

## EPA Inquiry: Submission Guidance

In your submission you can respond to all of the questions in the Discussion Paper, or only those that interest you (see below for a list of the questions from the Discussion Paper).

If your issue is not addressed through the questions raised in the Discussion Paper, but is within the Terms of Reference you can write about it in the way that suits you (see the "Terms of Reference" on the next page).

You do not have to answer all of the questions or address all of the Terms of Reference.

### Questions

1. What do you think are the key environmental challenges which will impact the EPA in the future?
  - **Increase in the variety and quantity of waste disposed of in Victoria (through new technologies and increasing population);**
  - **Lack of incentives for alternatives to landfill for waste disposal;**
2. What aspects of the EPA's work do you value and wish to preserve in the future?
  - **The EPA is excellent at community and business engagement & has a good understanding of environmental impacts;**
  - **The EPA's remit should be extended to cover that of Sustainability Victorias – there is currently too much duplication between the groups and not enough delivery on SVs side;**
  - **The EPA should have greater capability in regards to Market Development;**
  - **The duplication of work between the EPA and SV is a hindrance to business, creating more paper work and cost – it is much more efficient to operate in other states**
  - **SV seems to reward inaction over action, quite the opposite of the EPA which engages industry**
3. How can the EPA effectively work in partnership with other government agencies to meet the environmental challenges of the future?
  - **There needs to be clearer guidelines as to where responsibilities lie and how projects can be moved forward, there is currently too much overlap with SV and other agencies (e.g. DSDBI – or whatever they are called now).**
4. How can the EPA's role in safeguarding the community against the health impacts of pollution be clarified or strengthened?
  - **They need the ability to levy greater landfill fees and fines against transgressors – the slap on the wrist approach is not enough to punish or change behaviours**
  - **Greater community consultation is needed**
5. How could statutory frameworks more effectively prevent future environmental risks and land use conflicts?

n/a
6. What role should the EPA play in emergency management?

n/a
7. How can the EPA better identify and, where necessary, address problems that are the result of past activity?
  - **Increase community and industry participation and consultation around issues**
8. What can the EPA do to avoid potential future problems?

n/a

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

- **The EPA should be leaders in encouraging green and sustainable industries in Victoria, creating clean energy sources, diverting waste from polluting sources and establishing the State as a leader in the field; encouraging investment**

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

n/a

11. How do you see environmental justice being applied to the work of the EPA?

n/a

12. What can we adopt from other regulators and regulatory models to implement best-practice approaches and ensure that the EPA can rise to key future challenges?

- **The EPA needs to not only regulate and monitor, but it needs to grow markets that will divert pollution and create new, green industries.**
- **The EPA needs to work closer with industry and the community to listen to concerns and develop alternatives**

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

n/a