services to the Minister

Audit the compliance with conditions set under Ministerial approvals and undertake enforcement action as appropriate.

Key effectiveness indicator

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual
Percentage of all projects that have been audited that are compliant with the Ministerial conditions	87%	80%	97%
Percentage of non-compliances where remedial action has been taken by the proponent within the time specified in the Notice of Non-Compliance	n/a	80%	100%

The OEPA develops its annual compliance program to audit compliance with the conditions of Ministerial Statements, which are issued by the Minister for Environment when a proposal is approved for implementation. If a proponent does not ensure that any implementation of the proposal is in accordance with the implementation conditions, the proponent commits an offence.

The compliance program consists of proactive audits, industry sector reviews, and reactive and random audits as required. Each year a series of targeted audits are included which may include specific industry sectors and/or targeted implementation conditions. This enables resources to be effectively managed to achieve the best environmental outcome.

The results from the compliance audits identify areas to improve proponent's compliance, and help in improving future compliance programs and the environmental impact assessment process.

Compliance and audit activity

In 2014–15, sixty audits were conducted, including industry sector audits focusing on mining proposals within Banded Iron Formation (BIF) ranges. Of the audits completed during the year, 97% were found to be compliant with all conditions (2013–14: 87%).

Six per cent of proposals with Ministerial Statements published before 1 July 2014 were audited during 2014–15 (2013–14: 6%).

All proposals identified as high priority were audited during 2014–15 (2013–14: 100%). All were found to be compliant with the implementation conditions of their Ministerial Statements (2013–14: 100%).

Compliance officers conducted a range of audits on proposals in the Kimberley, Pilbara, Mid West, Goldfields, Great Southern, South West and the Perth metropolitan area throughout 2014–15. Proposals audited included port and rail infrastructure, oil and gas facilities, chemical manufacturing facilities, power generation facilities, a regional aerodrome and mines including mineral sands, lead carbonate, nickel, gold and iron ore.

No significant non-compliance issues were identified through the audit program.

When non-compliance with an implementation condition or proponent commitment of a Ministerial Statement is identified the proponent is issued with a Notice of Non-Compliance, detailing actions required to rectify the issue and regain compliance.

The Minister for Environment is informed of each non-compliance, which enables a range of actions to be undertaken if required.

The effectiveness of the compliance monitoring program in ensuring proponents comply with Ministerial conditions is demonstrated by examining the “percentage of non-compliances where remedial action has been taken by the proponent within the time specified in the Notice of Non-Compliance”.

During the year, 100% of all actions to resolve non-compliance were completed by the required date (2013–14: 92%).

Significant proposals audited

The OEPA applies a priority rating to all proposals based on a number of factors including the condition of the receiving environment, potential environmental impact, and level of stakeholder interest. The Gorgon Gas Development and its associated Jansz Feed Gas Pipeline at Barrow Island Nature Reserve, the Wheatstone LNG Development near Onslow and the

Magellan Lead Carbonate Project in Wiluna are some of the proposals identified by the OEPA as significant.

Gorgon Gas Development and Associated Jansz Feed Pipeline

The 2014–15 audit of the Gorgon Gas Development focused on compliance with the Coastal Stability Management Plan and the Long-term Marine Turtle Management Plan and included a site visit to the facilities on Barrow Island.

The audit confirmed the proposal is being implemented in accordance with the conditions of Ministerial Statement 800.

Wheatstone LNG Development

The 2014–15 audit of the Wheatstone LNG Development focused on implementation of the Mangrove, Algal Mat and Tidal Creek Protection Management Plan and confirmed the proposal is being implemented in accordance with the conditions of Ministerial Statement 873.

Magellan Lead Carbonate Project

The Magellan Lead Carbonate Project was audited during 2014–15. The audit focused on the lead sampling program at the mine and along the transport route.

The audit confirmed that the proposal is implementing the lead sampling program in compliance with the conditions of Ministerial Statement 905.

Improving our business

Environmental impact assessment – Reform

Close out letter from the General Manager – feedback from proponents

As a part of the OEPA's commitment to continuous improvement, we invite proponents to provide feedback on the assessment process and their communications with the OEPA, after transmittal of the EPA's assessment report and recommendations to the Minister. Specifically, feedback is sought relating to: the OEPA's risk-based approach to assessment and the use of key environmental factors; timeliness of assessments; suitability of policy and guidance material; and the proponent's interaction with OEPA officers.

The feedback received has helped the OEPA identify what policy and process improvements are working and where further attention may be required. Proponents have highlighted the importance of ongoing communication relating to assessment timelines and condition setting. The OEPA recognises the importance of these aspects and is committed to continued efficiency measures, while maintaining environmental objectives.

Proponents also acknowledged the willingness and availability of officers to provide guidance and the consistency of officers as important aspects of effective environmental impact assessment undertaken by the OEPA.

The feedback process was initiated in November 2014 and has had a response rate of 55% (five responses from nine letters sent). Overall, the feedback to date has been positive and supports the OEPA's risk-based approach to assessment and the provision of timely and professional advice to proponents.

Environmental assessment guidance for referrals

During the year, the OEPA updated the referral forms for both development proposals (referred under s38 of the EP Act, and schemes and scheme amendments (referred under s48A of the EP Act). The new forms were released in January 2015 and are to be used by proponents, responsible authorities, decision-making authorities (DMA) and third parties when referring proposals, schemes or scheme amendments to the EPA.

The referral form update project was initiated to ensure the forms reflected the contemporary suite of the EPA's policy and guidance and to ensure that targeted and sufficient information was provided to the EPA to assist in the determination on whether or not assessment is required and the appropriate level of assessment.

Before finalising and publishing the new forms, the OEPA consulted and trialled versions with industry, DMAs and key stakeholders. This consultative approach received positive feedback and ensured the new forms meet the requirements of the EPA and key users.

Since their release in January, the OEPA has noticed a marked improvement in the provision of succinct and relevant information on proposals, schemes and scheme amendments.

Online lodgement of referral documentation has been identified as a targeted improvement for the OEPA's information management team, and the update of the referral forms has been a key first step in this process, which will continue during 2015–16.

Public consultation

The public are encouraged to:

- participate in consultation by offering advice, identifying omitted relevant data/information, providing local knowledge and proposing alternatives;

- participate in strategic policy and planning as appropriate, since engagement at these earlier stages may influence the development and evaluation of future proposals;
- be informed of the administration and outcomes of EIA; and
- take a responsible approach to opportunities for engagement in the EIA process, including being informed of objective information about the environmental issues.

*Environmental Impact Assessment (Part IV Divisions 1 and 2)
Administrative Procedures 2012*

To facilitate public participation, all opportunities to comment and make formal submissions on matters before the EPA can be found on the OEPA's "consultation hub" at <https://consultation.epa.wa.gov.au>. The OEPA also prefers responses be made through the hub. It provides a comprehensive platform for online consultation that enables the EPA to:

- manage all its consultation activity;
- create consultations and surveys;
- publicise and promote EIA consultations;
- analyse and report on responses; and
- feed back to the public.

Interested stakeholders can subscribe to be notified when new items are published by signing up to an email mailing list.

During 2014-15, public comment was invited on 73 items, and a total of 4,361 responses were received.

Type of consultation	Number	Responses
Seven-day comment on new referrals	62	445
Environmental Scoping Documents	2	56
Public Environmental Reviews	7	3,840
Consultation on MNES under the State/Commonwealth Bilateral agreement	1	11
Comment on policies and guidance under development	1	5
	73	4,361

The EPA also uses Twitter to inform the general public and stakeholders of information relating to EIA and policy development, including notification of new publications; opportunities for public comment/submissions; media releases and other announcements.

Information management

The department's information systems were examined in 2014–15 to identify where improvements could be made, specifically in regards to the electronic capture of information. The review identified improvements in the capture and management of spatial data as a priority, as well as the development of new functionality to enable online submission of referrals.

Another area identified for improvement is OEPA's records management system, which was introduced in March 2013. The upgrade of this system is planned for 2015–16 and is expected to result in significant business benefits.

Case Management System

The Case Management System is currently being developed in phases to align with three key aspects of our environmental impact assessment business:

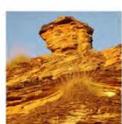
- Phase 1: Pre-referral where information is captured and advice provided, in relation to likely future referrals for environmental impact assessment.
- Phase 2: Setting of the Level of Assessment of a referral whereby the EPA determine if a proposal should be assessed and if so, set the appropriate level of assessment.
- Phase 3: Assessment. This phase manages and captures all the necessary information gathered and created throughout the environmental impact assessment process.

With phases one and two deployed, most of the development of the Case Management System during 2014–15 focused on phase three – Assessment.

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Disclosures and legal compliance





Financial Statements

Certification of Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2015

The accompanying financial statements of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position as at 30 June 2015.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Valma Cartwright
Chief Finance Officer

6 August 2015

Kim Taylor
Accountable Authority

6 August 2015



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2015, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service, Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service, and Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

General Manager's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The General Manager is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the General Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Office's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the General Manager, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority at 30 June 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Page 1 of 3

7th Floor Albert Facey House 469 Wellington Street Perth MAIL TO: Perth BC PO Box 8489 Perth WA 6849 TEL: 08 6557 7500 FAX: 08 6557 7600

Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority during the year ended 30 June 2015.

Controls exercised by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority are those policies and procedures established by the General Manager to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

General Manager's Responsibility for Controls

The General Manager is responsible for maintaining an adequate system of internal control to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of controls to ensure that the Office complies with the legislative provisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement and include an evaluation of the design and implementation of relevant controls.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2015.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority for the year ended 30 June 2015.

The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide information on outcome achievement and service provision.

General Manager's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators

The General Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such controls as the General Manager determines necessary to ensure that the key performance indicators fairly represent indicated performance.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the key performance indicators. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the General Manager's preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and service provision.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

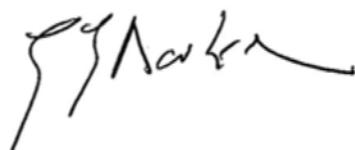
In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Office's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2015.

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority for the year ended 30 June 2015 included on the Office's website. The Office's management is responsible for the integrity of the Office's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Office's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.



GLEN CLARKE
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
11 August 2015

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	5	11,637,877	12,068,882
Supplies and services	6	1,573,929	2,362,833
Depreciation and amortisation expense	7	197,321	202,044
Accommodation	8	826,097	849,420
Grants and Subsidies	9	-	110,000
Other expenses	10	325,200	450,018
Total cost of services		14,560,424	16,043,197
Income			
<i>Revenue</i>			
Other revenue	11	20,435	87,670
Total Revenue		20,435	87,670
<i>Gains</i>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	12	9,135	-
Total Gains		9,135	-
Total income other than income from State Government		29,570	87,670
NET COST OF SERVICES		14,530,854	15,955,527
Income from State Government	13		
Service appropriation		14,996,000	14,533,000
Services received free of charge		78,901	100,144
Royalties for Regions Fund		-	390,000
Total income from State Government		15,074,901	15,023,144
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		544,047	(932,383)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		544,047	(932,383)

See also the 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	24	184,116	199,220
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	14, 24	354,067	187,824
Receivables	15	127,528	162,127
Amounts receivable for services	16	50,000	87,000
Other current assets	17	31,795	2,376
Total Current Assets		747,506	638,547
Non-Current Assets			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	14, 24	-	322,771
Amounts receivable for services	16	544,000	544,000
Plant and equipment	18	162,274	313,510
Intangible assets	19	155,757	154,833
Total Non-Current Assets		862,031	1,335,114
TOTAL ASSETS		1,609,537	1,973,661
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	21	423,643	974,116
Provisions	22	1,851,511	2,013,053
Total Current Liabilities		2,275,154	2,987,169
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	22	658,550	813,706
Total Non-Current Liabilities		658,550	813,706
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,933,704	3,800,875
NET ASSETS		(1,324,167)	(1,827,214)
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	23	402,675	443,675
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		(1,726,842)	(2,270,889)
TOTAL EQUITY		(1,324,167)	(1,827,214)

See also the 'Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service'.

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	Contributed equity \$	Accumulated surplus \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2013	23	443,675	(1,338,506)	(894,831)
Surplus/(deficit)		-	(932,383)	(932,383)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:		-	-	-
Capital appropriations		-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2014		443,675	(2,270,889)	(1,827,214)
Balance at 1 July 2014		443,675	(2,270,889)	(1,827,214)
Surplus/(deficit)		-	544,047	544,047
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:				
Capital appropriations		59,000	-	59,000
Distributions to owners		(100,000)	-	(100,000)
Balance at 30 June 2015		402,675	(1,726,842)	(1,324,167)

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		15,033,000	14,629,000
Capital appropriations		59,000	-
Non-retained revenue distributed to owner		(100,000)	-
Royalties for Regions		-	390,000
Net cash provided by State Government		14,992,000	15,019,000
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(11,964,991)	(12,342,203)
Supplies and services		(2,843,801)	(2,577,008)
Grants		-	(110,000)
GST payments on purchases		(333,961)	(216,062)
Other payments		(362,333)	(528,604)
Receipts			
GST receipts on sales		19,536	1,916
GST receipts from taxation authority		265,142	276,569
Other receipts		86,783	84,382
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	24	(15,133,625)	(15,411,010)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(130,006)	(152,134)
Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		100,000	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(30,006)	(152,134)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(171,632)	(544,145)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		709,815	1,253,960
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	24	538,183	709,815

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Service 1 - Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA ^(a)	Service 2 - Environmental Management Services to the EPA ^(a)	2014 Service 1 - Environmental Impact Assessment and Policies	Service 3 – Compliance Monitoring Services to the Minister		Total	
	2015 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
COST OF SERVICES							
<u>Expenses</u>							
Employee benefits expense	7,314,221	2,783,902	10,603,889	1,539,754	1,464,994	11,637,877	12,068,882
Supplies and services	1,008,166	368,369	2,089,076	197,395	273,757	1,573,930	2,362,833
Accommodation	528,702	190,002	738,995	107,393	110,425	826,097	849,420
Depreciation and amortisation expense	126,285	45,384	175,778	25,652	26,266	197,321	202,044
Grants and subsidies	-	-	109,000	-	1,000	-	110,000
Other expenses	200,491	83,323	394,568	41,385	55,450	325,199	450,018
Total cost of services	9,177,865	3,470,980	14,111,305	1,911,579	1,931,892	14,560,424	16,043,197
<u>Income</u>							
Other revenue	13,136	4,671	73,489	2,628	14,181	20,435	87,670
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	5,847	2,101	-	1,187	-	9,135	-
Total income other than income from State Government	18,983	6,772	73,489	3,815	14,181	29,570	87,670
NET COST OF SERVICES	9,158,882	3,464,208	14,037,816	1,907,763	1,917,711	14,530,854	15,955,527
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT							
Service appropriation	9,597,440	3,449,080	12,643,710	1,949,480	1,889,290	14,996,000	14,533,000
Services received free of charge	50,497	18,147	87,125	10,257	13,019	78,901	100,144
Royalties for Regions Fund	-	-	390,000	-	-	-	390,000
Total income from State Government	9,647,937	3,467,227	13,120,835	1,959,737	1,902,309	15,074,901	15,023,144
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD	489,055	3,019	(916,981)	51,973	(15,402)	544,047	(932,383)

(a) New services were established in 2014–15. In previous years, Services 1 and 2 were combined as Service 1 and therefore there are no comparatives for the 2013–14 year.

Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service

As at 30 June 2015

	Service 1 – Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA ^(a)	Service 2 – Environmental Management Services to the EPA ^(a)	2014 Service 1 – Environmental Impact Assessment and Policies	Service 3 – Compliance Monitoring Services to the Minister		Total	
	2015 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Assets</u>							
Current assets	478,404	171,926	579,953	97,176	58,594	747,506	638,547
Non-current assets	551,700	198,267	1,168,668	112,064	166,446	862,031	1,335,114
Total assets	1,030,104	370,193	1,748,621	209,240	225,040	1,609,537	1,973,661
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Current liabilities	1,456,098	523,285	2,598,837	295,770	388,332	2,275,154	2,987,169
Non-current liabilities	421,473	151,467	707,924	85,611	105,782	658,550	813,706
Total liabilities	1,877,571	674,752	3,306,761	381,381	494,114	2,933,704	3,800,875
NET ASSETS	(847,467)	(304,559)	(1,558,140)	(172,142)	(269,074)	(1,324,167)	(1,827,214)

(a) New services were established in 2014–15. In previous years, Services 1 and 2 were combined as Service 1 and therefore there are no comparatives for the 2013–14 year.

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015 Estimate \$	2015 Actual \$	Variance \$	2015 Actual \$	2014 Actual \$	Variance \$
Delivery of Services						
Item 106 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	14,725,000	14,996,000	271,000	14,996,000	14,533,000	463,000
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	14,725,000	14,996,000	271,000	14,996,000	14,533,000	463,000
Capital						
Capital appropriations	-	59,000	-	59,000	-	(59,000)
GRAND TOTAL	14,725,000	15,055,000	271,000	15,055,000	14,533,000	(522,000)
<u>Details of Expenses by Service</u>						
Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA ^(a)	9,983,000	9,177,865	805,135	9,177,865	n/a	n/a
Environmental Management Services to the EPA(a)	2,896,000	3,470,980	(574,980)	3,470,980	n/a	n/a
Environmental Impact Assessment & Policies ^(a)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14,111,305	n/a
Compliance Monitoring Services to the Minister	2,068,000	1,911,579	156,421	1,911,579	1,931,892	20,313
Total Cost of Services	14,947,000	14,560,424	386,576	14,560,424	16,043,197	1,482,773
Less Total Income	(150,000)	(29,570)	(120,430)	(29,570)	(87,670)	(58,100)
Net Cost of Services	14,797,000	14,530,854	266,146	14,530,854	15,955,527	1,424,673
Adjustments	(72,000)	465,146	(537,146)	465,146	(1,422,527)	(1887,673)
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	14,725,000	14,996,000	(271,000)	14,996,000	14,533,000	463,000
<u>Capital Expenditure</u>						
Purchase of non-current physical assets	146,000	130,006	(15,994)	130,006	152,134	22,128
Adjustments for other funding sources	(87,000)	(71,006)	15,994	(71,006)	(152,134)	(81,128)
Capital appropriations	59,000	59,000	-	59,000	-	(59,000)

(a) New services were established in 2014-15. In previous years, Services 1 and 2 were combined as Service 1 and therefore there are no comparatives for the 2013-14 year.

Adjustments comprise movements in cash balances and other accrual items such as receivables, payables and superannuation. Note 28 'Explanatory statement' provides details of any significant variations between estimates and actual results for 2015 and between the actual results for 2015 and 2014.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 1. Australian Accounting Standards

General

The Department's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' includes Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

The Department has adopted any applicable new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

Early adoption of standards

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements*. There has been no early adoption of Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended (but not operative) by the Department for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2015.

Note 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General statement

The Department is a not-for-profit reporting entity that prepares general purpose financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB as applied by the Treasurer's instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's instructions impose legislative provisions that govern the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar (\$) and \$,000 for Note 28 and 29.

There are no judgements made in the process of applying the Department's accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Note 3 'Key sources of estimation uncertainty' discloses key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

(c) Reporting entity

Mission

The Department's mission is to support the work of the EPA by providing rigorous environmental impact assessment advice and policies, and to undertake effective compliance audits.

The Department is predominantly funded by Parliamentary appropriations. It does not provide services on a fee-for-service basis. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Department controls resources to carry on its functions.

Services

The OEPA's management framework is consistent with the Government goal for social and environmental responsibility, which is to ensure that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State.

The desired outcome is provision of quality advice to the EPA and the Minister for Environment on significant proposals, compliance and environmental issues.

New Key Performance Indicators approved by the Under Treasurer on 22 January 2014 and applied for 2014–15.

The Department provides the following services:

1. *Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA*
2. *Environmental Management Services to the EPA*
3. *Compliance Monitoring Services to the Minister*

(d) Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and have been credited directly to Contributed equity.

The transfers of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal.

(e) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

Service appropriations

Service Appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at Treasury.

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Department obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Royalties for Regions funds are recognised as revenue at fair value in the period in which the Department obtains control over the funds. The Department obtains control of the funds at the time the funds are deposited into the Department's bank account.

Gains

Realised and unrealised gains are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets.

(f) Plant and equipment

Capitalisation/expensing of assets

Items of plant and equipment costing \$5,000 or more are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Initial recognition and measurement

Plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost.

For items of plant and equipment acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is the fair value at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, historical cost is used for all plant and equipment. All items of plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Derecognition

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of plant and equipment, any gain or loss is shown in the statement of Comprehensive Income.

Depreciation

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Other plant and equipment 5 to 20 years

Information Technology 3 to 4 years

Marine equipment 3 to 10 years

(g) Intangible assets**Capitalisation/expensing of assets**

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful lives. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life which is reviewed annually) on the straight line basis. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value.

The expected useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Software^(a) 3 to 5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Computer software

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

(h) Impairment of assets

Plant and equipment and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. Where an asset measured at

cost is written down to recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss. As the Department is a not-for-profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

(i) Non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale are recognised at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, and are disclosed separately from other assets in the Statement of Financial Position. Assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated or amortised.

The Department has no assets classified as held for sale.

(j) Leases

The Department holds an operating lease for vehicles. Operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased properties.

(k) Financial instruments

In addition to cash, the Department has two categories of financial instrument:

- Receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

Financial instruments have been disaggregated into the following classes:

- Financial Assets
 - Cash and cash equivalents
 - Restricted cash and cash equivalents
 - Receivables
 - Amounts receivable for services
- Financial Liabilities
 - Payables

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

(l) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

(m) Accrued salaries

Accrued salaries (see note 21 'Payables') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial year end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

The accrued salaries suspense account (See note 14 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents') consists of amounts paid annually into a suspense account over a period of 10 financial years to largely meet the additional cash outflow in each eleventh year when 27 pay days occur instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

(n) Amounts receivable for services (holding account)

The Department receives funding on an accrual basis. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The accrued amount receivable is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover leave entitlements and asset replacement.

(o) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written-off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Department will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

(p) Payables

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 30 days.

(q) Provisions

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period.

Provisions – employee benefits

All annual leave and long service leave provisions are in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period.

Annual leave

The liability for annual leave that is expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Annual leave that is not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The provision for annual leave is classified as a current liability as the Authority does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave that is expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Long service leave that is not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Department has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

Purchased leave

The provision for purchased leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund up to an additional 10 weeks leave per calendar year. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees and is measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Superannuation

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) and other fund providers administer public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements. Eligibility criteria for membership in particular schemes for public sector employees vary according to commencement and implementation dates.

Eligible employees contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme closed to new members since 1987, or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme closed to new members since 1995.

Employees commencing employment prior to 16 April 2007 who were not members of either the Pension Scheme or the GSS became non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS). Employees commencing employment on or after 16 April 2007 became members of the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS). From 30 March 2012, existing members of the WSS or GESBS and new employees have been able to choose their preferred superannuation fund provider. The Department makes contributions to GESB or other fund provider on behalf of employees in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*. Contributions to these accumulation schemes extinguish the Department's liability for superannuation charges in respect of employees who are not members of the Pension Scheme or GSS.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for agency purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Department to GESB extinguishes the agency's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The Department has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the Department to the GESB.

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension Scheme and GSS, and is recouped from the Treasurer for the employer's share.

Provisions – other

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the Department's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

(r) Superannuation expense

Superannuation expense is recognised in the profit or loss of the Statement of Comprehensive Income and comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, the GESBS, or other superannuation funds. The employer contribution paid to the GESB in respect of the GSS is paid back into the Consolidated Account by the GESB.

(s) Assets and services received free of charge or for nominal cost

Assets or services received free of charge or for nominal cost that the Department would otherwise purchase if not donated, are recognised as income at the fair value of the assets or services where they can be reliably measured. A corresponding expense is recognised for services received. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Assets or services received from other State Government agencies are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(t) Comparative figures

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

Note 3. Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Long Service Leave

Several estimations and assumptions used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision include expected future salary rates, discount rates, employee retention rates and expected future payments. Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision.

Note 4. Disclosure of changes in accounting policy and estimates

Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard

The Department has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014 that impacted the Authority.

Int 21* *Levies

This Interpretation clarifies the circumstances under which a liability to pay a government levy imposed should be recognised. There is no financial impact for the Department at reporting date.

AASB 10* *Consolidated Financial Statements

This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 127 *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements* and Int 112 *Consolidation – Special Purpose Entities*, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.

The adoption of the new Standard has no financial impact for the Department as it does not impact accounting for related bodies and the Department has no interests in other entities.

AASB 11* *Joint Arrangements

This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 131 *Interests in Joint Ventures*, introduces new principles for determining the type of joint arrangement that exists, which are more aligned to the actual rights and obligations of the parties to the arrangement.

There is no financial impact for the Department as the new standard continues to require the recognition of the Department's share of assets and share of liabilities for the unincorporated joint operation.

AASB 12 *Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities*

This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes disclosure requirements in AASB 127 *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements*, AASB 128 *Investments in Associates* and AASB 131 *Interests in Joint Ventures*. There is no financial impact.

AASB 127 *Separate Financial Statements*

This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 127 *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements* removing the consolidation requirements of the earlier standard whilst retaining accounting and disclosure requirements for the preparation of separate financial statements. There is no financial impact.

AASB 128 *Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures*

This Standard supersedes AASB 128 *Investments in Associates*, introducing a number of clarifications for the accounting treatments of changed ownership interest.

The adoption of the new Standard has no financial impact for the Department as it does not hold investments in associates and joint ventures.

AASB 1031 *Materiality*

This Standard supersedes AASB 1031 (February 2010), removing Australian guidance on materiality not available in IFRSs and refers to guidance on materiality in other Australian pronouncements. There is no financial impact.

AASB 1055 *Budgetary Reporting*

This Standard requires specific budgetary disclosures in the general purpose financial statements of not-for-profit entities within the General Government Sector. The Department will be required to disclose additional budgetary information and explanations of major variances between actual and budgeted amounts, though there is no financial impact.

AASB 2011-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Consolidation and Joint Arrangements Standards [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 101, 107, 112, 118, 121, 124, 132, 133, 136, 138, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Int 5, 9, 16 & 17]*

This Standard gives effect to consequential changes arising from the issuance of AASB 10, AASB 11, AASB 127 *Separate Financial Statements* and AASB 128 *Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures*. There is no financial impact for the Department.

AASB 2012-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities [AASB 132]*

This Standard adds application guidance to AASB 132 to address inconsistencies identified in applying some of the offsetting criteria, including clarifying the meaning of “currently has a legally enforceable right of set-off” and that some gross settlement systems may be considered equivalent to net settlement. There is no financial impact.

AASB 2013-3 *Amendments to AASB 136 – Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets*

This Standard introduces editorial and disclosure changes. There is no financial impact.

**AASB 2013-4 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards –
Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting [AASB 139]***

This Standard permits the continuation of hedge accounting in circumstances where a derivative, which has been designated as a hedging instrument, is novated from one counterparty to a central counterparty as a consequence of laws or regulations. The Department does not routinely enter into derivatives or hedges, therefore there is no financial impact.

**AASB 2013-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Australian
Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Entities – Control and Structured
Entities [AASB 10, 12 & 1049]***

The amendments, issued in October 2013, provide significant guidance in determining whether a not-for-profit entity controls another entity when financial returns are not a key attribute of the investor's relationship. The Standard has no financial impact in its own right, rather the impact results from the adoption of the amended AASB 10.

**AASB 2013-9 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual
Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments***

Part B of this omnibus Standard makes amendments to other Standards arising from the deletion of references to AASB 1031 in other Standards for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014. It has no financial impact.

AASB 2014-1 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards*

Part A of this Standard consists primarily of clarifications to Accounting Standards and has no financial impact for the Department.

Part B of this Standard has no financial impact as the Department contributes to schemes that are either defined contribution plans, or deemed to be defined contribution plans.

Part C of this Standard has no financial impact as it removes references to AASB 1031 *Materiality* from a number of Accounting Standards.

Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements. Consequently, the Department has not applied early any of the following Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued that may impact the Authority. Where applicable, the Authority plans to apply these Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after
<i>AASB 9</i>	<i>Financial Instruments</i> This Standard supersedes <i>AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement</i> , introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments. The mandatory application date of this Standard is currently 1 January 2018 after being amended by AASB 2012-6, AASB 2013-9 and AASB 2014-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> . The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2018
<i>AASB 15</i>	<i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i> This Standard establishes the principles that the Department shall apply to report useful information to users of financial statement about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from a contract with a customer. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard	1 Jan 2017
<i>AASB 2010-7</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Int 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 & 127]</i> This standard makes consequential amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in December 2010. The mandatory application date of this Standard has been amended by AASB 2012-6 and AASB 2014-1 to 1 January 2018. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2018
<i>AASB 2013-9</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments.</i> Part C of this omnibus Standard defers the application	1 Jan 2015

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after
	of AASB 9 to 1 January 2017. The application date of AASB 9 was subsequently deferred to 1 January 2018 by AASB 2014-1. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of AASB 9.	
<i>AASB 2014-1</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> Part E of this Standard makes amendments to AASB 9 and consequential amendments to other Standards. It has not yet been assessed by the Department to determine the application or potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2015
<i>AASB 2014-3</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations [AASB 1 & 11]</i> The Department establishes Joint Operations in pursuit of its objectives and does not routinely acquire interests in Joint Operations. Therefore, there is no financial impact on application of the Standard.	1 Jan 2016
<i>AASB 2014-4</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation [AASB 116 & 138]</i> The adoption of this Standard has no financial impact for the Department as depreciation and amortisation is not determined by reference to revenue generation, but by reference to consumption of future economic benefits.	1 Jan 2016
<i>AASB 2014-5</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15</i> This Standard gives effect to the consequential amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (including Interpretations) arising from the issuance of AASB 15. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2017
<i>AASB 2014-7</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)</i> This Standard gives effect to the consequential amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (including Interpretations) arising from the issuance of AASB 9 (December 2014). The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2018

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after
AASB 2014-8	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014) – Application of AASB 9 (December 2009) and AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 9 (2009 & 2010)]</i> This Standard makes amendments to AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2009) and AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2010), arising from the issuance of AASB 9 Financial Instruments in December 2014. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2015
AASB 2014-9	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements [AASB 1, 127 & 128]</i> This Standard amends AASB 127, and consequentially amends AASB 1 and AASB 128, to allow entities to use the equity method of accounting for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates in their separate financial statements. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2016
AASB 2014-10	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture [AASB 10 & 128]</i> This Standard amends AASB 10 and AASB 128 to address an inconsistency between the requirements in AASB 10 and those in AASB 128 (August 2011), in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	1 Jan 2016
AASB 2015-1	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012–2014 Cycle [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 110, 119, 121, 133, 134, 137 & 140]</i> These amendments arise from the issuance of International Financial Reporting Standard Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2012–2014 Cycle in September 2014, and editorial corrections. The Department has determined that the application has no financial impact.	1 Jan 2016
AASB 2015-2	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101</i>	1 Jan 2016

**Operative
for
reporting
periods
beginning
on/after**

[AASB 7, 101, 134 & 1049]

This Standard amends AASB 101 to provide clarification regarding the disclosure requirements in AASB 101. Specifically, the Standard proposes narrow-focus amendments to address some of the concerns expressed about existing presentation and disclosure requirements and to ensure entities are able to use judgement when applying a Standard in determining what information to disclose in their financial statements. There is no financial impact.

*AASB
2015-3*

Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031 Materiality

1 Jul 2015

This Standard completes the withdrawal of references to AASB 1031 in all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, allowing that Standard to effectively be withdrawn. There is no financial impact.

*AASB
2015-6*

Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities [AASB 10, 124 & 1049]

1 Jul 2016

The amendments extend the scope of AASB 124 to include application by not-for-profit public sector entities. Implementation guidance is included to assist application of the Standard by not-for-profit public sector entities. There is no financial impact.

Note 5. Employee benefits expense

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Wages and salaries ^(a)	10,586,908	11,006,581
Superannuation – defined contribution plans ^(b)	1,050,969	1,062,301
	11,637,877	12,068,882

(a) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component, leave entitlements including superannuation contribution component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, Gold State, GESB and other eligible funds.

Employment on-costs expenses, such as workers' compensation insurance, are included at note 10 'Other expenses'.

Employment on-costs liability is included at note 22 'Provisions'.

Note 6. Supplies and services

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Communications	74,940	155,333
Consultants and contractors ^(a)	1,324,056	1,925,666
Consumables	86,179	137,521
Travel	54,576	71,108
Other	34,178	73,205
	1,573,929	2,362,833

(a) Human Resource Services are supplied by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (\$430,000).

Note 7. Depreciation and amortisation expense

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Depreciation</u>		
Information technology assets	35,669	31,413
Marine equipment	32,104	56,178
Other plant and equipment	15,504	12,602
Total depreciation	83,277	100,193
<u>Amortisation</u>		
Computer software	114,044	101,851
Total amortisation	114,044	101,851
Total depreciation and amortisation	197,321	202,044

Note 8. Accommodation

	2015 \$	2014 \$
The Atrium	826,097	849,420
	826,097	849,420

Note 9. Grants and subsidies

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Strategic Assessment Perth and Peel Regions	-	100,000
ARC-Linkage Project (Aquifer Ecosystems)	-	10,000
	-	110,000

Note 10. Other expenses

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Audit fees ^(a)	48,129	47,508
Employment on-costs ^(b)	44,712	41,518
Other employment costs	105,131	208,340
Lease costs	95,472	121,400
Repairs and Maintenance	31,756	31,252
	325,200	450,018

(a) See note 31 'Remuneration of auditor'.

(b) Includes workers compensation insurance and other employment on-costs

Note 11. Other revenue

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cost recoup for site visits, audits and administration	20,435	87,670
	20,435	87,670

Note 12. Net gain on disposal of non-current assets

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets</u>		
Marine equipment	100,000	-
<u>Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed</u>		
Marine equipment	(90,865)	-
Net gain	9,135	-

Note 13. Income from State Government

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Appropriation received during the period:		
Service appropriation ^(a)	14,996,000	14,533,000
	14,996,000	14,533,000
Services received free of charge from other State government agencies during the period:		
State Solicitor's Office	78,901	100,144
	78,901	100,144
Royalties for Regions Fund:		
Pilbara Cities ^(b)	-	390,000
	-	390,000
	15,074,901	15,023,144

- (a) Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered. Appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liabilities during the year.
- (b) This is a sub-fund within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds were committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas. This project concluded in December 2014.

Note 14. Restricted cash and cash equivalents

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Royalties for Regions Fund ^(a)	-	187,824
Accrued salaries suspense account ^(b)	354,067	-
	354,067	187,824
<u>Non-current</u>		
Accrued salaries suspense account ^(b)	-	322,771
	-	322,771

- (a) Unspent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas.
- (b) Funds held in the suspense account for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in 2015–16.

Note 15. Receivables

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Receivables	103,636	87,223
GST receivable	23,892	74,904
	127,528	162,127

The Department does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements as security for receivables.

Note 16. Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Asset Replacement	50,000	87,000
<u>Non-current</u>		
Leave Liability	544,000	544,000
	594,000	631,000

Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

Note 17. Other assets

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Prepayments	31,795	2,376
Total current	31,795	2,376

Note 18. Plant and equipment

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Information technology</u>		
At cost	164,804	157,827
Accumulated depreciation	(92,434)	(56,766)
	72,370	101,061
<u>Marine equipment</u>		
At cost	16,342	288,851
Accumulated depreciation	(7,678)	(157,218)
	8,664	131,633
<u>Other plant and equipment</u>		
At cost	117,092	101,163

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Accumulated depreciation	(35,852)	(20,347)
	81,240	80,816
	162,274	313,510

Reconciliation of plant and equipment

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out below.

	Information technology	Marine equipment	Other plant and equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
2015				
Carrying amount at start of period	101,061	131,633	80,816	313,510
Additions	6,978	-	15,928	22,906
Disposal	-	(90,865)	-	(90,865)
Depreciation	(35,669)	(32,104)	(15,504)	(83,277)
Carrying amount at end of period	72,370	8,664	81,240	162,274
2014				
Carrying amount at start of period	89,100	187,811	37,371	314,282
Additions	43,374	-	56,047	99,421
Depreciation	(31,413)	(56,178)	(12,602)	(100,193)
Carrying amount at end of period	101,061	131,633	80,816	313,510

Note 19. Intangible assets

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<u>Computer software</u>		
At cost	390,525	292,658
Accumulated amortisation	(234,768)	(137,825)
	155,757	154,833

Reconciliations

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<u>Computer software</u>		
Carrying amount at start of period	154,833	203,971
Additions	114,967	52,713
Amortisation expense	(114,043)	(101,851)

Carrying amount at end of period

(155,757)

154,833

Note 20. Impairment of assets

There were no indications of impairment to plant and equipment or intangible assets at 30 June 2015.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2015 have either been classified as assets held for sale or written-off.

Note 21. Payables

Current

Accrued expenses

Accrued salaries

Total current

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Accrued expenses	74,562	668,657
Accrued salaries	349,081	305,459
Total current	423,643	974,116

Note 22. Provisions

Current

Employee benefits provision

Annual leave^{(a)(c)}

Long service leave^{(b)(c)}

Other provisions

Employment on-costs^(d)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Annual leave ^{(a)(c)}	531,840	651,527
Long service leave ^{(b)(c)}	1,302,915	1,343,308
	1,834,755	1,994,835
Employment on-costs ^(d)	16,756	18,218
	16,756	18,218
	1,851,511	2,013,053

Non-current

Employee benefits provision

Long service leave^{(b)(c)}

Other provisions

Employment on-costs^(d)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Long service leave ^{(b)(c)}	652,590	806,342
	652,590	806,342
Employment on-costs ^(d)	5,960	7,364
	5,960	7,364
	658,550	813,706

- (a) Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	326,485	379,999
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	205,355	271,528
	531,840	651,527

- (b) Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	480,281	701,182
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	1,475,224	1,448,468
	1,995,505	2,149,650

- (c) The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.
- (d) The associated expense is disclosed in note 10 'Other expenses'.

Movements in other provisions

Movements in each class of provisions during the period, other than employee benefits, are set out below.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Employment on-cost provision</u>		
Carrying amount at start of period	25,582	29,158
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	(2,866)	(3,576)
Carrying amount at end of period	22,716	25,582

Note 23. Equity

Liabilities exceed assets for the Department and therefore there is no residual interest in the assets of the Department. This equity deficit arose through expenses such as depreciation and accrual of employee entitlements for leave not involving the payment of cash in the current period being recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Contributed equity

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Balance at start of period	443,675	443,675
<u>Contributions by owners</u>		
Capital appropriation	59,000	-
<u>Distributions to owners</u>		
Proceeds for disposal of non-current assets (see Note 12) paid to Consolidated Account	(100,000)	-
Balance at end of period	402,675	443,675
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	(2,270,889)	(1,338,506)
Result for the period	544,047	(932,383)
Balance at end of period	(1,726,842)	(2,270,889)
Total Equity at end of period	(1,324,167)	(1,827,214)

Note 24. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows

Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	184,116	199,220
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (<i>note 13 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents'</i>)	354,067	510,595
	538,183	709,815

Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Net cost of services	(14,530,854)	(15,955,527)
<u>Non-cash items</u>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense (<i>note 7 'Depreciation and amortisation expense'</i>)	197,321	202,044
Services received free of charge (<i>note 13 'Income from State Government'</i>)	78,902	100,144
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment (<i>note 12 'Net gain on disposal of non-current assets'</i>)	(9,135)	-
<u>(Increase)/decrease in assets</u>		
Current receivables	(16,413)	71,388
Other current assets	(29,419)	4,148
<u>Increase/(decrease) in liabilities</u>		
Current payables	(550,475)	543,795
Current provisions	(161,542)	(204,852)
Non-current provisions	(155,156)	(183,030)
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(a)	94,157	62,423
Change in GST in receivables/payables ^(b)	(51,012)	(51,543)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(15,133,626)	(15,411,010)

(a) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(b) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables

Note 25. Commitments

Non-cancellable operating lease commitments

Commitments for minimum lease payments are payable as follows:

Within 1 year

Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years

2015 \$	2014 \$
57,158	46,296
36,442	33,585
93,600	79,881

The Department has non-cancellable operating vehicle lease commitments. The lease terms vary dependent upon the vehicle and are for fixed terms payable monthly. The commitments are inclusive of GST.

Note 26. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

The Department has no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2015.

Note 27. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

No events have occurred after the end of the reporting period which would materially impact on the financial statements.

Note 28. Explanatory statement

Major variances between estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2015, and between actual results for 2014 and 2015 are shown below.

Major variances are considered greater than 10% or \$10 million.

Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates

Statement of Comprehensive Income	Variance Note	Original Budget 2015	Actual 2015	Actual 2014	Variance between estimate and actual	Variance between actual result for 2015 and 2014
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
COST OF SERVICES						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense		12,449	11,638	12,069	(811)	(431)
Accommodation expense	1	-	826	849	(826)	(23)
Supplies and services	2,A	2,267	1,574	2,363	(693)	(789)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	3	50	197	202	147	(5)
Grants and Subsidies	B	-	-	110	-	(110)
Other expenses	4,C	181	325	450	144	(124)
Total cost of services		14,947	14,560	16,043	(387)	(1,482)
Income						
<i>Revenue</i>						
Other revenue	5,D	150	20	88	(130)	(67)
Total Revenue		150	20	88	(130)	(67)
<i>Gains</i>						
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		-	9	-	9	9
Total Gains		-	9	-	9	9
Total income other than income from State Government		150	29	88	(121)	58
NET COST OF SERVICES		14,797	14,531	15,955	(266)	(1,424)
Income from State Government						
Service appropriation		14,725	14,996	14,533	271	463
Services received free of charge		-	79	100	79	(21)
Royalties for Regions Fund	E	-	-	390	-	(390)
Total income from State Government		14,725	15,075	15,023	350	52
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		(72)	544	(932)	616	1,476
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		(72)	544	(932)	616	1,476

Statement of Financial Position	Variance Note	Original Budget 2015	Actual 2015	Actual 2014	Variance between estimate and actual	Variance between actual result for 2015 and 2014
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		142	184	201	42	(17)
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	F	349	354	187	5	167
Receivables	G	176	128	162	(48)	(34)
Amounts receivable for services	H	50	50	87	-	(37)
Other current assets	I	7	32	2	25	30
Total Current Assets		724	748	639	24	109
Non-Current Assets						
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6,J	354	-	323	(354)	(323)
Amounts receivable for services		544	544	544	-	-
Plant and equipment	7,K	291	162	313	(128)	(151)
Intangible assets		204	156	155	(48)	1
Other	8	215	-	-	(215)	-
Total Non-Current Assets		1608	862	1335	(746)	(473)
TOTAL ASSETS		2,332	1,610	1,974	(722)	(364)
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
Payables	9,L	74	424	974	350	(550)
Provisions	10	2,113	1,852	2,013	(261)	(161)
Other	11	276	-	-	(276)	-
Total Current Liabilities		2,463	2,276	2,987	(187)	(711)
Non-Current Liabilities						
Provisions	10,M	916	658	813	(257)	(155)
Other		9	-	-	(9)	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities		925	658	813	(266)	(155)
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,388	2,934	3,801	(454)	(867)
NET ASSETS		(1,056)	(1,324)	(1,827)	(268)	503
EQUITY						
Contributed equity	12	503	403	444	(100)	(41)
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		(1,559)	(1,727)	(2,271)	(168)	544
TOTAL EQUITY		(1,056)	(1,324)	(1,827)	(268)	503

Statement of Cash Flow	Variance Note	Original Budget 2015	Actual 2015	Actual 2014	Variance between estimate and actual	Variance between actual result for 2015 and 2014
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT						
Service appropriation		14,675	15,033	14,629	358	404
Capital appropriations	N	59	59	-	-	59
Non-retained revenue distributed to owner	12,O	-	(100)	-	100	(100)
Holding account drawdowns		87	-	-	(87)	-
Royalties for Regions	P	-	-	390	-	(390)
Net cash provided by State Government		14,821	14,992	15,019	171	(27)
Utilised as follows:						
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee benefits		(12,449)	(11,965)	(12,342)	484	377
Supplies and services	13,Q	(2,246)	(2845)	(2,577)	599	(268)
Grants		-	-	(110)	-	110
GST payments on purchases	14	-	(333)	(216)	(334)	(117)
Other payments	R	(422)	(362)	(528)	60	166
Receipts						
GST receipts		220	284	278	64	6
Other receipts		150	87	84	(63)	3
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		(14,747)	(15,134)	(15,411)	(387)	277
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(146)	(130)	(152)	16	22
Receipts						
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets	12	-	100	-	100	100
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(146)	(30)	(152)	116	122
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(72)	(172)	(544)	(100)	371
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		917	710	1,253	(207)	543
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		845	538	710	(307)	173

Major Variance Narratives (Controlled Operations)

Variations between estimate and actual

1. Accommodation costs of \$826,000 were recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income separately, as it is now a recoup of costs by the Department of Environmental Regulation from OEPA.
2. Supplies and services are reduced by the accommodation expense as it is now recorded separately. (See note 1). Future estimates have been adjusted to reflect this change.
3. The depreciation figure in the budget is not taking into account the amortisation of intangibles. This is to be adjusted during the 2015–16 mid-year review.
4. Other expenses in the estimates does not include Other employment costs associated with Fringe Benefits Tax, Training and Workers Compensation Insurance that are recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as Other expenses
5. The budget amount for revenue is an estimate only and dependent on the receipt of amounts to recoup the costs of site visits.
6. The restricted cash held for the 27th pay in 2015-16 is now current restricted cash and moved from non-current restricted cash.
7. The reduction in plant and equipment included the sale of a marine vessel. (See note 18)
8. The non-current assets 'Other' and "Property, Plant and Equipment" in the estimates do not align to the Statement of Financial Position. This will be adjusted during the mid-year review.
9. The 'Payables' estimate was underestimated and partially impacted by an outstanding amount of \$440,000 due to Department of Environmental Regulation at the end of 2014-15.
10. A reduction in leave liability was achieved through the continuation of the OEPA's Leave Management Policy.
11. The 'Other' in estimates is associated with accrued wages which is included in 'Payables' in the Statement of Financial Position. (See note 21)
12. Contributed equity is reduced by the return to the consolidated account the funds received for the sale of the marine vessel. (See note 23)
13. Supplies and services cash payments differed to the budget amount by 26% due to the payment of \$440,000 due to the Department of Environmental Regulation for 2013-14 paid in 2014-15.
14. 'GST payments on purchases' are included in 'Other payments' in the estimates.

Variations between actual results for 2015 and 2014

- A. The reduction in supplies and services of 34% includes the savings achieved by bringing the Financial Information Management System and associated processes in-house, (\$450,000 half year) previously paid under a service level agreement (2013–14 included implementation costs \$50,000), 60% reduction in legal fees (\$100,000), and 55% savings achieved in consumables and communications (\$131,700).
- B. No grant and subsidies payments were made in 2014–15.
- C. 'Other expenses' reduced in 2014–15 due to a decrease in FBT and other staff expenses.
- D. Salary recouped (\$70,000) in 2014–15 for the Western Australian Marine Science Institute was allocated against salary and wages paid.
- E. The Royalties for Regions Program was completed in December 2014 with no further funds being received in 2014–15.
- F. Non-current restricted cash for the 27th pay (\$354,000) is now considered current as the 27th pay occurs in 2015–16. Previous year restricted cash (187,000) was for the Royalty for Regions Program 174 now completed.
- G. Receivable have decreased by 21% and is reduced GST receivable.
- H. Current amounts receivable for services is reduced by 43% with less drawdowns being received in 2015-16 for asset replacement.
- I. Other current assets (prepayments) have increased by 43% due to the payment of 2015–16 licensing costs in 2014–15.
- J. Non-current restricted cash and cash equivalents are now considered current due to the 27th pay to be paid in 2015–16.
- K. Plant and Equipment has a 48% decrease due to the sale of a marine vessel no longer required for core functions.
- L. Current payables has reduced by 89%, the amount of \$440,000 paid in 2014–15 cleared the amount payable to the Department of Environmental Regulation for the 2013–14 service agreement.
- M. Non-current provision for Long Service Leave decreased by 19%, a reduction of \$154,000 due to reduction of the FTE staffing level and associated leave liabilities. OEPA has a Leave Management Policy in place to reduce leave liability overall.
- N. No capital appropriations received in 2013–14.
- O. The amount of \$100,000 received from the sale of the marine vessel returned to Treasury as per *Financial Management (Net Appropriations) Determination 2012, section 23(2)*.

- P. No Royalties for Regions funds received in 2014–15, as the North West Assessment Planning Program 174 was complete at 31 December 2014 and did not require any further funding.
- Q. Supplies and services increased due to the payment of \$440,000 due to the Department of Environmental Regulation for 2013–14 paid in 2014–15.
- R. Other payments decreased by 31% through the cessation of the use of labour hire agencies.

Note 29. Financial instruments

(a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, receivables and payables. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at note 29(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures' and note 15 'Receivables'.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks.

(b) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2015 \$000	2014 \$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	184	199
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	354	510
Receivables ^(a)	697	718
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	424	974

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(c) Financial instrument disclosures

Credit risk

The following table details the Department’s maximum exposure to credit risk and the ageing analysis of financial assets. The Department’s maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of financial assets as shown below. The table discloses the ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired and impaired financial assets. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Department.

The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancement relating to the financial assets it holds.

Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount \$000	Not past due and not impaired \$000	Past due but not impaired					Impaired financial assets \$000
			Up to 1 month \$000	1-3 months \$000	3 months to 1 year \$000	1-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000	
2015								
Cash and cash equivalents	184	184	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	354	354	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	103	-	103	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	594	594	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,235	1,132	103	-	-	-	-	-
2014								
Cash and cash equivalents	199	199	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	511	511	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	87	-	74	-	13	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	631	631	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,428	1,341	74	-	13	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Interest rate exposure (Nil)			Maturity dates				
		Carrying Amount \$000	Non-interest bearing \$000	Nominal Amount \$000	Up to 1 month \$000	1-3 months \$000	3 months to 1 year \$000	1-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000
2015									
<u>Financial Assets</u>									
Cash and cash equivalents		184	184	184	184	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		354	354	354	354	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)		103	103	103	103	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		594	594	594	-	-	50	-	544
		1,235	1,235	1,267	641	-	50	-	544
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>									
Payables		424	424	424	424	-	-	-	-
		424	424	424	424	-	-	-	-
2014									
<u>Financial Assets</u>									
Cash and cash equivalents		199	199	199	199	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		511	511	511	511	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)		87	87	87	74	-	13	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		631	631	631	-	-	87	-	544
		1,428	1,428	1,428	784	-	100	-	544
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>									
Payables		974	974	974	974	-	-	-	-
		974	974	974	974	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

Note 30. Remuneration of senior officers

The number of senior officers whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year fall within the following bands are:

\$	2015	2014
100,001 – 150,000	-	1
150,001 – 200,000	2	2
200,001 – 250,000	1	-
250,001 – 300,000	-	-
300,001 – 350,000	1	1
	\$	\$
Base remuneration and superannuation	831,147	816,612
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	(9,678)	(21,053)
Other benefits	34,354	36,363
Total remuneration of senior officers	855,824	831,922

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

Note 31. Remuneration of auditor

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial year is as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Auditing the accounts, financial statements and key performance indicators	29,000	31,000

Note 32. Related and affiliated bodies

The Department does not provide any assistance to other agencies which would deem them to be regarded as related or affiliated bodies under the definitions included in Treasurers Instruction 951.

Note 33. Supplementary financial information

- (a) Write-offs
The Department did not write off any bad debts, revenue, debts due to the State, public or other property during the financial Year, (2014 nil).
- (b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes
The Department had no losses through theft, defaults and other causes during the financial year. (2014: nil).
- (c) Gifts of public property
The Department had no gifts of public property during the financial year. (2014: nil).



Key Performance Indicators

Certification of Key Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2015

I hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.



Kim Taylor

Accountable Authority

6 August 2015

Detailed Key Performance Indicators

Performance Information

The Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) was established as a separate Department in November 2009. The OEPA works to support the Government's goal of ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long term benefit of the State. It supports this goal by working to deliver quality advice to the EPA and Minister on significant proposals, compliance and environmental issues.

It should be noted that the OEPA's performance indicators were reviewed to be more robust, contemporary and fit for purpose. The Under Treasurer approved the Outcome Based Management Structure change on the 22 January 2014.

As these indicators were introduced in 2014–15 some performance indicators are unable to be compared with 2013–14. (KPI 1, 2, 4, 6)

The OEPA has three key services that contribute to the above outcome and against which the Department's effectiveness and efficiency is reported.

1. Environmental impact assessment services to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).
2. Environmental management services to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).
3. Compliance monitoring services to the Minister.

Outcomes and Key Effectiveness Indicators

Outcome: Quality advice to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and Minister for Environment (the Minister) on significant proposals, compliance and environmental issues.

Environmental impact assessment services to the EPA.

1. The EPA's satisfaction with the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority's (OEPA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) services, during the year, in line with Best Practice Principles of EIA

	2013-14	2014-15	2014-15	2014-15	Variance of Actual
	Actual	Target	Actual	Variance of Target to Actual	2013-14 and 2014-15
The EPA's satisfaction with the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority's (OEPA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) services during the year, in line with Best Practice Principles of EIA	n/a	75%	89%	14%	n/a

Explanatory Notes

In order to gauge the standard of assessment services provided by the OEPA to the EPA, the EPA rates the quality of the OEPA's EIA services in comparison to principles of EIA best practice (currently, the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)'s Principles of EIA Best Practice). This is done by means of a survey completed by each member of the EPA upon delivery and EPA endorsement of each assessment.

Following the consideration of each EPA assessment report (18 for 2014–15), the EPA board members evaluate the assessment of the proposal undertaken by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority with an 88% survey response rate. For calculation purposes the survey date is deemed as being the EPA Board meeting date.

During 2014–15 the EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA services exceeded the target set.

This is a new indicator which has not been previously measured. As such, there was not good information on which to base the target for the year. The level of satisfaction has been higher than forecast.

2. Percentage of project-specific conditions which did not require significant change following the appeal process.

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual	2014-15 Variance of Target to Actual	Variance of Actual 2013-14 and 2014-15
Percentage of project-specific conditions which did not require significant change following the appeal process	n/a	75%	99%	24%	n/a

Explanatory Notes

At the completion of an assessment of a significant proposal, the EPA publicly releases its report and recommended conditions to the Minister for Environment. The recommended conditions may subsequently be amended as a result of an appeal, the decision making authority consultation process, or by the Minister.

This effectiveness indicator demonstrates the quality of the OEPA’s EIA advice to the EPA by examining the extent to which the OEPA has avoided the need for significant changes to project specific conditions.

Whether a change to a condition is a significant change is determined on a case by case basis but will generally involve one of the following:

A substantial change to the form of a condition; The deletion of a condition or addition of a new condition; A substantial change to the outcome or objective specified in a condition; A substantial change to the specified requirements of an Environmental Management plan or environmental monitoring plan; or A substantial change to a prescribed action to be taken.

During 2014–15 – of 13 ministerial statements (with 81 project specific conditions) one had a significant change to conditions required as a result of the above processes.

3. Percentage of assessments that met agreed timelines.

	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Actual	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual	2014-15 Variance of Target to Actual	Variance of Actual 2013-14 and 2014-15
Percentage of assessments that met agreed timelines	80%	81%	88%	80%	100%	20%	12%

Explanatory Notes

Timelines for an assessment may vary according to the complexity of the project and are usually agreed with the proponent soon after the level of assessment is determined.

This KPI measures the OEPA's effectiveness in completing the assessment advice to EPA in a timely manner.

The EPA has adopted a practice of publishing in its assessment report to the Minister whether EPA has met the timeline objective.

For calculation purposes the date of completion of the assessment is the date the EPA Chairman signs the report.

During 2014–15 – All 17 assessment agreed timelines were met in full.

Environmental management services to the EPA

4. The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's provision of environmental management services during the year.

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual	2014-15 Variance of Target to Actual	Variance of Actual 2013-14 and 2014-15
The EPA's satisfaction with the OEPA's provision of environmental management services during the year	n/a	80%	92%	12%	n/a

Explanatory Notes

The OEPA undertakes a range of environment management services to the EPA, including preparing policies, guidelines and strategic advice. The EPA determines the quality of the environmental management services provided by the OEPA by rating each product after it has been considered.

This effectiveness indicator measures the EPA’s rating of the quality of the OEPA’s environmental management services in comparison with desirable underlying qualities.

Each of the members of the EPA who participate in a decision rates the product on a scale of one to five (poor to excellent) and the scores of each member are averaged, combined and proportionally adjusted to a percentage. The final indicator is the average rating awarded to all environmental management services endorsed by the EPA during the period, representing its overall satisfaction with the environmental management services provided by the OEPA.

This is a new indicator which has not been previously measured. As such, there was not good information on which to base the target for the year. The level of satisfaction has been higher than forecast.

Compliance monitoring services to the Minister

The OEPA’s provision of compliance services to the Minister under section 47 and 48 of the *Environmental Protection (EP) Act*.

The OEPA monitors compliance with conditions and informs Minister when such conditions are no longer met.

5. Percentage of all projects that have been audited that are compliant with the Ministerial conditions.

	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Actual	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual	2014-15 Variance of Target to Actual	Variance of Actual 2013-14 and 2014-15
Percentage of all projects that have been audited that are compliant with the Ministerial conditions	87%	84%	87%	80%	97%	15%	8%

Explanatory Notes

The Minister imposes conditions (Ministerial Conditions) on proposals in order to ensure that they are managed in an environmentally acceptable manner.

A compliance management program is developed annually and using a priority matrix identifies sixty (60) Ministerial Statements to be audited.

In 2013–2014 – Fifty two projects (87%) were identified to be in compliance through the audit program.

In 2014–2015 – Fifty eight projects (97%) were identified to be in compliance through the audit program.

This indicator measures the effectiveness of the compliance management program in ensuring proponents comply with the ministerial conditions imposed on proposal. Overtime stakeholders will be able to see how effective the program has been in ensuring proponents comply with ministerial conditions imposed.

6. Percentage of non-compliances where remedial action has been taken by the proponent within the time specified in the Notice of Non-Compliance.

	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual	2014-15 Variance of Target to Actual	Variance of Actual 2013-14 and 2014-15
Percentage of non-compliances where remedial action has been taken by the proponent within the time specified in the Notice of Non-Compliance	n/a	80%	100%	20%	n/a

Explanatory Notes

A Notice of Non-compliance generally requires the proponent to undertake an action to rectify the non-compliance within a specified timeframe appropriate to the complexity of the non-compliance.

During 2014–15 – 8 notices were issued with all remedial actions undertaken in the time specified in the notice.

The 2014–15 target while conservative is considered appropriate in monitoring timely responses by proponents to issues identified.

This effectiveness indicator demonstrates the extent to which compliance action has been effective in bringing the proponent back into compliance.

Services and Key Efficiency Indicators

Service 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Services to the EPA

Conduct, for the EPA, environmental impact assessment of significant proposals and schemes.

1.1 Cost per standardised unit of assessment output

	2013-14 Actual \$	2014-15 Target \$	2014-15 Actual \$	2014-15 Variance Of Target To Actual\$	%
Cost per standardised unit of Assessment Output	n/a	28,094 ^(a)	33,867	5,773	20%

(a) Figure has been updated compared to the published budget due to an error in calculating the initial budget figure.

How the indicator is calculated:

The cost per standardised unit of assessment output is calculated by dividing the total cost of assessments (including an allocation of post approval costs and a portion of costs for policy and administrative support) by the total complexity weighting of assessments completed during the financial year.

While the variation in assessment complexity is reflected in the level of assessment set, a number of other factors affect how complex a proposal is to assess. To account for this range in difficulty, each assessment completed is assigned a weighting according to a matrix.

It should be noted that, while the difficulty often influences the amount of time spent dealing with a proposal, the complexity weightings were allocated and trialled, in consultation with experienced officers, according to inherent proposal characteristics that cause a proposal to be more difficult rather than what causes an assessment to take more time to complete. This ensures that the indicator measures the efficiency of the OEPA's provision of EIA advice to the EPA rather than the OEPA's cost per hour.

Explanatory notes:

There can be significant variation in time taken and resources expended on individual proposals depending on a variety of factors (scale, experience of the

proponent, sensitivity of the receiving environment, degree of public interest). This will cause a variance between budget estimates and actual cost per unit.

Service 2: Environmental management services to the EPA

Develop, for the EPA, statutory policies, guidelines and strategic advice to manage environmental impacts and protect the environment.

2.1 Cost per standardised unit of environmental management output

	2013-14 Actual \$	2014-15 Target \$	2014-15 Actual \$	2014-15 Variance Of Target To Actual\$	%
Cost per standardised unit of environmental management services output	n/a	39,136	18,762	(20,374)	(52%)

How the indicator is calculated:

The cost per standardised unit of Environmental Management services output is calculated by dividing the total cost of Environmental Management services (including an allocation of administrative support) by the total complexity weighting of Environmental Management services endorsed during the period.

Because of the great variation in complexity of Environmental Management services provided, an average cost per piece of advice provided would not fairly represent the OEPA's efficiency in providing such advice to the EPA. In fact, such a measure could provide a perverse incentive to produce many straightforward pieces of advice rather than tackling more complex issues that are more difficult to investigate. To account for this range in difficulty, each assessment completed is assigned a weighting according to a matrix.

It should be noted that, while the difficulty often influences the amount of time spent investigating a matter, the complexity weightings were allocated, in consultation with experienced officers, according to inherent characteristics that cause a piece of Environmental Management advice to be more difficult rather than what causes it to take more time to complete. This ensures that the indicator measures the efficiency of the OEPA's provision of Environmental Management advice to the EPA rather than the OEPA's cost per hour.

Explanatory notes

The complexity weighting given to each product consider whether it is a draft or final version, the extent of its likely influence, the extent of alignment

required with other agency policies, the approval process required (such as Cabinet for Environmental Protection policies), and the extent to which additional research is required to inform its development.

This is a new indicator which, while bearing similarity to the previous indicator of ‘average cost per policy development’, is calculated in a different way with different complexity weightings which more accurately represent complexity rather than time taken. Therefore the outcome for 2014–15 cannot be compared to the outcomes of previous reporting periods.

As a new indicator, the OEPA estimated the target without previous experience in applying this indicator. The cost per unit is significantly less than that predicted, which reflects the lack of experience to setting the target.

Service 3: Compliance monitoring services to the Minister

Audit the compliance with conditions set under Ministerial approvals and undertake enforcement action as appropriate.

3.1 Average cost per environmental audit completed

	2011-12 Actual \$	2012-13 Actual \$	2013-14 Actual \$	2014-15 Target \$	2014-15 Actual \$	2014-15 Variance Of Target To Actual \$	%
Average cost per environmental audit completed	27,594	34,908	32,198	34,462	31,859	(2,603)	(7.5)

How the indicator is calculated:

Division of the total cost (including an allocation of administrative overheads) allocated to compliance monitoring services by the total number of audits (not including desktop scans) completed during the period.

Explanatory notes

The actual cost of service is less than budgeted decreasing the unit cost.



Other disclosures

Ministerial directives

No Ministerial Directives were received during the 2014–15 financial year.

Other financial disclosures (TI 903)

Pricing policies of services provided

The department is fully funded from appropriations and does not charge any fee for service.

Governance disclosures (TI 903)

Contracts with senior officers

At the date of reporting, senior officers of the department held no contracts with the department other than normal employment contracts. No senior officers of the department had substantial interests in entities with existing or proposed contracts or agreements with the department.

Board remuneration

The OEPA reports the following remuneration to the Environmental Protection Authority for 2014–15:

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Gross/actual remuneration
Chair	Dr Paul Vogel	Annual	5/11/2007 – 4/11/2015	\$425,125
Deputy Chair	Mr Robert Harvey	Annual	18/11/2012 – 17/11/2015	\$88,845
Member	Dr Tom Hatton	Annual	18/11/2014 – 17/11/2019	\$26,701
Member	Ms Elizabeth Carr	Annual	4/10/2011 – 3/10/2019	\$44,422
Member	Dr Rodney Lukatelich	Annual	31/10/2009 – 17/11/2014	\$17,478
Member	Mr Glen McLeod	Annual	21/10/2013 – 20/10/2016	\$44,422
			Total:	\$646,993

Remuneration for the Chairman includes superannuation and vehicle expenses. Remuneration for the Deputy Chair and Members includes superannuation.

Workers Compensation

There were no compensation claims recorded during the 2014–15 financial year.

Employment and Industrial Relations

All OEPA officers are employed under the *Public Service and Government Officers General Agreement 2014*.

Staff development is undertaken in conjunction with an individual Work and Development Plan process that identifies initiatives for work efficiencies and effectiveness through improvements and professional development.

A recent review of positions has re-aligned job roles to facilitate efficiency gains.

Staff profile

	2015	2014
Full-time permanent	70	77
Full-time contract	2	5
Part-time measured on an FTE basis	11	12
On secondment	1	1
	84	95

Public interest disclosures

(Public Interest Disclosures Act 2003, S23 (1) (f))

The *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003* requires the Department to:

- facilitate the disclosure of public interest information;
- provide protection for those who make disclosures; and
- provide protection for those who are the subject of a disclosure.
- In accordance with the Act, the department has duly appointed public interest disclosure officers and has published internal policies and procedures related to its obligations.

No public interest disclosures were received during 2014–15.

Other legal requirements

Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling and direct mail

(Electoral Act 1907, section 175ZE)

In accordance with s175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the agency incurred the following expenditure in advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising.

Total expenditure for 2014–15 was \$9,041.

Expenditure was incurred in the following areas:

Expenditure	Amount		Amount
Advertising agencies	Nil		
Market research organisations	Nil		
Polling organisations	Nil		
Direct mail organisations	\$783	Create Send	\$783
Media advertising organisations	\$8,108	Adcorp	
	\$150	Email Media	\$8,258
		Total:	\$9,041

The expenditure reported under direct mail organisations relates to email notification of opportunities for public comment and submissions to subscribers. Expenditure under media advertising organisations relates to recruitment, primarily of EPA members.

Disability access and inclusion plan outcomes

(Disability Services Act 1993, s29 and Schedule 3 of the Disability Services Regulations 2004)

The OEPA received corporate services from the Department of Parks and Wildlife during 2014–15. This included coming under the umbrella of the Parks and Wildlife's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, which continues an ongoing program of improving access, facilities and services to ensure they meet the needs of customers and staff.

The OEPA has drafted its own plan and, during 2015–16, will undertake the required public consultation before presenting the plan to the Disability Services Commission for approval. This will ensure that the specific interests of all OEPA staff and customers are taken into account.

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and ethical codes

(Public Sector Management Act 1994, s31(1))

The OEPA's policies are written to support employees in the achievement of a professional standard of behaviour and to comply with legislative and public sector directives. All policies are accessible to department staff through the intranet. In addition, the department undertook the following activities in 2014–15 to support compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes:

- The Department has a published code of conduct linking the WA Code of Ethics and OEPA's Values and Behaviour Guide.
- A gift decisions form is available on the intranet to complement the conflict of interest declaration form and includes the requirement to declare and record all gifts offered and accepted.
- All employees are enrolled in the 'Accountable and Ethical Decision Making' course on commencement.

For 2014–15 the OEPA reports the following public sector standards and ethical codes compliance statistics:

Compliance issues	Reported for 2014–15
Public sector standards in human resource management breach claims	0
Non-compliance with the WA Code of Ethics and the Department's Code of Conduct	0
Substantiated allegations of misconduct under the disciplinary provisions of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>	0

Government policy requirements

Occupational safety, health and injury management

(Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2012-05: Code of Practice: Occupational Safety and Health in the Western Australian Public Sector)

The OEPA and its executive are committed to ensuring the safety, health and well-being of their employees, contractors, volunteers and visitors at all workplaces.

The department is supported by the Department of Parks and Wildlife in providing support for:

- safety and health communication through the Intranet and other communication channels;

- safety and health training;
- the operation of the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee and its sub-committees;
- the activities of the Wellness Program; and
- continuous improvement of the safety management system including risk management processes and hazard/accident/incident reporting.

The department is developing a range of safety key performance indicators that will be reported on and reviewed regularly within an OSH Improvement Plan as part of its commitment to the well-being of its staff.

The OEPA is supported by the Department of Parks and Wildlife, which has a workers' compensation and injury management policy that prescribes the injury management process, including the development of return to work programs for all injured staff under the direction and guidance of the OSH team.

Measure	Actual results		Results against target	
	2013-14	2014-15	Target	Comment on result
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	-
Lost time injury and/or disease incidence rate	0	0	0 or 10% improvement on the previous 3 years	-
Lost time injury and/or disease severity rate	0	0	0 or 10% improvement on the previous 3 years	-
Percentage of injured workers returned to work:				-
(i) within 13 weeks	-	-	Greater than or equal to 80%	-
(ii) within 26 weeks	-	-	Greater than or equal to 80%	-
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	0	0	Greater than or equal to 80%	

Appendix 1 – Public reports and recommendations to the Minister for Environment

Public Environmental Review (PER) and Environmental Review and Management Programme (ERMP)

Report No.	Title	Proponent	Released
1522	Kintyre Uranium Project	Cameco Australia Pty Ltd	28/7/2014
1527	Western Australian Shark Hazard Mitigation Drum Line Program 2014-2017	Director General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on behalf of the State of Western Australia	11/09/2014
1533	Koodaideri Iron Ore and Infrastructure Project	Mount Bruce Mining Pty Limited	18/11/2014
1538	Kwinana Waste to Energy	Kwinana Waste to Energy Co Pty Ltd	2/2/2015
1539	Gorgon Gas Development Fourth Train Expansion project, Barrow Island	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	3/3/2015
1549	Exploration Drilling E70/2227 Feral Prospect	Hermitage Holdings Pty Ltd	25/5/2015

Assessment on Proponent Information (API) – Category A

Report No.	Title	Proponent	Released
1523	Brown's Range Rare Earth Project	Northern Minerals Limited	18/8/2014
1530	EP413 3D seismic acquisition survey	Norwest Energy NL	6/10/2014
1531	Brockman Syncline 4 Iron Ore Project	Hamersley Iron Pty Limited	20/10/2014
1540	Balla Balla Infrastructure Rail and Conveyor Project	Forge Resources Swan Pty Ltd	16/3/2015
1541	Extension Mining Project, 70 km north of Newman, Shire of East Pilbara	Australian Aboriginal Mining Corporation Pty Ltd	16/3/2015
1544	Exploration Drilling Mungada Blue Hills East	Sinosteel Midwest Corporation Limited	23/3/2015
1547	Increase in abstraction and reinjection at Cloudbreak Mine	Fortescue Metals Group Limited	18/5/2015
1548	Pilbara Iron Ore Project - Revised Proposal	Flinders Mines Limited	18/5/2015
1551	West Angelas Deposit A west and Deposit F - Revised Proposal	Robe River Mining Co Pty Ltd	22/6/2015

Assessment on Proponent Information (API) – Category B

Report No.	Title	Proponent	Released
1532	Blue Hills Mungada East Expansion	Sinosteel Midwest Corporation Limited	10/11/2014
1537	Jackson 5 and Bungalbin East Iron Ore Project	Polaris Metals Pty Ltd	12/01/2015

Changes to conditions – proposals assessed under s46 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Report No.	Title	Proponent	Released
1521	Yilgarn Operations – Windarling Range, Mt Jackson Range and Deception Deposit – inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statements 627, 802, 843, 874, 900, 907, and 909	Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd	17/7/2014
1524	Yellowfin Tuna Aquaculture Trial, Zeewijk Channel, Abrolhos Islands - inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 929	Pelsaert Pty Ltd	8/9/2014
1525	Balla Balla Magnetite Mining Project - inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 794	Forge Resources Swan Pty Ltd	8/9/2014
1526	Eglinton Beach proposal - inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 150	Eglinton Estates Pty Ltd	8/9/2014
1528	Keysbrook Mineral Sands Mine – inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 810	MZI Resources Ltd	19/09/2014
1529	Albany Iron Ore Project - Southdown Magnetite proposal – inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 810	Grange Resources Limited	19/09/2014
1534	Kemerton silica sand mining proposal, additional mining areas and transfer of land for conservation - inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 703	Kemerton Silica Sand Pty Ltd	22/12/2014

Report No.	Title	Proponent	Released
1535	Subdivision of Lot 21 Alumina Road, East Rockingham - inquiry under s46(4) of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> into whether or not the conditions relating to the derived proposal should be changed.	Western Australian Land Authority trading as LandCorp	22/12/2014
1536	Tutunup South Mineral Sands Project – inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 799	Iluka Resources Limited	5/01/2015
1542	Albany Port Expansion Project - inquiry under s46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 to amend Ministerial Statement 846	Southern Ports Authority	23/3/2015
1543	Bluewaters Power Station Expansion - Phase III and Phase IV Proposal - inquiry under s46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 to amend Ministerial Statement 837	Bluewaters Power 3 Pty Ltd	23/3/2015
1545	Heavy Mineral Sands Mine, Beenup, Shire of Augusta – Margaret River - inquiry under s46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 to amend Ministerial Statement 434	BHP Titanium Minerals Pty Ltd	15/4/2015
1546	Busselton Regional Aerodrome - inquiry under s46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 to amend Ministerial Statement 901	City of Busselton	17/4/2015
1550	Orebody 18 Iron Ore Mine - inquiry under s46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> to amend Ministerial Statement 439	BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd	2/7/2015*

*Rep 1550 transmitted to the Minister for Environment on 29 June 2015

Appendix 2 – Other EPA and OEPA publications during 2014–15

Advice to the Minister for Environment under section 16(e) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Cumulative environmental impacts of development in the Pilbara region (August 2014)

Environmental assessment guidelines (EAGs)

Consideration of environmental impacts from noise (EAG 13) (September 2014)

Preparation of an API – Category A Environmental Review Document (EAG 14) (January 2015)

Referral of a proposal under s38 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EAG 16) (January 2015)

Protecting the Quality of Western Australia’s Marine Environment (EAG 15) (March 2015)

Environmental protection bulletins (EPBs)

Environmental Protection Bulletin No. 1 - Environmental Offsets – Biodiversity (Updated August 2014)

Environmental Protection Bulletin No. 22 - Hydraulic fracturing for onshore natural gas from shale and tight rocks (December 2014)

Joint Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans (Revised May 2015)

Technical reports

Environmental Quality Criteria Reference Document for Cockburn Sound (March 2015)
March 2015

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority Annual Report 2013–2014, September 2014

Environmental Protection Authority Annual Report 2013–2014, October 2014



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