

## Minister Rattenbury: Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate Regular Meeting

MEETING DETAILS			
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 07 September	<b>Time:</b>	1.30pm – 2.30pm
<b>Location:</b>	via Microsoft Teams	<b>Apologies:</b>	

MEETING BUSINESS			
Item	Name	Requested by	Action Officers
1.	Declaration of Interest*	EPSDD	All
2.	Standing Items: 2.1 Weekly Brief, Media Forecast* and FOI Report* 2.2 Action Items/Ministerials in Action 2.3 Cabinet and Assembly Business 2.4 Budget*	Minister's Office EPSDD	Ben Ponton Jim Corrigan Bren Burkevics Fiona Wright Alex Magee
Water			
3.	Non-potable Water Pricing Review*	EPSDD	Ben Ponton Jim Corrigan Bren Burkevics Ryan Breen Stuart Jeffress
4.	National Water Reform Principles Meeting Outcomes	EPSDD	Ben Ponton Jim Corrigan Bren Burkevics
Energy/Emissions Reduction			
5.	Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard – timing and support for landlords*	EPSDD	Ben Ponton Jim Corrigan Fiona Wright Carolyn Goonrey Ros Malouf Alex Magee
6.	EV Charging for New Apartments*	Minister's Office	Ben Ponton

\*Denotes no papers

Proposed Forward Agenda	
Title	Requested by

**Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development  
Directorate**

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**To:** Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions  
Reduction

Tracking No.: 22/00037

**Date:** 6 September 2022

**From:** Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

**Subject:** WEEKLY BRIEF – Commencing 12 September 2022

**Purpose**

To provide you with a summary of the current work from the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) and includes matters scheduled to occur from 12 to 16 September 2022.

**KEY ISSUES**

**Water**

Water Resources Act 2007 (Act) Reforms

EHW has engaged with the Parliamentary Counsel’s Office (PCO) to understand the estimated timeframes to progress the reforms to the Act as agreed by the government. PCO advised that work on drafting a Bill will be able to commence in late 2022 or early 2023. EHW are using the September to November 2022 period to prepare drafting instructions to support this process. Due to the expected low complexity of the Bill, PCO expect that it could be finalised in readiness for Ministerial introduction into the Assembly in the Autumn 2023 sittings (April-May) of the Assembly.

Completion of Aboriginal Waterway Assessments with Ngunnawal community members

The Cultural water interests for Aboriginal Waterway Assessments were conducted on 25 to 26 August 2022 involving 12 Ngunnawal community members. The two-day event included a capability building day led by the Murray-Lower Darling Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN) on the facilitating the Aboriginal Waterway Assessments. The second day involved the Ngunnawal members conducting assessments on the Murrumbidgee River at Uriarra and Point Hut. This is the start of a three-year project. Information collected through waterway assessments is intended to support the integration of Ngunnawal values and uses into water policy and planning.



Out of scope

Out of scope

Out of scope

Meeting Date	Item	Actions	Due date	AO	In progress (date/notes)	Completed (date/notes)
220722	<b>Item 3 - Indigenous water program/ management</b>	Provide Caveat brief to Minister on opportunities for C'wlth Government funding and approach to progress indigenous water program.	ASAP	Ryan Breen/ Bren Burkevics	<b>31/08 update: Brief in progress – expected to EGM September 2022</b>	
220722	<b>Item 4 - Non-potable water Government Response update</b>	Provide brief to Minister on Government Response and timeframe for ERC and public consultation	29/07/22	Ryan Breen/ Bren Burkevics	<b>6/09 update: Draft provided to MO 7/09 Obj Ref: 22/107147</b>	
220729	<b>Item 3 – Embedded Network Ban</b>	Provide brief to Minister on options for embedded networks in the ACT	13/09/22	Geoffrey Rutledge/ Fiona Wright	<b>6/09 update: Extension granted to 13/09 Obj Ref: 22/98475. Work is continuing on developing options. JACS and the ICRC are being consulted with regarding potential consumer affairs issues and price regulation, respectively.</b>	
220811	<b>Item 4 – Fisheries (recreational fishing) Declaration</b>	Brief to be updated to include engagement/communications plan and resubmitted for Minister's approval.	ASAP	Bren Burkevics/ Sally-Anne Clark		<b>Completed Provided to MO 05/09 Obj Ref: 20/91799</b>

220819	<b>Item 2 - Weekly Brief – Review of Large-scale Feed-in Tariff Legislation</b>	Personal information to be provided copy of review Terms of Reference once developed.	December 2022	Fiona Wright	<b>31/08 update:</b> In progress - Scope of the review has been discussed and shared with Evoenergy at the officer level	
220819	<b>Item 2 - Weekly Brief – Travel time to Public EV charging stations</b>	If considered feasible, EPSDD to analyse travel times to ACT petrol stations and generate maps similar to that done for public EV charging stations.	TBA	Fiona Wright		<b>Completed – provided as part of Minister’s Weekly Brief 07/09/22</b>
220819	<b>Item 4 – Battery Storage and Grid Integration Program Funding</b>	Provide brief to Minister on options to fund the Battery Storage and Grid Integration Program.	16/09/22	Fiona Wright	<b>06/09 update:</b> In progress Obj Ref: 22/118029	
220902	<b>Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade</b>	Arrange 4 way briefing between Ministers Rattenbury, Vassarotti, Gentleman and Cheyne	End/09/22	DLO	<b>06/09 update:</b> In progress	

Ministerials in action – Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction (as at 6/09/2022)

Name	Minister	Due to Ministers Office	Status
22/82418 Ministerial Information Brief - Rattenbury - Subsurface Wetland in Belconnen Oval	Minister Shane Rattenbury	26/08/2022	With Directorate
21/86208 Ministerial-Information Brief - Rattenbury - Review of the realignment of Actsmart Business Recycling	Minister Shane Rattenbury	29/08/2022	With Directorate
22/113806 Ministerial-Correspondence - Rattenbury <b>Personal information</b> - EV charging in apartment complexes	Minister Shane Rattenbury	06/09/2022	With Directorate
22/115796 Ministerial-Correspondence - Rattenbury - Chris Bowen MP - Consultation on the CFI Rule	Minister Shane Rattenbury	09/09/2022	With Directorate
22/98475 Ministerial-Information Brief - Rattenbury - Options for Embedded Networks in the ACT	Minister Shane Rattenbury	13/09/2022	With Directorate
DUE - 220913 - 22/120573 - DLO Request - Rattenbury - <b>Personal information</b> - 2023 budget/electric cars	Minister Shane Rattenbury	13/09/2022	With Directorate
22/22318 Ministerial-Arrangements Brief - Rattenbury - EVENT: Climate Choices Business Awards Breakfast - 21 September 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	14/09/2022	With Directorate
22/115318 Ministerial-Information Brief - Rattenbury - Announcement of Minimum Energy Standards for Renters	Minister Shane Rattenbury	15/09/2022	With Directorate
DUE - 220926 - 22/119519 - DLO Request - Rattenbury - MEET WITH CONSTITUENT - CSA - Zero Emissions goals	Minister Shane Rattenbury	26/09/2022	With Directorate
22/100357 Ministerial-Arrangements Brief - Rattenbury - 15th Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW) 2021 - 25 to 28 October 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	18/10/2022	With Directorate
22/32632 Ministerial-Meeting Brief - Rattenbury - ACT Climate Council - 26 October 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	19/10/2022	With Directorate
22/93342 Ministerial-Arrangements Brief - Rattenbury - EVENT: Sustainable Business Expo - 3 November 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	27/10/2022	With Directorate
22/108215 Ministerial-Arrangements Brief - Rattenbury - Climate Choices School Awards 2022 - 8 December 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	01/12/2022	With Directorate
22/32635 Ministerial-Meeting Brief - Rattenbury - ACT Climate Council - 12 December 2022	Minister Shane Rattenbury	05/12/2022	With Directorate

**CABINET AND ASSEMBLY ITEMS**

(As at 1 September 2022)

Title	CABINET DATE	ASSEMBLY DATE	Type	Current Status	DUE TO MO (EXP)	EXP TO CO	DUE TO MO (FINAL)	FINAL to CO
22/546 Cabinet Climate Action Sub-Committee <b>No new gas connections regulation – Proposed approach</b>	27/09/2022		Discussion Paper	FIN with MO	-	-	5/09/2022	19/09/2022
22/442 Cabinet <b>COSPONSORED: State of the Lakes and Waterways in the ACT - Government Response</b> ERC: 3 November 2022 Cabinet: 21 November 2022	3/11/2022	29 November - 01 December	Submission	EXP with AO	05/09/2022	19/09/2022	12/10/2022	26/10/2022
22/440 Cabinet <b>Government Response to Non-Potable Water Review</b> ERC: 3 November 2022 Cabinet: 28 November 2022	3/11/2022	-	Submission	EXP with AO	5/09/2022	19/09/2022	12/10/2022	26/10/2022
22/XXX Cabinet <b>The ACT's Greenhouse Gas Inventory</b>	21/11/2022	29 November - 01 December	ABP	CNRF with GS	-	-	28/10/2022	11/11/2022
2021-22 Ministers Annual Report under the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2020		29 November - 01 December	Paper for Tabling Only (Annual)					
ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group Annual Report 2021-22		20 - 22 September	Paper for Tabling Only (Annual)					

**QON/QTONS IN ACTION**

No.	Member	Topic	Due to Assembly/Committee	Current status
303	Clay	Water Abstraction Charges	13/09/22	With AO

**CABINET SUBMISSIONS ON CIRCULATION AS AT 6 SEPTEMBER 2022**

Cabinet Date	Cabinet No.	Title	Cabinet Priority	Paper Type	Meeting Type	Minister	Current Action	Directorate
07/09/2022	CAB2022/544	ACT Policing update	Category 3	Submission	Security & Emergency Management Committee	Minister for Police & Emergency Services	Review final submission	JACS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/560	Drugs of Dependence (Personal Use) Amendment Bill 2021 – response to petition	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Cabinet	Minister for Health	Review final submission	HEALTH
12/09/2022	CAB2022/561	Biosecurity – Ministerial Statement	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Cabinet	Minister for the Environment	Review final submission	EPSDD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/564	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Release of the joint Teacher Shortage Taskforce Report – Ministerial Statement	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Education & Youth Affairs	Review final submission	EDU
12/09/2022	CAB2022/510	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] ACT Social Recovery Plan - Ministerial Statement	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Out of Session Committee	Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services	Review final submission	CSD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/515	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Growing and Renewing Program Update - Ministerial Statement	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Housing & Suburban Development	Review final submission	CSD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/492	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] ACT Government submission to the Productivity Commission Review of the National School Reform Agreement	Category 3	Submission	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Education & Youth Affairs	Review final submission	EDU
12/09/2022	CAB2022/497	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Tree Advisory Panel Appointments 2022	Category 3	Appointment	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Transport & City Services	Review final submission	TCCS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/121	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Disability Justice Strategy 3rd Annual Report	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Disability	Review final submission	CSD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/128	Transport Canberra and City Services Legislation Amendment Bill (Agreement to Introduce)	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Cabinet	Minister for Transport & City Services	Review final submission	TCCS
12/09/2022	CAB2021/832	ACT Policing Purchase Agreement 2022	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Police & Emergency Services	Review final submission	JACS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/240	(ERC 08-09-22) ACT Mental Health Workforce Strategy	Category 1	Submission	Expenditure Review Committee	Minister for Mental Health	Review final submission	HEALTH
12/09/2022	CAB2022/274	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Victims Advisory Board Members Appointments	Category 3	Appointment	Out of Session Committee	Minister for Human Rights	Review final submission	JACS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/339	Planning Bill 2022 – Agreement to Introduce	Category 1	Assembly Business Paper	Cabinet	Minister for Planning & Land Management	Review final submission	EPSDD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/385	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Threatened Species Day - 7 September 2022 - Ministerial Statement	Category 2	Assembly Business Paper	Out of Session Committee	Minister for the Environment	Review final submission	EPSDD

12/09/2022	CAB2022/387	(COMEBACK) Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Appointments 2022	Category 3	Appointment	Cabinet	Minister for Transport & City Services	Review final submission	TCCS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/443	[OOS Meeting 9-12 Sep 2022] Lifetime Care and Support (LTCS) Commissioner of the Australian Capital Territory	Category 3	Appointment	Out of Session Committee	Special Minister of State	Review final submission	CMTEDD
12/09/2022	CAB2022/468	Report No. 8 of the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety - Inquiry into Terrorism (Extraordinary Temporary Powers) Amendment Bill 2022 - Government response	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Attorney-General	Review final submission	JACS
12/09/2022	CAB2022/596	Australia Day Event	Category 3	Discussion Paper	Human Services Subcommittee	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	Review final submission	CMTEDD
16/09/2022	CAB2022/464	(RESTRICTED) COVID-19 Response Expenditure Report – 2021 22 Full Year	Category 3	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Health	Provide exposure comments	HEALTH
16/09/2022	CAB2021/838	Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 – Policy approval	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Attorney-General	Provide exposure comments	JACS
16/09/2022	CAB2022/521	(ERC 08-09-22) Health Workforce Wellbeing and Recovery Business Case	Category 1	Submission	Expenditure Review Committee	Minister for Health	Review final submission	HEALTH
16/09/2022	CAB2022/516	Appointment to the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS)	Category 3	Appointment	Cabinet	Minister for Education & Youth Affairs	Review final submission	EDU
16/09/2022	CAB2022/548	Government submission to Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity - Inquiry into the waste management of absorbent hygiene products	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Transport & City Services	Provide exposure comments	TCCS
28/09/2022	CAB2022/519	(ERC 15-09-22) Zero Emission Transition Program - Outside the Fence Works (electrical supply)	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Transport & City Services	Provide exposure comments	TCCS
28/09/2022	CAB2022/498	(ERC 15-09-22) NPA extension to the National Partnership on COVID-19 Response	Category 2	Submission	Expenditure Review Committee	Minister for Health	Review final submission	HEALTH
28/09/2022	CAB2022/32	Gaming Machine (Smoke and Heat Refuges) Amendment Bill 2022 – Policy Approval	Category 1	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Gaming	Provide exposure comments	JACS
28/09/2022	CAB2022/180	Our Booris Our Way Oversight Committee – Appointments and Governance Arrangements	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs	Provide exposure comments	CSD
28/09/2022	CAB2022/223	Endorsement of the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for the Prevention of Domestic & Family Violence	Provide exposure comments	CSD
28/09/2022	CAB2022/480	Report No. 7 of the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety – Inquiry into the Petition 32/21 (No Rights Without Remedy) - Government response	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Human Rights	Provide exposure comments	JACS
28/09/2022	CAB2022/439	(ERC 15-09-22) CO-SPONSORED Direct Sale of Blocks 2 and 3 Section 20 City to the Australian National University (ANU).	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Chief Minister	Provide exposure comments	EPSDD
28/09/2022	CAB2021/352	(ERC 15-09-22) West Belconnen (Ginninderry) Joint Venture – Stormwater Harvesting Project	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Housing & Suburban Development	Provide exposure comments	EPSDD
29/09/2022	CAB2022/296	Report No (4) to 2021-22 Budget Initiative – Growing and Renewing Public Housing - Securing high quality public housing	Category 3	Discussion Paper	Expenditure Review Committee	Minister for Housing & Suburban Development	Review final submission	CSD
05/10/2022	CAB2022/534	(ERC 29-09-22) Residential Eating Disorders Treatment Centre – land custodianship request	Category 1	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Mental Health	Provide exposure comments	HEALTH
05/10/2022	CAB2022/573	COVID-19 Rapid antigen tests in ACT Education settings for term 4, 2022 and term 1, 2023	Category 1	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Education & Youth Affairs	Provide exposure comments	EDU

10/10/2022	CAB2022/559	(ERC 29-09-22) Household Waste Collection – FOGO pilot report and special consideration process	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Transport & City Services	Provide exposure comments	TCCS
10/10/2022	CAB2022/547	(ERC 29-09-22) Variation to Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – National Heavy Vehicle Regulator	Category 2	Submission	Cabinet	Minister for Business & Better Regulation	Provide exposure comments	CMTEDD



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## Executive Briefing with Minister Agenda Paper

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**Meeting date:** 07/09/2022  
**Agenda item:** National Water Reform Principals Committee

### Background

- On 6 September 2022, the National Water Reform Principals Committee met to discuss the Australian Government's agenda for revising the National Water Initiative (NWI) and establishing a new National Water Commission (NWC).
  - The ACT was represented by the A/g EGM Environment Heritage and Water on behalf of the A/g Deputy-Director General, Environment, Water and Emissions Reduction.
- Establishment of a new NWC to drive the refresh and implementation of national water reforms was an election commitment of the new Australian Government.
- In 2019, the previous Australian Government wrote to the ACT Government (Minister Gentleman) to initiate a review of the NWI. Work to progress this refresh stalled in 2021.
- The NWI was agreed by governments in 2004 with its implementation subject to periodic reviews.
  - The Productivity Commission published its review of the NWI implementation in 2021. The review highlighted priority areas for further reform including, but not limited to: advancing Aboriginal water interests, urban water security, stormwater management and integrated water planning, and incorporating climate change into water planning.
- The previous NWC was established in 2004 and abolished in 2014.

### Issues

- The meeting of the NWRC on 6 September aimed to reinitiate discussion with jurisdictions to:
  - Establish the governance arrangement for the NWI refresh
  - Discuss the scope and format of a refreshed NWI
  - Discuss the scope and function of a new NWC
  - Establish the mandate for three (of seven) sub-committees over the forward two years to progress reforms – Committee on Aboriginal Water Interests, Water Quality Policy Sub-committee and National Hydrological Modelling Steering Committee.
- Priority objectives discussed by the NWRC for focus under the NWI refresh include: water security planning and management to account for climate impacts; advancing



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## Executive Briefing with Minister Agenda Paper

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aboriginal water interests; servicing the water needs of remote and regional communities; supporting environmental values; and water policy (e.g. water market reforms).

- The timeframe for the NWI refresh is ambitious, with a planned completion by end of 2023.
  - Ensuring Aboriginal perspectives are incorporated throughout the NWI may result in the timeframe to be revised.
  - This short-term program of work and the resultant NWI is likely to have financial and policy implications for the ACT that will need to be managed through active engagement of officials over the next 12 months.
- The Australian Government is expected to correspond with Water Ministers over the coming months to seek support for the national water reform agenda. A meeting of water ministers to discuss the scope of the water policy reforms is proposed for end of the 2022 calendar year.
- The reforms provide opportunities for improving national water governance arrangements, including the revisiting the roles and function of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, the National Water Grid Authority and Australian Government's water policy portfolio, for example.
- The Committee on Aboriginal Water Interests was established in 2021 to facilitate Aboriginal perspectives to be incorporated within national water policy. The Committee is in its early stages of maturation however has potential to support a broader range of national reforms including delivery of the Closing the Gap commitments.
- Alignment of ACT water reforms (through the Office of Water) and the NWI refresh will occur through:
  - ACT Water Strategy review (2023) and implementation
  - Ngunnawal Ngadjung Water Initiative
  - Integrated Water Management Plan – securing the ACT's water future
  - Water Information Hub
  - Water governance reforms.