

NELR introduces International update

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the first edition of the Review for 2002.

You will notice the addition of an **International Updates** section at the front of the Updates. From now on the Review will include information on recent developments in relation to environmental matters on the international level.

The State editors and I agree that many principles of environmental law and domestic policy development, are closely linked to international law and hence an International section is warranted. In addition, there are many developments at the international level which have become part of everyday life. For example, terms such as climate change and sustainable development reinforce the fact that environmental issues are global issues and hence the cooperation of all humankind is required to address them.

In the international section for this edition we report on the United State's plan for climate change and the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in August/September this year in Johannesburg, South Africa. *See page 6 for details.*

The two articles included in this edition focus on the review of planning and environmental matters. The Western Australian planing appeals system is under the spotlight in an article by James Fletcher. Professor Patricia Ryan's article evaluates the effectiveness of the NSW Land and Environment Court.

Finally, we are currently looking for a new editor for Victoria. If there are any interested members, please contact me for details on what is involved.

We welcome feedback from members and look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Baird', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rachel Baird
National Editor

NELR Editors

NATIONAL EDITOR: Rachel Baird

*Sessional lecturer and PhD candidate,
The University of Melbourne*

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Rachel Baird has been a member of NELA since 1996 (in Qld, the ACT and now Victoria!) and has been involved with the Victorian State Executive since late 1999. She became the National Editor in late 2000.

She holds degrees in Arts and Law from Queensland University and a Masters of Law (Environment) from QUT. She has an interest in the law of the sea, in particular the prevention of marine pollution and natural resource management.

Rachel has worked in both government and private practice. In her past life she was a military legal officer and has worked at some stage in nearly every state and territory in Australia.

Rachel is currently lecturing in environmental law at the University of Melbourne and conducting research on the management of Australia's remote fisheries.

NEW SOUTH WALES EDITOR: Dr Nicholas Brunton

Partner, Henry Davis York

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Nicholas Brunton has been a member of NELA and state editor since 1992.

He has degrees in Law and Geography from Macquarie University and received a PhD from the University of Sydney in 1998. His thesis examined the law and policy relating to coastal water pollution in Australia.

Nicholas currently practices in the areas of planning, environment, valuation, property and commercial law. He is also kept busy providing guest lectures at both Sydney and Macquarie Universities.

QUEENSLAND EDITOR: Leanne Bowie

Head of the Environmental Law Practice, Minter Ellison

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Leanne Bowie has been the Queensland editor for four years.

Leanne holds degrees in Arts and Law (Honours) from the University of Queensland. She has specialised in environmental and planning law, working for both the private sector (heavy industrial, mining and general commercial) and state and local government.

She is also a member of the Queensland Law Society's planning and environment committee and the Queensland Mining Council's environment committee.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN EDITOR: Tiana Nairn

*Senior Policy Officer,
Department for Environment and Heritage (South Australia)*

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Tiana Nairn has been involved with NELA since 1996 and is the Secretary of the South Australian Division. She is currently a Senior Policy Officer in the Environment Legislation Branch of the Department for Environment and Heritage. Tiana has worked previously as an Associate with Jamie Botten & Associates, a specialist environment and planning firm in Adelaide, and as a Senior Environmental Officer at the South Australian Department for Transport, Urban Planning and the Arts.

Tiana holds degrees in Law (Hons) and Science (Jurisprudence) from the University of Adelaide. Her honours thesis examined how ecologically sustainable development is being promoted within South Australia's planning and development control system.

TASMANIAN EDITOR: Frances Scherrer

PhD Candidate, The University of Tasmania

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Frances Scherrer has recently become the Tasmanian state editor. Frances holds degrees in Law and Science (Chemistry) from the University of Tasmania, and a Master of Environmental Laws from the University of Sydney.

Frances has worked in private practice in the areas of environment, planning and local government law. She has lectured in environmental law at the University of Western Sydney and undertaken lobbying work in Canberra for the Australian Conservation Foundation on trade and environment issues. Frances is currently undertaking research into trade and environment issues and participates in the public law teaching program at the University of Tasmania.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN EDITOR: Aidan Kelly

Solicitor, Freehills

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Aidan Kelly has been a member of NELA since 1994 and he has recently become the West Australian state editor. Aidan holds degrees in Science and Law, both from Murdoch University. Whilst completing his Law degree, Aidan was an editor of Murdoch University's electronic law journal (E-Law).

He has worked for both government and private practice. Previous experience includes employment as an environmental assessment and policy officer for the Northern Territory Government (Department of Planning and Environment) and a senior policy officer with the West Australian Government (Department of Resources Development) in the area of environmental policy and legislation. He currently practices in the area of resources and environmental law with Freehill's Property and Environment section in Perth.

NATIONAL, COMMONWEALTH & ACT EDITOR: John Ashe

Environmental Consultant

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John Ashe has been involved with NELA since 1993 and is currently the Treasurer of the ACT Division. John holds degrees in Economics and Business Administration and a Master of Environmental Law from the Australian National University.

He worked previously as an Assistant Secretary in the Environmental Assessment Branch of Environment Australia. He has been involved in environmental impact assessment and policy and legislative reviews.

written contributions and letters to the Editor

Written contributions to the *National Environmental Law Review*, by way of case note, book review or article are welcomed by the editorial board.

Please send contributions to you state editor in the first instance. They will review contributions and forward them to the national editor. State editorial contact details are on the preceeding pages.

We hope that the NELA website will be up and running later this year. Detailed information on the form and content of the submissions will then be available online. In the interim please refer to the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (Melbourne University Law Review Association Inc 1998) as an illustrative style guide. As a general guide, articles should be between 3,000-5,000 words. Articles are expected to conform to standard conventions of legal writing.

Please note that due to changes in the NELR design and production process, footnotes are required to be presented as endnotes. This will assist layout of the Review and minimise the margin of error when articles are imported into the design software.

Acceptance of written work in the NELR does not in any way indicate an adoption by NELA of the opinions expressed by authors. Authors remain responsible for their opinions, and any defamatory or litigious material and the Editor accepts no responsibility for such material.

Letters to the Editor are also welcomed. Please forward these to:

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