

# NELA BULLETIN

## APRIL 2012



### Note from the President

Welcome to the first NELA Bulletin for 2012! Over the next few months, members will notice some changes to the Bulletin as its format is expanded to provide more information and encourage greater engagement with NELA members.

Planning is continuing for the 2013 NELA National Conference, *Delivering a low carbon future*, which will be held in Melbourne from 21—22 March 2013. The Victorian Conference Committee is working hard to finalise a world class program. Keep your eye on the NELA website for updates.

Members are encouraged to become actively involved in their state divisions. The contact details for each of the state representatives and details on upcoming events can be found on the NELA website.

**Kathryn Barras**  
President

### 2013 NELA National Conference

The 2013 NELA National Conference will be held on 21—22 March 2013 in Melbourne. The Conference theme, *Delivering a low carbon future*, will pose the question:

*What is the proper role of the states and territories in planning a low carbon future given the Commonwealth's constitutional role in international environmental law, the energy sector, and regulating greenhouse gas emissions?*

The conference will bring together leading national and international speakers including:

- Dr Malte Meinhausen, senior climate modeller, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany,
- The Hon Mark Dreyfus MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency,
- Peter Christoff, Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne; and
- His Honour Judge Michael Rackemann, District Court of Queensland.

NELA is pleased to be presenting the conference in partnership with The Climate Group and the Centre for Resources Energy and Environmental Law (CREEL) at the University of Melbourne.

For more information, visit the NELA website at [www.nela.org.au](http://www.nela.org.au)



**THE CLIMATE GROUP**

### News from the Secretariat

- **Contribute to the NELA Bulletin.** The Secretariat is always seeking information for inclusion into the NELA Bulletin. If you would like to contribute to the Bulletin please contact the NELA Secretariat and [nelaust@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nelaust@ozemail.com.au)
- **Contribute to the NELR.** Members are encouraged to contribute to the National Environmental Law Review (NELR). Articles, book review or letters to the editor are all welcomed. More information on whom to contact and contribution deadlines can be found at [www.nela.org.au/publications/publications-sub-page/](http://www.nela.org.au/publications/publications-sub-page/)
- **Renewals** for the 2012/2013 NELA Membership year will be sent out to all NELA members in May 2012.

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### News

#### Parliamentary inquiries

- The **Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee** is holding an inquiry into the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development) Bill 2012* and NELA has been invited to make a submission to the inquiry. More information about the Bill and the inquiry can be found at [www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees)
- The **House of Representatives Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and the Arts** is conducting an inquiry into Australia's biodiversity in a changing climate. More information about the inquiry can be found at [www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees)

### Upcoming events

#### Developments in strategic impact assessment forum

NELA Victoria and EIANZ is holding a forum titled *Developments in strategic impact assessments* on 16 May 2012 in Melbourne.

Spaces are strictly limited so bookings are essential. More information, including the registration form can be found on the NELA website.

#### NELA WA 2012 State Conference

The 2012 NELA WA State Conference will be held on 21 September 2012 at the Hilton Hotel, Perth. The theme of the Conference is *Remembering Heritage: Exploring the Heritage Environment*.

More information will be available on the NELA website as it becomes available.

#### World Environment Day Awards

The annual national World Environment Day Awards program invites nominations from individuals, organisations, businesses, local councils, schools, journalists and community groups whose work serves to protect, manage or restore our natural heritage.

For more information, including awards categories and nomination forms visit [www.unaavictoria.org.au](http://www.unaavictoria.org.au). Nominations close 5pm, Friday 4 May.

#### RMLA Conference 2012 "Altitude with Attitude"

The RMLA 2012 Conference "Altitude with Attitude" will be held on 27 September 2012 at the Millenium Hotel, Queenstown, New Zealand.

For more information, visit the RMLA website at [www.rmla.org.nz](http://www.rmla.org.nz)

#### 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](http://www.eianz.org)