

EIANZ Policy and Standards Committee 2022 – 23 Work Plan

Where are we now

- Board mandate for PSC to advise on
 - env policy and policy advocacy
 - role of EIANZ in the profession & community
 - Prepare submissions, positions, guides and discussion docs & references etc
 - Engage with Special Interest Sections
- EIANZ has five current position statements & two guidance notes
- In 2021/22 some submissions/social media posts via NZ Chapter, Ecology SIS/CoP, CC SIS & PSC
- CEnvP scheme, Practice & PD Cttee and Comms committee have intersecting interests with PSC
- PSC is recognised by Board for being active and carrying through on its commitments
- Some frustration within PSC
 - inability to tap into resources and expertise – vis a vis a) EPBC act advocacy b) 2022 Election Statement
 - Maximising (and measuring) the impact of our work
 - Building a prioritised & anticipatory PSC modus operandi for timely future responses

What to do

- 1. Committee membership** - Recruit new members onto PSC – to bring the total to ~14.
- 2. Consult on priorities**
 - Engage with President, Advisory Council, Chapter, Divisions, SISs and Members on their priorities for the PSC and for position statements.
- 3. Maintain & add to a suite of relevant position statements**
 - CC & Ecology SISs to review their PSs.
 - Approach Fellows / Members to assist in review of the water PS
 - Encourage completion of environmental education PS
 - Solicit support for Circular Economy PS
- 4. Promotion of sound policy implementation**
 - Campaign for sensible climate policy, Samuel EPBC recommendations and Aotearoa NZ RMA reform, water and climate policy
 - Support SISs and COPs in engaging on priority national and regional policy development
 - Support Divisions in engaging on priority State-based issues incl election statements

Where do we want to be

- A valued and rewarding committee for EIANZ members and fellows to participate in
- Harnessing the expertise within and across the EIANZ
- Raising esteem for environmental professionals and their work
- Establishing and promoting good environmental practice within the profession and by all levels of decision makers
- Facts based prioritised input to Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand environmental regulatory framework
 - Demonstrating the value of EIANZ and of membership – to actual and prospective members

How to get there

- Leverage off the Annual Conference and other “big events” – to communicate and advance PSC work and solicit views on priorities.
- Work with Central Office on piloting “commissioned work”
- Work collaboratively – Engage to align with CEnvP scheme, Practice & PD and Comms committee to ensure alignment,
- Keep the work in the election statement alive as a “integrated” EIANZ “ask” for environmental policy reform
- Stronger tracking on upcoming policy development and important document releases (to be done with CO)
- Seek that President meets with the new Australian Environment Minister to promote policy action

Policy and Standards Committee Mandate

Policy and Standards Committee Mandate – as per Board 2021

Role: to support the Board with sound advice on:

- environmental policy, and advocacy of that policy, and
- the role of the EIANZ in the environmental profession and the community.

Terms of Reference

1. Facilitate the development, review and authorisation by the Board of EIANZ policy and position statements, guidelines, discussion papers, and other policy publications
2. Oversee and commission the preparation of:
 - a. Submissions to public enquiries and responses to public reports and policy statements relevant to the purposes of the EIANZ.
 - b. Policy and position statements, guidelines, discussion papers, and other publications on good practice environmental policy and management,
 - c. Annotated references to regional, national and international documentation relating to good practice environmental management.
3. Facilitate the engagement of Special Interest Sections in the development, review and preparation of position statements, guidelines, discussion papers, and other publications on environmental policy.

Position Statements and Guidance

The **purpose** of position statements is to:

- Communicate what the Institute stands for on environmental issues and important environmental practice topics
- Demonstrate leadership
- Drive action
- Support excellence in environmental practice
- Provide guidance on difficult and emerging issues and topics

The **structure** of position statements should include:

- Why issue or topic is important
- What are the key issues and aspects
- What the Institute’s position is
- The rationale for that position
- What are the actions required of the Institute, its members and others
- What are the recommendations for action
- Links to case studies or practice/guidance notes if available

Title	Custodian	Date Approved	Approved by	Next review
Natural Disaster Resilience Position Statement		Apr 2021	Board	April 2024
Climate Change Position Statement	Climate Change SIS	June 2022	Board	June 2025
Water Position Statement	Policy & Standards Cttee	June 2021	Board	June 2024
Biodiversity Position Statement	Ecology SIS	June 2021	Board	June 2024
Indigenous People’s Knowledge and Engagement Position Statement	Indigenous Engagement WG	Feb 2022	Board	Feb 2025
Ethical Practice Guidance Note – Practicing Ethically with Respect to the Rights and Interests of Indigenous Peoples	Indigenous Engagement WG	Apr 2022	Board	Apr 2025
Ecological Impact Assessment Guidelines for New Zealand 2nd Edition (NZ Chapter)	NZ Chapter	May 2018	President EIANZ / President NZ Chapter EIANZ	2023
Best Practice in Impact Assessment	Impact Assessment SIS	Aug 2014	???	
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment – Good practice Statements	SEQ Division	???	SEQ Division	
Guidance Note for Ethical Practice in Undertaking Peer Reviews	??	4 Oct 2018	President EIANZ/ Chair CEnvP Board	

Proposed or under review

- Climate Change

- Biodiversity
- Water

- Circular Economy
- Environmental Education

EIANZ record of policy submissions

Date	Policy Submission	Prepared by
Sep-2021	Inquiry into the Integrity of the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme	Ecology SIS
Jul-2021	Species Listing Eligibility and Conservation Actions for the Koala	EIANZ
Jan-2021	Climate Change Commission Draft Report	NZ Chapter
18-Dec-2020	Proposed Legislative Framework for Waste-derived Materials	WA Division
14-Oct-2020	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill	WA Division
21-Aug-2020	A Stronger Tomorrow: State Infrastructure Strategy Discussion Paper	WA Division
15-Jul-2020	Review of the Waste Levy	WA Division
15-Jul-2020	Closing the Loop: Waste Reforms for a Circular Economy	WA Division
Jun-2020	COVID-19 Recovery: An Opportunity to Invest in an Environmentally Sustainable Future	WA Division
13-Mar-2020	Submission on Proposed NPS Indigenous Biodiversity 2019	NZ Chapter
10-Feb-2020	Submission on Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper	WA Division
28-Jan-2020	Submission on Proposed Amendments to the Environmental Protection Act 1986	WA Division

NOTES

PSC should be aware of the work of others on policy submissions, but should not give any impression that it wants to get in the way of others doing good work.

There is a record of Divisions / SISs informing PSC of their work on policy submissions.

PSC agreed early in 2021 that policy submission work should be carried out as close as possible to where the policy is being proposed – that is to the Chapter / Division level.

This list is missing the

- Speaking points on Prof Samuel's review of the EPBC Act - (August 2021)
- 2022 Australian Federal election statement – February 2022
- NSW biodiversity conservation trust submission; (Mar 2022)
- Various social media posts eg climate change, water, women in the profession (Nicole – is there any record of these?)