



Environmental Defender's Office ACT

Newsletter

Autumn 2011

No 2 of 2011

The EDO (ACT) newsletter is designed to provide information on what's happening in environmental law in the ACT and throughout Australia.

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ACT News

Residential and Subdivision Policy review - Draft Variation 306

Draft variation 306 has recently been released for comment. The draft variation was prepared to implement a review of the ACT residential and subdivision policies.

The draft variation proposes:

- changes to residential development, estate development and leasing codes
- replacement of residential zones objectives development tables, and housing development codes
- introduction of Residential Zones Development Code and Lease Variation General Code
- replacement of existing Residential Subdivision Development Code with an Estate Development Code

Some of the changes include:

- changes to solar access provisions
- boundary setback changes
- reduces the minimum block size for dual occupancy in RZ2 (suburban core zone) from 800 sqm to 700 sqm
- allows 3 dwellings on blocks above 1050 (currently above 1400) but limits the number of dwelling thereafter based on block size
- changes to subdivision provisions for new estates

Some of the changes commence immediately.

Draft variation 306 supersedes draft variations 301 and 303 following a review of policies proposed in draft variations 301 and 303 which were put out for public comment last year. Draft variations 301 and 303 have now been withdrawn.

More information is available at

http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/tools_resources/legislation_plans_registers/plans/territory_plan/current_territory_plan_variations/fact_sheets_for_draft_variation_306

See opportunities for comment below.

Residential feed-in Tariff finished

The ACT Government has recently announced that the legislated cap of 15 megawatts on small scale electricity generators (essentially household solar panels), which it introduced in February this year, has been reached (see previous EDO newsletter). Consequently the feed in tariff scheme will no longer be available for small scale generators.

The feed in tariff still is available for medium scale renewable energy generators, that is systems between 30kW and 200kW. There is a cap of 15MW for medium scale generation, however the Government has said that this is currently largely unallocated.

The Government has also indicated that it intends to introduce legislation later this year to apply to large scale generators, to encourage the establishment solar farms across the Territory.

A copy of EDO's submission on options for an expanded ACT electricity feed-in tariff scheme, including a discussion of caps is available from our website at

<http://www.edo.org.au/edoact/submissions/Feb%2010%20submission%20to%20expanded%20FiT%20scheme.pdf>

ACT sets 15% renewables by 2012 target

As required under the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act the ACT Government has set renewable energy targets. The Government has set a target to source 15% of all energy from renewable sources by 2012, and 25% by 2020. This target is aimed at assisting in reaching the Government's target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2020, and for ACT to carbon neutral by 2060.

Under the Climate Change legislation the Government is still required to set energy efficient targets for the per person use of electricity on the ACT and must determine a method for measuring greenhouse gas emissions.

A climate change council is also to be established.

A copy of EDO's submission on appropriate ACT greenhouse gas reduction targets is available from our website at:

<http://www.edo.org.au/edoact/submissions/Apr%2009%20submission%20to%20ACT%20inquiry%20into%20greenhouse%20gas%20reduction%20targets.pdf>

Gang Gang Logo retained

The ACT Government has announced that it intends to retain the Gang-Gang logo for the ACT Parks and Conservation Service. The Gang-Gang is the faunal emblem of the ACT and has been used to represent parks and conservation in the ACT since the 1970s.

Following the Hawke review recommendation that a single ACT Government logo be designed to represent all Government, concern was raised that the gang-gang logo would be lost.

However the long standing tradition and association of the Gang-Gang logo was considered a special case and the Gang-Gang logo will be retained and will be cobranded alongside the new Government logo.

New Ministerial and Departmental Responsibilities relating to the environment

Following the retirement of the former Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope, and the restructuring of the ACT public service following the Hawke review (see previous EDO newsletter) there have been a number of changes to Ministerial and Departmental responsibilities relating to environment and planning.

Following the Hawke Review the ACT Government has set up a single ACT government Department with different directorates. The former Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water is now part of the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate. The new Directorate unites DECCEW with planning (including development assessment, leasing, construction, land use and utilities regulation, surveying and land information), the Government architect, heritage, transport planning and nature conservation.

Simon Corbell, MLA, is the new Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development and the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services.

Productivity report on Australia's Urban Water Sector

The Productivity Commission has released a draft report on Australia's Urban Water Sector. In this draft report it has canvassed a scheme of scarcity pricing, that is a scheme that would make water cheaper when dam storage levels are high. This could mean that the price of water in ACT will change depending upon dam storage levels.

A copy of the draft Productivity Commission report is available at

http://www.pc.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/107745/urban-water-draft.pdf

ACTEW is currently conducting a review of water restrictions and conservation measures in the ACT and is calling for public comment on how water restrictions should work in the future and how people have been affected by the recent drought.

See opportunities for comment below.

Lake Burley-Griffin Investigation

A motion by the ACT Greens calling on the Minister to direct the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment to investigate the state of the watercourses and catchment for Lake Burley Griffin, including possible improvements for managing water quality, has been passed by the Legislative Assembly.

Lake Burley-Griffin has been frequently affected by spills from the Queanbeyan Sewerage Plant, which discharges into the Molonglo River, and blue-green algae blooms which has resulted in the lake being closed to water users.

Under the motion the Commissioner is due to report by 30 September 2011.

Residential Tenancies Act (Minimum Standards) Amendment Bill 2011

The ACT Greens have prepared an exposure draft Bill which sets specific minimum standards for energy and water efficiency in residential rental properties amongst other matters.

The *Residential Tenancies Act (Minimum Standards) Amendment Bill 2011* would require rental properties to have an energy efficiency rating (EER) of at least 2 by 2013 and an EER of 3 by 2015 with power for the Minister to set a higher energy efficiency standard. Water efficiency is also addressed. The *Residential Tenancies Act* does not currently address issues of energy efficiency and water efficiency.

The Exposure Draft of the Residential tenancies (Minimum Housing Standards) Amendment

Bill 2011 is available at

http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ed/db_41272/current/pdf/db_41272.pdf

EDO's submission on this draft Bill will be available on our website.

ACTSmart Website

The ACT Government has created a website which provides information to help Canberrans reduce their carbon footprint and to increase awareness of government programs. The website provides information about ACT Government rebate and assistance programs such as ToiletSmart and ToiletSmart Plus, ACTSmart *Business* and *Office* programs, GardenSmart, the Australian Sustainable Schools program, the renewable energy Feed-in Tariff and Home Energy Action Kits.

For more information, visit <http://www.actsmart.act.gov.au/>.

Review of National Capital Authority

Dr Allan Hawke AC is currently conducting a review of the role and responsibilities of the National Capital Authority with a particular focus on its planning regime, including the appropriate balance of planning responsibilities between the Commonwealth and ACT governments in Canberra.

It will consider the work of previous taskforces and committees and make recommendations by June 2011 on the future of the Authority for consideration by the Federal Government.

Legislative Assembly Committee Recommendations on FOI

The Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety has released a report into the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. The Committee has recommended that the current act be repealed and a new revised act enacted that is consistent with the Commonwealth's FOI Act. The Committee has further recommended that information should be published online routinely and at no cost and that the ACT should enact its own Privacy legislation, to replace the Commonwealth legislation currently in force.

To read the report, see

<http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/downloads/reports/JACS05%20FOI.pdf>

News From Around Australia

Garnaut Report released

Professor Garnaut recently released his final report in the update of the Climate Change Review reports. The final report recommends that Australia's initial carbon price be in the range of \$20 to \$30, with \$25 being the most appropriate price.

Professor Garnaut released two supplementary notes together with the final report. The first note, 'A 10-year plan for carbon pricing revenue', outlines the recommended allocation of funds generated by the carbon pricing scheme. The note recommends that upon the

commencement of the scheme:

- 55 per cent of revenue raised from the scheme is allocated to household assistance (increasing to 60-65 per cent by 2021-22), with the majority being channelled towards reducing personal income tax rates at the lower end of the income scale.
- 30 per cent of revenue is allocated to trade-exposed emissions-intensive industries, falling to 20 per cent by 2021-22, depending on assessment by an independent agency.
- Substantial funds, rising over time, are directed towards innovation and the purchase of offset credits from rural Australia.

The second note, 'Governance arrangements for Australia's carbon pricing scheme', outlines institutional and administrative arrangements to support the carbon pricing scheme. It recommends the establishment of three bodies:

- An independent committee to advise on targets, coverage, scheme reviews, the switch to a floating price and progress on international action.
- An independent carbon bank to regulate the carbon pricing scheme. It would apply the legislated scheme rules and administer assistance to emissions-intensive, trade-exposed industries.
- An independent agency to develop recommendations for a new assistance regime for emissions intensive, trade exposed industries to operate after the initial 3 year interim period.

Further details and the full report are available at:

<http://www.garnautreview.org.au/>

Climate Commission first report released

The first major report from the independent Climate Commission, The Critical Decade: an update on climate science, risks and responses, has been released.

The key messages set out in the report are:

- There is no doubt that the climate is changing. The evidence is overwhelming and clear.
- We are already seeing the social, economic and environmental impacts of a changing climate. In the last 50 years the number of record hot days in Australia has more than doubled, sea level has risen by 20 cm globally since the late 1800s, and the Great Barrier Reef has suffered from nine bleaching events in the past 31 years.
- It is beyond reasonable doubt that human activities – the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation – are triggering the changes we are witnessing in the global climate.
- This is the critical decade. Decisions we make from now to 2020 will determine the severity of climate change our children and grandchildren experience - we must decarbonise our economy and move to clean energy sources by 2050. That means carbon emissions must peak within the next few years and then strongly decline.

A copy of the report can be downloaded at www.climatecommission.govspace.gov.au

Environment laws on hold

The federal government will wait until at least 2 years before it responds to the Hawke Review of the EPBC Act. The Review has recommended that environmental laws be strengthened to provide greater environmental protection and to make them easier for businesses to navigate. The Review was originally delivered to the government in October 2009, while Peter Garrett was Minister for the Environment, but current Minister Tony Bourke does not expect any legislative changes to the Act to occur until 2012.

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/environment/environment-laws-on-hold-20110425-1du4r.html#ixzz1Kh8ArfXB>

Tarkine Heritage Listing

Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke has announced he will not renew an emergency heritage listing, which expired in December, for Tasmania's Tarkine wilderness. The Tarkine wilderness is the largest cool temperate rainforest in Australia, and one of the last remaining areas for Tasmanian Devils not infected with facial tumours.

Mr Burke has said the expired emergency listing related to plans to put a road through the wilderness and now has to lapse, as he has been advised by his department that the current mining proposals for the area do not give rise to the conditions for an emergency listing.

The Australian Heritage Council has recommended that the Tarkine be placed on the National Heritage List.

More recently it has been revealed that despite the Senate passing a motion in 2007 supporting a request to the Australian Heritage Council to review the Tarkine's world heritage values and report back to then Environment Minister Malcolm Turnbull, the Council has never received such a request from the federal government.

Pulp Mill gets final Federal government approval

The Federal Government has approved the final three modules of Gunns proposal to build its controversial pulp mill in Tasmania's Tamar Valley. This is the final environmental approval required under federal environmental law.

Former Environment Minister Malcolm Turnbull approved the Gunns Pulp Mill in October 2007. Mr Turnbull's approval included a requirement that Gunns develop an environmental impact management plan. A decision on approving three modules of the plan was deferred in January 2009 by the then Environment Minister Peter Garrett, until March 2011 until studies on potential marine impacts had been completed.

The Environment Minister, Tony Burke, has now approved these three modules of the environmental management plan.

Further details of this approval are at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi->

Product Stewardship Bill introduced

The Federal Government has introduced legislation establishing national standards for the manufacture and disposal of common household electronic products. The *Product Stewardship Bill* mandates recycling and reuse practices and will include standards for reducing hazardous waste in production. The Bill would provide the necessary legislation to establish the national TV and computer recycling scheme in 2012, as these items will be initially affected. It also aims to increase the IT recycling rate to 80% by 2020-21. Importers and manufacturers of TVs, computers and computer peripherals would be required to pay for their collection and recycling. The Senate Committee has released a report on this Bill. It is available at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/ec_ctte/product_stewardship/report/index.htm

A copy of ANEDO's submission on this bill is at

http://www.edo.org.au/policy/110408product_stewardship_bill.pdf

Current Inquiries and Opportunities for Comment

ACT

Have your say on ACT Water Restrictions

ACTEW is currently conducting a review of water restrictions and conservation measures in the ACT and is calling for public comment on how water restrictions should work in the future.

For more information and make a comment see:

<http://www.actew.com.au/SaveWaterForLife/WaterRestrictions/have-your-say.aspx>

Proposal to modify planning restrictions in Canberra's inner north

Public comment is invited on Draft Variation 310 to the Territory Plan which proposes to modify planning restrictions in O'Connor, Lyneham, Dickson and Turner.

Comments are due by **21 June 2011**.

For further information see <http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/>

Study for the Kambah Group Centre

ACTPLA is undertaking a master planning study for the Kambah group centre, located at the intersection of Drakeford Drive and Marconi Crescent. .

The study will investigate a range of options to update and refresh the centre over the next 20-30 years.

For more information see:

http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/topics/significant_projects/planning_studies/kambah_group_centre

Draft Master Plans for Tuggeranong and Erindale Centres

Draft master plans for the Tuggeranong and Erindale centres are available for comment. The

master plans aim to make the centres more sustainable, interesting and vibrant. Comments can be made online at the link below. ACTPLA is intending to distribute a newsletter in June 2011 to keep the local community informed on the progress of the project.

For more information see

http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/topics/significant_projects/planning_studies/tuggeranong_and_erindale_centres_planning_project

Consultation on Molonglo Valley

Community consultation for new suburbs in Molonglo Valley stage 2 has started. ACTPLA is inviting comments on housing, community and commercial facilities, the environment and transport. For more information, including a discussion paper, and to submit a comment see http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/topics/significant_projects/planning_studies/molonglo_valley

Commercial zones policy review Discussion Paper

The ACTPLA is undertaking a review of the commercial zones and has released a *Commercial zones policy review Discussion Paper, Phase 1* dated May 2011. The discussion paper focuses on:

- the objectives and development table of the commercial zones
- the group centre development code
- the local centre development code

The discussion paper responds to the *Review of ACT Supermarket Competition Policy, September 2009* prepared by John Martin (known as the Martin Report) which calls for 'zoning reform' generally across commercial centres to increase potential land supply for new supermarkets.

Comments on this paper are due by **4 July 2011**.

Consultation on ACAT operation and procedures

The ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) is calling for submissions about its operation and procedures.

Submissions are due by **29th July 2011**.

Further details are available at

<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/content.php?id=254&PHPSESSID=244d6d10139c4bf28a4c8876ffa06a9b>

Draft Variation 306 – Residential and Subdivision Policy review

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The draft variation proposes:

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Comments are invited from the public until COB **Tuesday 2 August 2011**

Further information is available at:

http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/tools_resources/legislation_plans_registers/plans/territory_plan/current_territory_plan_variations

Commonwealth

Inquiry into Federal Judicial Review

The Administrative Review Council is undertaking an inquiry into federal judicial review in Australia. The Council invites submissions from members of the public with an interest in judicial review.

Submissions should be received by **24 June 2011**

Further information about the inquiry and access to a consultation paper can be found at:

<http://www.ag.gov.au/arcjudicialreview>.

Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network Proposal – South-West Marine Region

A draft marine bioregional plan and a Commonwealth marine reserve network proposal for the South-west Marine Region have been released for public consultation.

Submissions should be received by **8 August 2011**

Further information is available at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/south-west/index.html>

Litigation News

Xstrata Ulan mine approval challenged

The NSW EDO, on behalf of the Hunter Environmental Lobby, is challenging approval for Xstrata to extend its Ulan open-cut coal mine in the Hunter Valley. The first hearing of this case has recently been held in the NSW Land and Environment Court.

The approvals being challenged allow for the consolidation of Ulan's 24 existing development consents into a single planning approval, expansion of its existing underground "longwall" mining operations and new open cut mining operation. These approvals will see a doubling of Ulan's existing approved production rate to up to 20 million tonnes of coal per year.

The mine expansion is predicted to have a significant impact on groundwater, which is expected to take 200 years to recover. It will also result in the clearing of 409 hectares of vegetation, including 69 hectares of endangered ecological communities and habitat for several fauna species. The greenhouse gas emissions from the mine will add approximately 12.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide per year to the atmosphere, exacerbating global anthropogenic climate change.

The grounds of appeal are in relation to groundwater, biodiversity offsets and greenhouse gas emissions.

NSW's Coal-Seam Gas Project challenged

The NSW EDO, on behalf of Barrington-Gloucester-Stroud Preservation Alliance Inc, has lodged an appeal against two decisions of the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to approve a concept plan and stage one of the Gloucester Gas Project at Barrington tops north of Newcastle, NSW's first large scale coal seam gas project.

The concept plan involves extraction of coal seam gas within a 210km area between Barrington and Great Lakes, transporting the gas from the processing facility to the existing gas supply network via a 95-100 km pipeline traversing several LG areas, a gas delivery station at Hexham. The stage one project approval is for 110 gas wells and gas and water pipelines between Gloucester and Stratford, a central processing facility, gas transmission pipeline 95-100 km in length and the Hexham gas delivery station.

Key issues are:

- Risks to surface and groundwater quality and quantity when the gas wells are drilled;
- Lack of data about groundwater impacts in the context of the geological receiving environment, which contains numerous cracks and fissures in the coals seams;
- What to do with the polluted waste water, which is proposed to be re-used or disposed of; and
- Uncertainty about the impacts of the chemicals used in the fracking process.

The case will focus on the PAC's consideration of the environmental impacts resulting from the Gloucester Gas Project. The first court date is June 14.

Case filed against Queensland Xstrata mine

The Queensland EDO, on behalf of Friends of the Earth, is challenging the Queensland Government's approval for Xstrata Coal's mine in QLD's south-west. The QLD EDO has lodged "a climate change and ocean acidification objection" with the Queensland mining registrar. Xstrata's Wandoan EIS estimated that over its 30-year life the mine would increase Queensland's human-induced greenhouse gas by about 0.38% emissions and Australia's by about 0.11%.

FOE wants the government to refuse Xstrata Coal a mining lease and environmental authority, due to concerns over damage to Queensland's natural heritage.

A Land Court judge will hear the objection and then make a recommendation to the Queensland mines and environment ministers for a final decision.

Court clears Paradise Dam

The Federal Court has dismissed the Wide Bay Conservation Council Inc (WBCC) case, for an injunction to overturn the Federal Government's environmental approval for the Paradise Dam on Queensland's Burnett River. The case challenged whether the defendant had adequately fulfilled the requirement attached to an approval under the EPBC Act for state-owned Burnett Water Pty Ltd to install a fish transfer device, or fishway, to allow rare lungfish to move over the dam's 36m spillway. Justice Logan agreed the lungfish was a "living fossil" that needed protection but also found the fishway installed was "suitable for the lungfish" and was operating in the way it was intended. Burnett Water were found not to have contravened the condition, and the injunction was not granted accordingly.

The Case is available at

<http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinodisp/au/cases/cth/FCA/2011/175.html?stem=0&synonyms=0&query=title%28Wide%20Bay%20Conservation%20Council%20and%20Burnett%20Water%20Pty%20Ltd%20%29ere>.

Snowy River Flow case

The EDO NSW, acting on behalf of the Snowy River Alliance, has challenged the validity of the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation's review of the Snowy Hydro water licence and a subsequent variation to the licence. SRA is arguing that the WAMC's review failed to meet the description of "review" as required by the Act and failed to exhibit any SSC reports prior to the review. If the review is found to be invalid, the variation to the licence may also be invalid.

The matter was heard before the Supreme Court on the 14 March 2011 with judgment reserved.

Community Education and Events

Eat Your Lawn

When: Wed June 15th 2011, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM and then on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of every month until November

Where: Canberra Environment Centre (Cnr Lawson Cr and Lennox Crossing), Acton, ACT

Learn to love your garden all year round with the Canberra Environment Centre's Eat Your Lawn gardening workshop series.

Beginning in June, the Eat Your Lawn gardening workshops are a series of three workshops which run on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of every month until November! Each month the workshops will focus on a different aspect of gardening to provide seasonally adjusted advice suitable to Canberra's climate. From planning your garden to seed sowing, seedling maintenance and evergreen fruit trees – there's work to be done throughout the year and something to learn for everyone.

June's workshops will focus on fruit trees and berries and will cover:

Wednesday 15th June: Cuttings

Wednesday 22nd June: Pruning

The Eat Your Lawn gardening workshop instructor is the food garden extraordinaire Barbara Schreiner, who with over 20 year's experience in botany, permaculture and gardening, has a wealth of knowledge to share.

Workshops are \$15 each or \$40 for all three, with concessions available.

Spaces are limited so book today by contacting 6248 0885 or info@ecoaction.com.au

To see the full list of workshops running until November 2011, please see:
<http://www.ecoaction.com.au/category.php?id=119>

Carrotmob

When: June 11th 2011, 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Where: Ainslie IGA Supermarket, Edgar Street, Ainslie ACT

Carrotmob will be mobbing the Ainslie IGA Supermarket on Saturday 11th of June.

Carrotmobbing is a way of increasing the power of your purchase. Retailers pledge to spend a percentage of the profit from one day of trading on improvements that will increase the sustainability of their business. The carrotmob organisers bring new customers with pockets stuffed full of buying power, the wider community can contribute to improvements simply by purchasing items that would anyway appear on their shopping list, and our city gets one step closer to achieving its emission reduction target.

Ainslie IGA Supermarket as agreed to put 100% of the money spent by the carrotmob on the 11th of June towards making their premises more sustainable. To make it a really special event there will be music and activities, home sustainability advice, prizes, free carrot-juice and a warm glow from participating in a little bit of first-aid for the future.

To register for carrotmob, or for more information, please visit the carrotmob website:

<http://www.carrotmob.love40percent.org/>

You can shop anytime on the day, but music and activities will run between 11 and 2 pm.

Live Smart Festival

When: June 26th 2011, 12:30 PM through 4:00 PM

Where: Gordon Arthur Hall, St John's Church, 43 Constitution Avenue, Reid, ACT

Australian Ethical Investment and Superannuation present the first Canberra Live Smart Festival.

Live Smart is a free half day event, showcasing the very best of Canberra's sustainable, ethical and responsible businesses and organisations. Festival goers will have the opportunity to chat with different groups; sample and purchase produce, food and fair trade coffee.

Contact - Email: admin@see-change.org.au

Sustainable Careers Expo

When: 12-4pm, Wednesday 18 August 2011

Where: Sports Hall, Australian National University, North Road, Acton, ACT (off Barry Drive)

ACT Otherwise presents the second Canberra Sustainable Careers Expo

- Green Fashion Parade
- Q & A Green Jobs Panel
- Stalls from tertiary course providers, green business, government departments, and advocacy and volunteer organisations.

Young people interested in helping out before or at the Expo, and organisations wanting to have a stall, should contact us as soon as possible.

ACT otherWISE supports young people in leadership around sustainability. The Sustainable Careers Expo is a result of this support and work with a group of young people disillusioned with mainstream career paths presented to them.

Contact details: Heidi Gill, Project Officer, Sustainable Careers Expo, ACT otherWISE
phone: 02 6229 3211 / 0401 295 970

Other News

Senator-elect Larissa Waters wins environmental lawyer award

Former EDO Queensland lawyer Larissa Waters, who left her position with the QLD EDO on being voted in as the first ever Greens Senator for Queensland (commencing 1 July 2011), has been named as the 2010 Young Australian Environmental Lawyer of the Year by the Law Council of Australia's Legal Practice Section (Australian Environment and Planning Law Group).

EDO congratulates Larissa and welcomes this recognition of her hard work on many key environmental cases. For more information see the [Law Council's website](#).

The Banksia Environmental Awards

The 2011 Banksia Awards are currently open for entry. The Awards cover 10 different categories including education, indigenous, land and biodiversity, water and clean technology. For more information, including entry requirements, see

http://www.banksiafdn.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&catid=42&id=52&Itemid=79

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This newsletter is meant for your general information. Where possible, references are given so that readers can access original sources or find more information. Any information contained in this bulletin does not represent legal advice.

The EDO does not endorse and is not affiliated with events advertised in the Community Education and Events section.

