

Independent Review Steering Panel member summaries

Chair

Mark Gifford
EPA Chief Environmental Regulator

Mark Gifford has more than 30 years' experience in management and leadership positions in government. For most of that time he has been working in the areas of regulation and environment protection and conservation. As the NSW EPA's Chief Environmental Regulator, he is responsible for leading the day-to-day regulatory operations of the EPA and ensuring efficient delivery of diverse and complex environmental services. Mr Gifford heads the EPA's Regulatory Services Division that delivers operational environment protection activities, develops operational policy and reform, conducts compliance assurance and environmental audit programs, and manages regulatory administration and systems.

Environment Protection Authority

Greg Sheehy
Manager, Sydney Industry

As Manager, Sydney Industry for the Environment Protection Authority, Greg Sheehy manages a team that regulates a range of industrial, local government and pesticide-related activities across the Sydney Metropolitan Area.

Department of Health

Professor Mark Ferson
Public Health Unit Director, South Eastern Sydney

Professor Mark Ferson, the NSW Health nominee on the panel, is a public health physician and paediatrician as well as Director of the Public Health Unit for South Eastern Sydney Local Health District. Professor Ferson has qualifications in medicine, public health and epidemiology and 25 years' experience as a public health practitioner.

Office of Environment and Heritage (Science Division)

Dr Klaus Koop
Director, Environment Protection Science

Dr Klaus Koop has qualifications in chemistry, physics, botany and zoology and an academic career at universities in South Africa, Sweden and Australia. Dr Koop currently works mainly on issues of marine ecology and the effects of chemicals on marine ecosystems. Since joining the NSW Public Service in 1994, Dr Koop has held a number of senior directorships in the science area of his agency. He is also currently responsible for the analytical and forensic laboratories, which undertake assessments of the toxic effects of chemicals on the environment, analyses of soil constituents and assessments of the risks to human health and the environment from environmental contamination.

City of Botany Bay Council

Steven Poulton
Director, Assets and Environment

Steven Poulton is Director of Assets and Environment at the City of Botany Bay Council, reporting directly to the council's General and Deputy General Managers. His position covers the Regulation and Health, Asset Engineering and Traffic, Workshop, Environmental Science and Customer Service divisions within the council. Mr Poulton has represented Botany Bay Council for the past three years on both the Orica Community Liaison and Community Participation and Review committees.

Randwick City Council

Dr Talebul Islam
Coordinator, Waste Management

Dr Talebul Islam is an Agricultural Engineer with a PhD and MBA and 13 years of research experience, including irrigation and water management and post-doctoral research in the areas of agro-environment and water pollution in Japan and New Zealand. He has also published numerous papers in these areas. For the last 17 years, Dr Islam has worked in local government waste strategy, policy, contracts, landfill and contaminated site management for Hutt City Council in New Zealand and Randwick City Council. He has investigated and remediated landfills and is responsible for developing and implementing waste management strategy and programs.

Independent health expert

Professor Alison Jones
Dean, Graduate School of Medicine
University of Wollongong

Professor Alison Jones has an international reputation in clinical toxicology, including chemical toxicology. She is an expert toxicology adviser to a number of government agencies, including NSW Health. Professor Jones is also called upon to provide expert evidence in legal cases of clinical complexity involving toxins. She is Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine at Wollongong and Deputy Director of the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute. Professor Jones also plays a clinical role as staff specialist in general medicine at Maitland Hospital and clinical toxicology at Blacktown Hospital with an active teaching and research contribution. Professor Jones has maintained a strong grant and publication track record in toxicology and public health research.

Community member

Chantal Snell

Community member

Lynda Newnam