

NELA BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2012



From the President

NELA is undergoing some big changes driven by new strategic directions started by the Executive last year. As part of the changes NELA is inviting tenders to provide **secretariat services** including membership support, publishing the National Environmental Law Review and organising conferences. The aim of the tender is to test the current business model for providing these services. Tenders are due in mid-November 2012. For more information see www.nela.org.au

Commerce Management Services in Canberra has been NELA's secretariat since the 1990s and we thank them for their hard work as part of the NELA 'family'. We have invited CMS to submit a tender.

The Executive will consider an options paper on the **National Environmental Law Review** in December, particularly publishing it in electronic format and broadening its distribution. If you have a view let us know.

Amanda Cornwall, President

AGM and new Executive

The **2012 NELA AGM** was held on **Thursday 6 September**. Once again the annual financial statement shows NELA ended the year in a strong financial position. The annual financial report is now available on the NELA website in the 'About us' section.

The new NELA national Executive, the board of directors, is as follows:

President	Amanda Cornwall (Vic)
Vice Presidents:	Ellen Geraghty (NSW); Danyelle Kelson (Qld)
Treasurer:	Barnaby McIlrath (NSW)
Secretary:	Sue Hart (Commerce Management Services) - non-voting
Committee:	Sarah Waddell (NSW); Jesse Feeley (Tas); Hanna Jaireth (ACT); Lindsey Pheloung-Beck (WA); Annaleen Harris (WA)

Call for members in South Australia to fill vacancy on the Executive. If you're a NELA member in South Australia and interested in joining the national Executive please contact Amanda Cornwall on 0432 134 936.

Thank you: Robyn Glindemann and Kathryn Barras who are both past presidents and from Western Australia did not re-nominate as directors, and Tom Baxter also retired after 15 years of service on the executive. Thanks to Robyn, Kathryn and Tom for their many years of service to NELA. We hope you'll continue to be active.

NELA national conference

Delivering a low carbon future

7-9 March 2013 —The Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne

Draft program and registrations available at www.nelaconference.com.au

Session highlights:

- a discussion on *What's the role of state governments in promoting renewable energy?* with Roger Wilkins, Secretary Attorney General's Department and Anthea Harris, CEO, Climate Change Authority
- a debate entitled *Invisible hand or hands on? Government's role in a clean energy future* with Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Greg Hunt MP and Senator Larissa Waters

Conference partners:

THE CLIMATE GROUP



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NELA activities

■ NELA policy on COAG environment regulation reforms

In September NELA made a submission to the secretariat implementing the Council of Australian Governments environmental regulation reforms. NELA has a policy committee to develop further submissions as the details of the reforms evolve over the next six months. If you would like to join contact the NELA secretariat.

■ NELA's national oceans policy

NELA's Oceans Policy team has met regularly this year to develop policy, engage with experts, organize forums in Sydney and Melbourne and participate in public debate. NELA will make a submission to the Review of Commonwealth fisheries management legislation this month. See the NELA website for details.

■ Oceans Law and Governance forum

NELA and the Centre for Resources Energy and Environmental Law at the University of Melbourne will jointly host a forum on Oceans Law and Governance on 25 October 2012. Speakers include NELA President Amanda Cornwall and Geoff Westcott, a prominent expert on coastal management and a member of NELA's Oceans policy team. Presentations can be found at www.nela.org.au

■ Renewable energy and clean energy regulation

With the theme of the NELA national conference on *Delivering a clean energy future* and the role of the states some NELA members have expressed interest in developing information and policy papers on these topics. If you would like to join the discussion please contact the NELA secretariat.

WA and SA divisions

NELA (WA) State Conference 21 September 2012: NELA WA division hosted a successful conference on Remembering Heritage—Exploring the Heritage Environment at the Parmelia Hilton with more than 90 people attending. Presentations will be available shortly on the NELA website.

Earlier this year **NELA South Australia** held a well attended annual dinner with judges of the Environment, Resources and Development (ERD) Court of South Australia. The division also provides annual prizes for high achieving law students in the field of environment and planning law at leading South Australian universities.

Other organisations ...

Regional Colloquium on Environment Law

A Regional Colloquium on Environment Law is to be held prior to the LAWASIA 25th Conference in Nusa Dua, Bali on Sunday 18 November from 9am to 5pm at the Westin Hotel. The aim of the Colloquium will be to identify environmental law issues facing the Asia-Pacific Region and to look at options to assist in the development of environmental law and the rule of law in the Region. For more information, contact Matthew Baird (matthewhbaird@me.com) or the NELA Secretariat.

EIANZ Annual Conference 2012 - 24 Oct 2012

The EIANZ Annual Conference will be held from 24-26 October 2012 at the Sebel Pier One, Dawes Point, Sydney. For more information, visit the EIANZ website at www.eianz.org

Water Law & Policy 2012—The State of National Water Resources Management

on 7 December 2012 organised by the Australian Centre for Environmental Law, ANU College of Law on at the Weston Lecture Theatre, Crawford Building, Lennox Crossing, ANU, Canberra.

For more information and to register: <http://www.law.anu.edu.au/conferences/water-law-policy-2012>

Contact the NELA secretariat on:

Phone: (02) 6286 7515 or email: nelaust@ozemail.com.au