

# Environmental Scientist

## About the position

Last Modified: 24 May 2024	
Group: Water and Environment Services	Job family: Science & environment
Manager's title: Environmental Assessment Team Manager	Manager once Removed's title: Environment & Heritage Services Senior Manager
Hours worked per week: 38	Primary work location: Parramatta
Flexibility options available: <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible hours of work (varied start and finish times) <input type="checkbox"/> Shift swapping <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rostered days off <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/> Job share <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remote working (such as working from home)	
Number of direct reports: nil	Number of staff once removed: N/A
Pay Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Award EA 13 item.	Individual Contract of Employment (ICE) Choose an

## Purpose of the role

This role is responsible for assessing environmental impacts and securing statutory approvals along the asset value chain, with predominant focus on asset creation business priorities. The role also provides some technical support for strategic and operational business needs.

## Section 1: Accountabilities

### Direct and indirect reports (where applicable)

No direct reports.

Indirect accountability for specialist service providers (engaged as needed).

### Safety and leadership expectations

#### Safety expectations

- Comply with all health, safety and wellness requirements set by Sydney Water
- Ensure contractors conform with their Safety obligations and behaviours
- Actively participate in health, safety and wellbeing activities
- Support workplace safety and security measures.

#### Leadership expectations

- Set own priorities in relation to workload, and complete allocated tasks, including making decisions within supervised parameters
- Work under general supervision and direction against established priorities and procedures
- Make technical decisions within project defined parameters and established business procedures

### Accountabilities and deliverables

This role is responsible for conducting environmental impact assessment and approval functions that support business purpose, priorities and goals.

#### Technical expectations

- Use technical knowledge and professional judgement to balance cost, risk and outcomes
- Account for stakeholder expectations within environmental assessments and planning approvals
- Support continuous improvement within our environmental assessment and approvals processes
- Contribute to Environmental Management System improvements and conformance

#### Environment Assessment and Approvals

- Undertake the determination of appropriate environmental approval pathways and prepare environmental assessments in accordance with environmental quality, legislative requirements and delegations
- Ensure environmental approval pathways, assessments and related deliverables are prepared within statutory frameworks, policy context and industry standards
- Support the acquisition of environmental approvals, licences and permits that enable asset delivery activities
- Use centrally managed enterprise knowledge to assure technical contributions
- Apply technical capabilities in an efficient manner
- Provide technical advice on environmental assessment approaches that support project outcomes
- Use established business procedures and processes

#### Commercial and Legal Accountabilities

- Engage PSC services - generally <\$100k, although some exceptions arise to meet procurement models.
- Respond to statutory frameworks affecting environmental assessment and approval functions - by reviewing legislative context than seeking direction from more experienced team members.

Sydney Water expects all staff to do other projects and perform additional duties as required.

## Working relationships (internal and external)

#### Internal

- To be successful in the role, effective working relationships and feedback from peers and colleagues within the WES and Infrastructure Delivery Groups is required.
- The role is required to collaborate effectively with various program/project teams along the asset value chain.

#### External

- Stakeholder and regulator engagements relating to assigned program/project functions, including:
  - NSW Government Departments responsible for Environment planning, protection and conservation
  - Non-government organisations, key stakeholders, environment industry bodies and recognised technical experts
  - Professional services suppliers (Technical Panels).

Support representation of the organisation in relevant environment discussions with government agencies (as appropriate).

## Key challenges

This role is accountable for providing environmental technical expertise in a fast-paced work environment. The work involves multiple projects at varying stages along the asset value chain. The role supports the provision of essential products and service for 5.5 million people that protect the environment and public health.

The day-to-day challenges include:

- Maintaining working relationships with multiple stakeholders (internal & external), aimed at service and program delivery functions across the asset value chain.
- Implementing project/program specific approaches for environment approvals.
- Ensuring quality and timeliness of technical deliverables to statutory and industry standards.
- Balancing competing priorities in the context of finite resources.
- Navigating a complex array of technical, regulatory and policy obligations that may be difficult to quantify.

## Physical and environmental conditions

- Field based       Plant based       Office based       Exposed to loud environment  
 Exposed to odorous environment       Direct contact with customers

## Section 2: Success Measures

### Qualifications, licences, and certifications

Tertiary qualifications in environmental science / environmental management (or other relevant discipline).

### Experience and skills

#### Experience

- Approximately 3 years relevant industry experience in environmental assessment for infrastructure assets
- Experience delivering environmental assessments and approvals within risk, cost and performance drivers
- Understanding and experience with major water or other similar utility.

#### Skills

- Technical competency in environmental assessment and related approvals, with demonstrated ability to align business outcomes.
- Applied knowledge of relevant legislation, policy and industry standards.
- Ability to enable project outcomes within environmental assessment and approval frameworks.
- Organisational skills and success in prioritising competing requirements and meeting program schedules in a high-volume work environment.
- Competent report writing skills needed for preparation of environmental assessment documentation
- Effective oral communication, negotiation and interpersonal skills needed for dealings with stakeholders to achieve project outcomes.
- Proven ability to identify, develop strategies for and manage environmental issues associated with the planning, delivery and/or operation of large civil engineering projects
- Demonstrated ability to foster teamwork and to develop and maintain effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

### Additional notes

Sydney Water takes the safe provision of its services to the public and the protection of its information assets extremely seriously. As a Sydney Water employee, you are required to understand your obligations under the [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy](#) and how Sydney Water's Information Technology is to be used. You must also help keep your workplace secure by ensuring you do not enable non-authorised people access to sites, maintain the integrity of locked entries and exits, and where appropriate, alarms being engaged.

Sydney Water requires all users to embrace and adhere to all enterprise and protective security policies, awareness programs and frameworks for Sydney Water assets.