



ANNOUNCEMENT



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

The EIANZ and CEnvP Scheme to play a key role in the NSW Government Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (REAP) Scheme

On 1 July 2021, the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) launched the Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (REAP) Scheme. Included as part of a [Rapid Assessment Framework](#) (RAF), the REAP Scheme recognises accredited professional schemes for environmental assessment practitioners and provides quality assurance for Environmental Impact Statements. As of July 2022, all Environmental Impact Statements for State significant projects in NSW will need to be certified by a REAP before submission to the Department. The new legislation aims to provide greater quality assurance and streamline the assessment of major projects.

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) will play a key role in the New South Wales Government REAP Scheme. We are happy to confirm that the EIANZ's Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) Scheme has been [approved as a basis for certification](#) by the New South Wales Government. This involves certifying practitioners through the CEnvP Scheme and the addition of a special REAP module to the [CEnvP Impact Assessment specialist certification](#).



The importance of certification in environmental practice

The [CEnvP Scheme](#) is Australasia's first accreditation scheme designed exclusively for environmental practitioners. As a CEnvP, practitioners must meet high standards of experience, professional conduct, and ethical behaviour and provides assurance to business and the community of the credentials of an environmental professional. The CEnvP Scheme is recognised in [over a dozen recommendations and legislation](#) in Australia and New Zealand and has become a requirement across many more local and regional government tendering and engagement processes.

Our role in helping environmental professionals become Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioners

The EIANZ has been actively involved as a key stakeholder with the DPIE's environmental impact assessment (EIA) initiatives since 2016. The EIANZ NSW Division Committee representatives have participated in workshops and submitted several policy responses to the previous Environmental Impact Assessment Improvement Project and the more recent RAF initiatives. Certification of EIA practitioners to improve EIA practice has been one of the key changes we have advocated for, along with improvements to strategic planning and improved EIA guidance documents.

The CEnvP Scheme has been working closely with the DPIE during the development of the REAP Scheme and is well positioned as an accredited scheme now that the RAF has come into effect. For all current and prospective CEnvPs (Impact Assessment), an additional module is available to meet the NSW DPIE's specific requirements. You can learn more about the certification process and the additional REAP module on the [CEnvP website](#).

The EIANZ and the CEnvP Scheme looks forward to helping environmental practitioners meet the requirements of this important change. All environmental practitioners with the requisite experience can apply for CEnvP certification and the newly introduced REAP module. Full details on how to apply can be found on the [CEnvP website](#) and fee discounts are available for [EIANZ members](#).