



Job Description Form

Principal Environmental Officer

Position Number:	100466	Portfolio:	Approvals
Classification:	SCL4	Reports to:	Manager Environmental Impact, SCL5
Location:	Joondalup	Direct Reports:	Nil

Description

The Principal Environmental Officer provides high-level scientific advice and leads the development, coordination, and implementation of environmental policies, strategies, systems, and procedures under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

The role supports the Environmental Protection Authority's functions by ensuring environmental impact assessments are scientifically robust and aligned with legislative and policy frameworks. In addition to offering technical expertise, the role provides leadership, training, and mentoring to environmental officers, and contributes to the resolution of complex or urgent environmental issues.

Responsibilities

In context of above description, the role:

- Advising, negotiating and liaising with industry, government and the public, such as with scientific experts, on environmental matters relevant to development proposals and/or planning schemes
- Providing detailed scientific advice on key environmental factors and other matters related to the impacts from development of proposals.
- Being accountable and taking responsibility for operational outcomes which meet the agency's strategic objectives and have responsibility for a range of resources.
- Investigating, assessing, advising and reporting on environmental impacts of complex development proposals and/or planning schemes under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.
- Contributing to the development of the EPA's Strategic Plan and other strategic processes by providing detailed scientific and technical advice.
- Leading projects relating to the provision of scientific advice and technical reports on the development and implementation of policies and strategies
- Representing the Office on external committees including research committees (e.g. ChemCentre, WABSI, MRIWA) and/or intergovernmental committees involved with decision making on state issues.
- Undertaking research on complex scientific issues under limited direction and providing practical solution in a timely manner.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate and exchange detailed scientific information at a high standard and professional level.
- Managing workload, prioritising deadlines and meeting departmental operational requirements.

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- Providing scientific advice to proponents and other government agencies during the environmental assessment of development proposals
- Monitoring and managing individual and project performance to meet deadlines.
- Taking on a mentoring role for staff within the team and actively leading complex projects relating to the development and implementation of policies and strategies.
- Representing the department and providing detailed scientific advice in a manner which is understandable to representatives of parliament and the general public.
- Working with limited direction and using sound independent judgement.
- Undertakes additional duties as required within the skills and scope of the position capabilities and departmental needs.

Our people, our leaders, our values

At DWER, every employee is a leader. To support this, we have established clear [Leadership Expectations](#). For this role, you will be a [Personal 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 context of the above contents.

1. You have a Bachelor of Science degree or an approved equivalent determined in accordance with Clause 12 of the Public Service Award 1992.
2. You have demonstrated technical and scientific skills, knowledge and experience associated with the science of Environmental Impact Assessment and the application of this science to the assessment of development proposals. (You think through complexity).
3. You have well-developed ability to undertake and lead environmental impact pre and post assessments of complex development proposals and/or planning schemes and ensure the timeliness and quality of assessments. (You deliver on high leverage areas).
4. You have demonstrated experience critically reviewing scientific studies and documents, synthesising large amounts of information and recommending solutions to boards or committees. (You think through complexity).
5. You have well-developed interpersonal and leadership skills including the ability to mentor, successfully manage conflict, liaise and negotiate effectively with technical experts and senior officers in both the private and public sectors including a proven capacity to broker appropriate and sustainable outcomes. (You empower lead collectively).

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6. You have highly developed written and oral communication skills including the ability to relate and communicate with a diverse range of stakeholders and produce a number of publicly available documents in a timely manner. (You dynamically sense the environment).

Special requirements

- The department will conduct a national police check before offering employment.
- This position requires the ability for independent travel.