

ZOË BOWEN MEIANZ ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISOR, BEACH ENERGY

Joined the Institute in 2002

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Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc.

What prompted you to join EIANZ?

An opportunity meet other environmental professionals with various environmental qualifications, learn more about the different types and roles of environmental management and exchange ideas and knowledge.

What do you value most about being a member?

Networking with other professionals. It's a small pond in South Australia but environmental professionals move in different circles so it's good to have a forum in which to meet, find out what everyone is doing and what else is happening in the state or at a national level.

Has being a member helped you develop mentoring relationships and/or extend your professional networks?

I have expanded my professional network which has helped me approach other professionals when I need assistance from an expert in a particular area.

What do you find most rewarding about a career in the environment sector?

Its challenging and dynamic but I like to think I am making a difference in reducing the environmental impacts of the resource sector.

What advice would you give to recent graduates just starting out in the environment sector?

It can be hard getting your foot in the door, be prepared to show you are willing and be persistent – it will pay off. Respect and learn from your peers but don't be afraid to challenge old ideas. University might have taught you the basics but most of what you will learn and know will come from 'real world' experiences. Try not to let reality dent your enthusiasm for contributing to positive environmental outcomes and finding alternative solutions.