



Executive Director – Environmental Protection Authority Services

Position Number:	3033237	Portfolio:	Approvals
Classification:	Class 2	Reports to:	Deputy Director General Approvals
Location:	Perth Metropolitan area	Direct Reports:	3

Operational context

The Approvals portfolio brings together all DWER's regulatory functions to deliver integrated and effective processes that facilitate appropriate development and provide confidence to all Western Australians that water resources and the environment are appropriately managed. The portfolio oversees thousands of regulatory approval decisions, provides environmental impact assessment services to the independent Environmental Protection Authority on significant projects and leads compliance and enforcement services. The portfolio is also driving approvals reforms a major priority for government.

Description

The Executive Director, Environmental Protection Authority Services is responsible for leading the provision of support, advice, and expertise to the Environmental Protection Authority including major projects assessments and strategic policy advice to ensure the Environmental Protection Authority exercises its regulatory powers appropriately while influencing environmental outcomes more widely.

The position works closely with the Minister for Environment, the Chair of the Environmental Protection Authority Board, the Director General and Deputy Directors General to deliver on the governments key priorities while maintaining the highest environmental standards. The role is also external facing, liaising with industry to improve the efficiency of environmental assessments, as well as engaging with stakeholders to understanding perspectives on assessments.

Responsibilities

- Drives the implementation of the government's reform agenda on Part IV of the EP Act by delivering a high-performing and robust environmental approvals framework, whilst ensuring sound environmental standards.
- Appropriately deliver integrated regulatory services for high priority sectors such as housing supplies and major resources sector projects.
- Provide environmental impact assessments and support services to the Environmental Protection Authority and foster a collaborative relationship with the Chair and board.
- Apply a collaborative and reform focused mindset as part of the senior leadership team.
- Provide strategic leadership and guidance to a multi-disciplinary team, ensuring contemporary environmental assessment practices.
- Oversee the provision of expert scientific and technical leadership for efficient and timely environmental assessments.
- Oversee the provision of authoritative, science-based advice to the Director General, Executive, EPA Board Chair and Ministers on regulatory assessments, statutory environmental planning, and related policy.
- Oversee the development of technical guidance reflecting current scientific understanding and risk-based approaches to biodiversity protection.
- Proactively engage with proponents and lead the implementation of procedures and processes which provide a framework for collaborative and transparent communication and appropriate escalation protocols.
- Leads the response to sensitive and contentious issues ensuring early and effective identification and management of risks.
- Foster a service-oriented culture, enhancing the efficiency of environmental impact assessment practices.
- Leads and champions the development of the aspired culture in the directorate with and focus on collaboration, performance transparency and accountability.



- Leads the development and implementation of workforce planning strategies to build capability and meet future requirements.
- Collaborates with government, industry, First Nations organisations and community groups to promote innovative environmental impact assessment evaluation and implementation, foster cross-sector approaches and enhance the EPA's reputation.
- Ensures that department resources including human, financial, physical, technological and information requirements are efficiently and effectively procured, managed, and maintained to optimise performance and return on investment and achieve expected outcomes.
- Applying the guidelines and principles of the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics and the Department's Code of Conduct within a framework of high ethical standards and behaviour.
- Deputises for the Deputy Director General Approvals as and when required.
- Additional duties as required within the skill and scope of position capabilities and departmental needs.

Our people, our leaders, our values

At DWER, we see every employee as a leader. This belief drives our success. To support this, we have established clear [Leadership Expectations](#). For this role, you will be [Executive Leader](#). Demonstrating the expected behaviours is crucial and aligned with the role's requirements.

Our culture is shaped by our [values](#). All employees are expected to uphold equity, diversity and inclusion, work health and safety, and ethical principles in all aspects of their work. This includes demonstrating cultural responsiveness by valuing diverse perspectives and contributing to culturally safe, inclusive, and trusted services – particularly for Aboriginal people and communities.

We serve to make a difference | We build trust | We care | Open minds | Better together

Work Related Requirements.

Read these requirements in the context of the above

1. You have substantial experience in successfully leading change in a dynamic work environment. You are able to adapt to new demands and changing environments. You establish strategic development initiatives across your business area to develop the capabilities of staff aligned to current and future needs of the department. *(You lead adaptively, and you build capability)*
2. You seek to build and maintain effective working relationships with a broad range of stakeholders and identify the strategic priorities that are essential for the role. *(You deliver on high leverage areas and lead collectively)*
3. You are comfortable with a high level of complexity arising from ambiguity and uncertainty and demonstrate personal resilience in the face of challenges to deliver operational excellence and value for your business area. *(You think through complexity, and you dynamically sense the environment)*.
4. You get results for the areas under your leadership through the implementation of systems and processes to support excellent corporate governance and proactively identify potential reputational risks *(You embody the spirit of public service)*.
5. You have a comprehensive background in and understanding of Environmental Impact Assessment practices, preferably in relation to the WA EPA Act and EPBC Act and experience in servicing/reporting in a Board environment.

Other Requirements

- The department will conduct national police check before offering employment.