



# DEPARTMENT OF **ENVIRONMENT REGULATION** STRATEGIC OUTLINE 2014–15



Photo: Iron ore ship loading facilities at Port Hedland.

I am pleased to endorse this second Strategic Outline for 2014–15, which will provide a framework to further improve environmental regulation in Western Australia, so that we may continue to support our state to grow and prosper.

The Department's sharpened focus on its regulatory role will better enable the State Government to achieve its vision of thriving economic and social development and a healthy environment.

Hon Albert Jacob, MLA  
**Minister for Environment, Heritage**





# ENVIRONMENT REGULATION IN A CHANGING **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

The Department of Environment Regulation's Strategic Outline 2014–15 has been developed in consultation with departmental staff and stakeholders to clearly articulate the strategic priorities for our second year of operation.

On 1 May 2014, the Department's Corporate Executive implemented the new agency structure to ensure we are established in a way that is aligned with government priorities and direction and enables us to focus on core business requirements. The new structure will also allow us to:

- deliver regionally through functional areas rather than geographical locations;
- group the key regulatory functions by aligning approvals and licensing and compliance and enforcement;
- support approvals and licensing with key technical services in air, noise and contaminated sites;
- complement compliance and enforcement with pollution response and legal capability;
- consolidate policy and programs across all subject areas; and
- centralise corporate services.

In 2014–15 this new structure will provide the platform for the delivery of our key strategic objectives including:

- enhanced governance arrangements;
- regulatory and business improvement programs;
- development of policy and guidance material for industry regulation, works approvals and licences; and
- development of an agency specific capability framework and performance improvement program.

We will continue to work in partnership with stakeholders to deliver this plan and ensure that State Government priorities are transformed into outcomes.



**Jason Banks**  
Acting Director General  
Department of **Environment Regulation**



Photos: Top – Officer sampling pollutants from waterway.  
Above – Evidence taken by officer.

# ENVIRONMENT REGULATION IN A CHANGING **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

## OUR **PURPOSE**

To advise on and implement strategies for a healthy environment, for all Western Australians.

## OUR **FUNCTIONS**

To efficiently, effectively and objectively deliver:

### **SERVICE 1**

Environmental Regulation – by performing environmental regulation functions of approvals, compliance and enforcement.

### **SERVICE 2**

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change – by advising on and implementing the State Government's environmental policies and programs.

## FUTURE **DIRECTIONS**

Over the longer term, DER will revise its service structure to a proposed three-service model for 2015–16:

### **SERVICE 1**

Environmental Regulation – regulating through approvals, compliance and enforcement.

### **SERVICE 2**

Environmental Policy – advising on and implementing State Government environmental policies and programs, including response to climate change.

### **SERVICE 3**

Waste Policy and Programs – facilitating enhanced and coordinated waste management.



Photo: Moolart Well, Goldfields.

# OUR CORPORATE STRUCTURE

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT REGULATION AS AT 1 MAY 2014

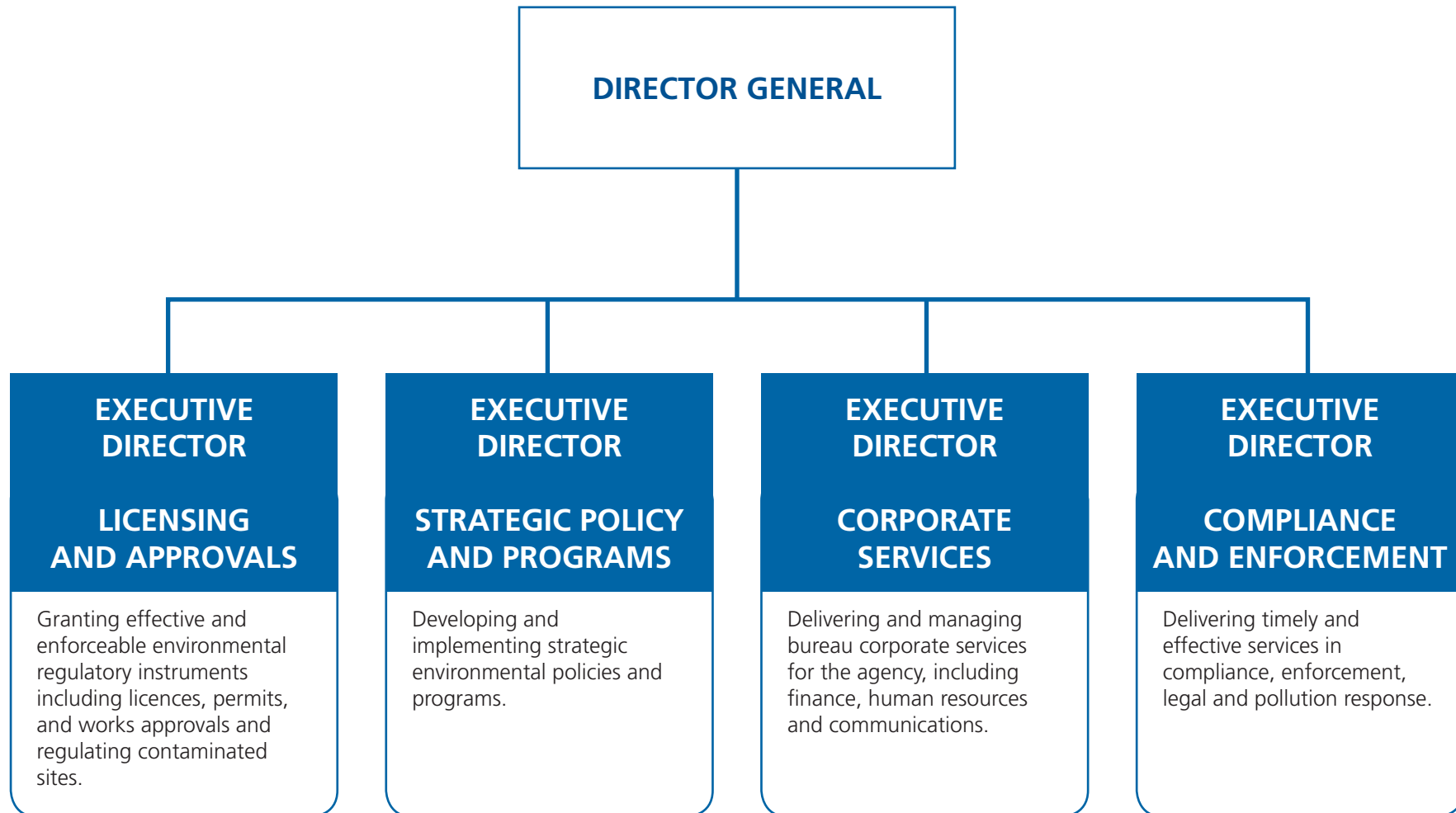






Photo: A farm and native vegetation in Koorda area.

## OUR **FOCUS**

**PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH**

**MINIMISING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

**IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

**MAXIMISING AGENCY PERFORMANCE**

## OUR **VALUES**

**RESPONSIVE**

**ENABLING**

**FOCUSED**

**INNOVATIVE**

**RESPONSIBLE**

**EFFECTIVE**

# HOW WE DO BUSINESS

FOCUS	PRIORITIES	STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE/DELIVERABLES
Protecting public health	1. Regulatory performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Maintain performance against target approval time frames.</li> <li>ii. Undertake risk-based monitoring and compliance program.</li> <li>iii. Initiate enforcement action when appropriate.</li> <li>iv. Respond to hazardous pollution events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Deliver quarterly reporting on regulatory performance.</li> <li>ii. Complete the 2014–15 compliance program.</li> <li>iii. Deliver quarterly reporting on enforcement activity.</li> <li>iv. Provide timely response to incidents and reduce potential impacts on public health and the environment.</li> </ul>
Minimising environmental impact	2. Regulatory reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Progress REFIRE reforms for industry regulation.</li> <li>ii. Implement outcomes from Ministerial Taskforce on Approvals, Development and Sustainability (MTADS).</li> <li>iii. Introduce legislative and administrative changes to enhance regulatory regimes.</li> <li>iv. Develop and implement bilateral agreements for clearing permits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Convert 60 per cent of licences to REFIRE format by 2015–16.</li> <li>ii. As determined by MTADS.</li> <li>iii. Introduce endorsed changes within agreed timeframes.</li> <li>iv. Introduce simple assessment and approval for State and Commonwealth processes related to clearing of native vegetation.</li> </ul>
Implementing environmental policy	3. Waste reform	Implement reforms arising from the review of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> .	Introduce reforms within agreed timeframes.
Implementing environmental policy	4. Ministerial services	Provide quality, timely and strategic advice and services to the Minister for Environment.	Deliver within agreed timeframes to Minister's satisfaction.
Maximising agency performance	5. Development, training and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Further establish DER as a center of excellence for regulatory training.</li> <li>ii. Establish a DER-specific capability framework to support the structural realignment of the agency.</li> <li>iii. Establish a cultural leadership group.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Establish a government sector-wide environmental regulatory training program and common use resources by 2015–16.</li> <li>ii. Develop integrated capability framework and supporting resources by 2015–16.</li> <li>iii. Demonstrate performance against baseline cultural survey.</li> </ul>



# OUR **REGULATORY** PROCESS

## APPROVAL

ASSESSING  
NEGOTIATING  
GRANTING



## COMPLIANCE

MONITORING  
AUDITING  
INSPECTING



## ENFORCEMENT

RESPONDING TO INCIDENTS  
INVESTIGATING  
SANCTIONING



# OUR **POLICY** PROCESS

## BUILDING EVIDENCE

INQUIRING  
COMPARING  
ANALYSING



## DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

DRAFTING  
CONSULTING



## REVIEW AND EVALUATION

MEASURING OUTCOMES  
ASSESSING EFFECTIVENESS  
AMENDING



# OUR **REGULATORY** STREAMS

## INDUSTRY REGULATION

WORKS APPROVALS



## CONTROLLED WASTE

TRACKING



## CONTAMINATED SITES

CLASSIFICATIONS



## INDUSTRY REGULATION

LICENCES



## NOISE REGULATION

EXEMPTIONS



## CLEARING REGULATION

PERMITS





# OUR LOCATIONS

## Department of Environment Regulation

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