

media release

Draft Environmental Guidelines for public comment

31st May 2013

The Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) is inviting public comment and feedback on 11 new and updated Environmental Guidelines relating the Environmental Assessment Act and the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act.

NT EPA Chair Dr Bill Freeland says the new guidelines have been drafted to promote a contemporary and consistent environmental protection regime for the Territory.

“This is the first time in NT history that guidelines have been established for all but two of these areas.

“It is essential to continue to develop and review all guidelines around environmental matters to ensure they are reflective of community and industry needs.

“The draft guidelines will be available for comment on the NT EPA website for six weeks, until July 15th and all submissions, comments and feedback is welcome.

The 11 draft Environmental Guidelines are:

- Guidelines for the Preparation of an Economic and Social Impact Assessment;
- Environmental Assessment Guidelines on Acid and Metalliferous Drainage (AMD);
- Guidelines for the Environmental Assessment of Marine Dredging in the Northern Territory;
- Guidelines on Environmental Offsets and Associated Approval Conditions;
- Guidelines for Assessment of Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity;
- Environmental Assessment Guidelines – Development proposals submitted under the Planning Act;
- Environmental Assessment Guidelines – Land clearing proposals submitted under the Pastoral Lands Act;
- Environmental Assessment Guidelines – Mining exploration or production proposals submitted under the Mining Management Act;
- Environmental Assessment Guidelines – Onshore petroleum exploration or production proposals submitted under the Petroleum Act;
- Guidelines on Conceptual Site Models; and
- Guideline for Disposal of Waste by Incineration.

To make a submission or comment, go to <http://www.nt.gov.au/envirocomment> and download your copy of the draft guidelines and complete the submission form, or contact the NT EPA on (08) 8924 4218 during business hours.

Send your submission form to one of the following by no later than 5pm on Monday 15 July 2013:
Email: NTEPA.Consult@nt.gov.au or Post: NT EPA, GPO Box 3675, Darwin NT, 0801

Dr Freeland says all comments on the draft guidelines will be collated and made publicly available on the NT EPA website.

“However, if you do not want your comments or your identity made publicly available, you should clearly indicate this in your submission.

“The NT EPA is committed to ecologically sustainable development, effective waste management and minimisation and promoting community and business confidence in a transparent and accountable environmental protection regime,” Dr Freeland said.

Media contact – Lesley Major 0419 288 284