



Protect tomorrow  
**together**

NSW





## Acknowledgement of Country

The NSW Environment Protection Authority acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, honours the ancestors and the Elders both past and present and extends that respect to all Aboriginal people.

We recognise Aboriginal peoples' spiritual and cultural connection and inherent right to protect the land, waters, skies and natural resources of NSW. This connection goes deep and has since the Dreaming.

We also acknowledge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees who are an integral part of our diverse workforce, and recognise the knowledge and wisdom embedded forever in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander custodianship of Country and culture.



## Protecting tomorrow together

As the environmental steward and regulator of our State, we are committed to a sustainable future.

We partner with Aboriginal people, industry, business and the wider community to protect, restore and enhance our diverse ecosystems.

We bring scientific expertise and experience to inspire innovative solutions as we transition our State to a circular economy.

As we respond to urgent current issues, including climate change, we educate and support our stakeholders to create an environmentally healthy future.

We are committed to working in partnership with the traditional custodians of our natural environment.

**Join us on our mission to protect tomorrow together.**



Photo: Macquarie Pass National Park, John Spencer/DCCEEW

## We are environmental stewards

Stewardship is at the heart of what we do and guides the decisions we make every day.

As a steward of the environment, we are responsible for protecting, restoring and caring for our unique ecosystems. We are:

- focused on outcomes that lead to healthy communities and a more sustainable environment
- guided by empathy to understand the concerns and perspectives of our stakeholders
- committed to collaboration to overcome environmental challenges together.

We embrace a stewardship mindset in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to care for Country and protect tomorrow together.

# Join us on our mission

The community plays an essential part in preventing environmental harm and protecting human health.

You can help by:

- reporting air, water or noise pollution and other environmental incidents to the 24/7 Environment Line on 131 555
- reporting littering from cars, illegal dumping, and noisy or smoky vehicles through Report to EPA on our website
- participating in the litter reduction and recycling programs Hey Tossler! and Return and Earn
- disposing of your household chemicals safely at a Household Chemical CleanOut. To find a pop-up or permanent centre in your area, contact your local council or go to [epa.nsw.gov.au](http://epa.nsw.gov.au)
- reducing your household food waste by shopping to a list, storing food correctly and using leftovers. Learn other tips and tricks through our Love Food Hate Waste program
- informing decision-makers by taking part in public consultations, public forums or committee meetings
- working with your local council on local environmental issues such as odour or noise complaints, recycling, illegal dumping and waste-management strategies.



Photo: EPA staff at Sandy Beach, Grant Smith/EPA

# Preventing harm

Under the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*, we are responsible for regulating a broad range of activities and their environmental and human health risks, in these areas:

- air
- industrial chemicals
- climate change
- contaminated land
- dangerous goods
- native forestry
- noise
- pesticides
- radiation
- circular economy
- plastics
- water.

# Improving environmental regulation

We regulate activities that could have an impact on the environment or human health and have the authority to issue warnings, impose fines and prosecute organisations and individuals who break NSW environmental laws.

We have worked hard to secure significant changes to environmental protection legislation to give us greater powers to deter environmental crimes.

The introduction of landmark environmental reforms in 2024 gave the NSW EPA increased regulatory powers to take stronger action where needed, including greater penalties, on-the-spot fines and licence bans, as well as the ability to recall contaminated substances and publicly identify those who do the wrong thing.



Photo: EPA staff at Narrabri gas plant, Grant Smith/EPA

## Partnering with industry

We work with businesses to make sure their activities minimise harm to the environment and human health by:

- supporting activities that protect the environment with grants and sponsorships.
- delivering education programs
- responding to and managing pollution incidents
- monitoring emissions and compliance with regulations
- issuing environment protection licences to regulate activities.



We are leading NSW towards a sustainable future where:

- the land is healthy
- the water is clean and the air is clear
- Aboriginal culture, knowledges and voices guide us to protect our diverse ecosystems together
- we contribute our science, regulation and expertise to overcome environmental challenges together.

## Find out more and stay connected

131 555

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