



Government of South Australia

Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources
Management Board

EYRE PENINSULA NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

9 December 2004 to 30 June 2005

31 October 2005

Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board

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Mr Dennis Mutton
Presiding Member
Natural Resources Management Council
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Dear Mr Mutton

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Management Act 1995* and section 38 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board for the year ended 30 June 2005.

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resource Management Board region was established by proclamation of the Governor on 2 September 2004 with the appointment of Presiding Member on 16 December 2004 under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2004*.

The early life of the board consisted of the Presiding Member being briefed on a number of areas, liaison with regional and state stakeholder groups. Of significance was the support offered by fellow Presiding Members.

In April 2005 Mr Jim Pollock, Mrs Evelyn Poole, Mr Tony Irvine, Mr Hayden Davey, Mrs Sandra McCallum, Mrs Cecilia Woolford, Mr Sean O'Brien and Mr Peter Treloar were appointed to the Board as voting members. This was a significant achievement and informal meetings were undertaken in May 2005 to provide some background for these appointed members.

Five agency representatives were also appointed. These appointments included Mr Glyn Ashman (SA Water), Mr Ross Belcher (DEH), Mr Peter Carr (PIRSA), Mr Peter Creaser (Australian Government), and Mr Bryan Harris (DWLBC). A vacancy still exists for an agency representative from Local Government.

In recent weeks the promotion of Peter Creaser within the Australian Government Department of Environment and Heritage has seen Jeya Jeyasingham replace Mr Creaser. With the retirement of Mr Bryan Harris, Mr Peter Butler has been appointed as an interim DWLBC representative.

I am pleased to see the with the way the board has quickly formed into a cohesive working group with a strategic view of the region with relation to integrated natural resource management. I look forward to the continuing development of the Board and of regional structures to support the Board and to provide our links with the community.

I pay tribute to the work of Hilton Trigg as the Regional Transitional Officer in the early days and to Kate Clarke (Executive Support) and Kate Hanslow (Administrative and Financial support) during the initial setup phase of the Board.

We are now established and eagerly focusing on the huge task ahead as we move through the transition phase to accepting increasing day to day responsibility for Natural Resource Management on Eyre Peninsula.

I along with other Board members are reminded of the enormity the Board faces in ensuring the structures, processes and programs are in place to advance integrated natural resources management of the Eyre Peninsula.

I recommend the work of the Board and the Annual Report to you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Foster', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'B' and a long, sweeping tail.

Brian Foster
Presiding Member
Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board

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INTRODUCTION

This report is for the financial year 2004-05, and is presented to fulfil the requirements of section 38 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*.

OBJECT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT

The objects of this Act include to assist in the achievement of ecologically sustainable development in the State by establishing an integrated scheme to promote the use and management of natural resources in a manner that—

- (a) recognises and protects the intrinsic values of natural resources; and
- (b) seeks to protect biological diversity and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, to support and encourage the restoration or rehabilitation of ecological systems and processes that have been lost or degraded; and
- (c) provides for the protection and management of catchments and the sustainable use of land and water resources and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, seeks to enhance and restore or rehabilitate land and water resources that have been degraded; and
- (d) seeks to support sustainable primary and other economic production systems with particular reference to the value of agriculture and mining activities to the economy of the State; and
- (e) provides for the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of animals and plants that may have an adverse effect on the environment, primary production or the community; and
- (f) promotes educational initiatives and provides support mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to be involved in the management of natural resources.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACT

The Act is under the control of the Minister administering the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*.

FUNCTIONS OF THE EYRE PENINSULA NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD

Section 29 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board.

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM board are—
 - (a) to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region; and
 - (b)
 - (i) to prepare a regional NRM plan in accordance with this Act; and
 - (ii) to implement that plan; and
 - (iii) to keep the plan under review to ensure that the objects of this Act are being achieved; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management, and to provide mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programs or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources; and
 - (d) to provide advice with respect to the assessment of various activities or proposals referred to the board under this or any other Act; and
 - (e) to resolve any issues that may arise between any NRM groups that are relevant to the management of natural resources within its region; and
 - (f) at the request of the Minister or the NRM Council, or on its own initiative, to provide advice on any matter relevant to the condition of natural resources within its region, or on the management of those resources, to conduct any inquiry or audit, or to provide any other advice or report that may be appropriate in the circumstances; and
 - (g) such other functions assigned to the board by the Minister or by or under this or any other Act.
- (2) To avoid doubt, a regional NRM board may act with respect to a particular matter despite the fact that the matter may not fall within the scope of its regional NRM plan.
- (3) However, if a regional NRM board acts with respect to a particular matter in the circumstances described in subsection (2), the board must furnish a report on the matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament (unless the matter is not, in the opinion of the board, significant).
- (4) In performing its functions, a regional NRM board should (as far as is reasonably practicable) seek to work collaboratively with—
 - (a) the other regional NRM boards whose regions adjoin the region of the board; and

- (b) other State agencies, agencies of the Commonwealth, and agencies of the other States and Territories, that have functions that are relevant to those of the board; and
 - (c) NRM groups with areas that fall (wholly or partially) within the region of the board; and
 - (d) the constituent councils for the region, and other councils as may be relevant; and
 - (e) relevant industry, environment and community groups and organisations; and
 - (f) persons who own or occupy land within the region of the board (insofar as may be relevant).
- (5) A regional NRM board will, with respect to the performance of its functions, report to the Minister.
- (6) If the Minister assigns a function to a regional NRM board under subsection (1)—
- (a) the Minister must furnish a report on the matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament; and
 - (b) the regional NRM board must cause a statement of the fact of the assignment to be published in its next annual report.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 25 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board.

The Board comprises 9 members, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister.

Each of the appointed members of the Board is a person who, in the opinion of the Minister, meets the standards stipulated by section 25 (4) of the Natural Resources Management Act for the appointment of members.

Presiding Member

Brian James Foster was appointed as Presiding Member on 16 December 2004 by the Governor for a 3 year term expiring on 15 December 2007

Members

The following members have been appointed for a 2 year term commencing on the 14 April 2005 and expiring on the 13 April 2007.

- Anthony John Irvine
- James Nelson Pollock
- Sean Gregory O'Brien
- Hadyn John Davey

The following members have been appointed for a 3 year term commencing on the 14 April and expiring on the 13 April 2008.

- Evelyn Grace Poole
- Sandra Judith McCallum
- Peter Andrew Treloar
- Cecilia Woolford

In addition to the appointment of community representatives the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board has provision for 6 Agency representatives. These are

- Glyn Ashman, SA Water
- Ross Belcher, Department of Environment and Heritage
- Peter Carr, Primary Industries and Resources South Australia
- Peter Creaser, Australian Government
- Bryan Harris, Department of Water Land and Biodiversity Conservation

An agency representative from Local Government is yet to be appointed.

Meetings

One meeting was held during the course of 2004-05.

Member	Number of meetings attended	Number of meetings not attended	Reason for non attendance
Brian Foster	1		
Anthony Irvine	1		
James Pollock	1		
Sean O'Brien	1		
Hadyn Davey	1		
Evelyn Poole	1		
Sandra McCallum	1		
Peter Treloar	1		
Cecilia Woolford	1		
Peter Creaser		1	Work commitments
Peter Carr	1		
Glyn Ashman	1		
Bryan Harris	1		
Ross Belcher	1		

ACHIEVEMENTS 2004-05

Activities during the 2004-05 period have largely focused on the establishment of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board and establishing the appropriate Board processes.

The Board was supported by the Regional Transition Officer, Hilton Trigg in the initial stages. This arrangement provided general administrative support to the Presiding Member and Board until an arrangement with the Department for Water Land and Biodiversity Conservation for Executive Support through a Service Level Agreement with the Eyre Peninsula Catchment Water Management Board. A number of key initiatives were undertaken and these included providing opportunities for the Board to meet regionally and establish a sound understanding of the complexity of the region in relation to the diversity and range of issues that the Board is to manage. The range of issues that the Board identified included

- The diversity and complexity of the region
- The geographical size of the region and associated management issues
- Australian Government Funding for 2005-06 through the Natural Heritage Trust Investment Strategy
- Establishment of a new organisation

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTED BY BOARD

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board did not grant any financial assistance as per Section 42 of NRM Act during the course of 2004-05.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ANNUAL REPORT

Section 38 of the Natural Resources Management Act requires that the Minister must cause a report to be prepared annually setting out the following information:

- (1) A regional NRM board must, on or before 31 October in every year, provide to the NRM Council a report on its activities for the financial year ending on the preceding 30 June (and need not provide a report under section 6A of the *Public Sector Management Act 1995*).
- (2) The report must—
 - (a) include an assessment of the extent to which the regional NRM board has succeeded in implementing its regional NRM plan; and
 - (b) include the audited accounts and financial statements of the regional NRM board; and
 - (c) be accompanied by the annual reports of the NRM groups within its region; and
 - (d) include other information required by or under this Act or the regulations.

HUMAN RESOURCE MATTERS

HUMAN RESOURCES

Members of the Board received the following remuneration:

- Presiding Member: \$190 per four-hour session. The Presiding Member also receives an annual allowance/retainer as part of the remuneration package.
- Member: \$160 per four-hour session.

Expenses are paid in accordance with the Premier and Cabinet circular 16.

Employees of the Board:

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board employed no staff during the course of 2004-05.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

The gender balance of the Board is always taken into consideration when voting members are appointed. Within the reporting period, the Board consisted of 6 male and 3 female members.

The members of the Board are aware of and abide by their obligations under the State *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE BOARD

Financial Activities for the Board were undertaken by DWLBC and as such reported in the DWLBC Annual report.

FRAUD

DETECTION OF FRAUD

It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Board.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND INJURY MANAGEMENT

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

There were no notifiable occurrences pursuant to OHS&W Regulations 6.6

CONSULTANTS

USE OF CONSULTANTS

The Board did not engage any consultants in the reporting period.

OTHER MATTERS

STAFFING

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board did not employ any staff during the course of 2004-05. Administrative assistance was provided by the Regional Transition Officer funded through DWLBC and then Executive Support provided by the Eyre Peninsula Catchment Water Management Board through a Service Level Agreement with DWLBC from April to June 2005.

FINANCE

The costs associated with the administration of the Board are met from within the existing resources of DWLBC. Members are paid sitting fees in accordance with the determination from the Commissioner for Public Employment. Financial details are included in the audited financial statements.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

It is declared that no member of the Board travelled overseas on the business of the Board during the reporting period.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN REPORTS

The Board did not own or lease buildings or vehicles during the reporting period and therefore there are no energy efficiency issues to report.

ENTITIES OF THE BOARD

No regional Groups or Committee were in place during the reporting period.

ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD

Due to the Board being in the early start up phase it has no further structure at this point.

URBAN DESIGN CHARTER

The Board has undertaken no activities relevant to the implementation of the Urban Design Charter.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

The Board does not own any buildings and therefore does not have an asbestos risk reduction program.

CONTRACTURAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Board did not enter any contractual arrangements exceeding \$4 million in value during the reporting period.

ACCOUNT PAYMENT PERFORMANCE

DWLBC provides administrative resources for processing account payments for the Board. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DWLBC Annual Report 2004-05.

DISABILITY ACTION PLANS

The members of the Board are aware of and abide by their obligations under the Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the State *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The Board acknowledges the land on which it meets is the traditional lands for a number of Indigenous communities including the Barngala, Naou, Wirrangu and West Coast communities and that it respects their traditional relationship with their land.

In fulfilling its functions, the Board is cognisant of the cultural and natural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve positive outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

No requests for information have been made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*
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REGIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

No Regional Impact Assessment Statements were undertaken by the Board in 2004-05.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board appreciates the support and encouragement it has received over the past year from the Minister for Environment and Conservation, Hon John Hill MP, and staff from the Department of Water, Land & Biodiversity Conservation.



**Auditor-General's
Department**

9th Floor State Administration Centre,
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Adelaide
South Australia 5000

Ref: A05/364

6 January 2006

Mr B Foster
Presiding Member
Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board
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Dear Mr Foster,

2004-05 Audit

The audit of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board (the Board) for the year ended 30 June 2005 has been completed. The scope of the audit covered major accounting functions associated with the Board including the test verification of financial transactions processed and recorded during the year. The results of the audit were generally satisfactory.

Please find returned herewith the financial statements of the Board for the year ended 30 June 2005, together with my unqualified Independent Audit Report.

Yours sincerely

K I MacPherson
AUDITOR-GENERAL



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO THE PRESIDING MEMBER EYRE PENINSULA NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD

SCOPE

In accordance with the provisions of section 33 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 37 (2) of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have audited the financial report of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2005. The financial report comprises:

- Statement of Financial Performance;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- A Statement of Cash Flows;
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements;
- Certificate by the Presiding Member of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board and the Chief Finance Officer of the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation.

The Members of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board are responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the Presiding Member.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement.

Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements in Australia, the financial position of the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board as at 30 June 2005, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

6 January 2006

K I MacPHERSON
AUDITOR-GENERAL

**EYRE PENINSULA
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the Year ended 30 June 2005**

	<i>Note</i>	2005 \$
Expenses from Ordinary activities		
Board Fees and Expenses	3	18,837
Supplies and Services	4	24,244
Service Level Agreement	5	44,699
Total Expenses from Ordinary Activities		87,780
Revenue from Ordinary Activities		
		0
Total Revenues from Ordinary Activities		0
Net Cost of Services from Ordinary Activities		(87,780)
Revenue from/ Payments to SA Government		
Grants received		108,287
Net revenue from SA Government		20,507
Net Result from Ordinary Activity		20,507
Total Changes in Equity other than those Resulting from Transactions with SA Government as Owner		20,507

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**EYRE PENINSULA
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the Year ended 30 June 2005**

	<i>Note</i>	2005 \$
Assets		
Cash		0
Prepaid expenses		23,007
Total Assets		23,007
Liabilities		
Payables	6	2,500
Total Liabilities		2,500
Net Assets		20,507
Equity		
Accumulated surplus		20,507
Total Equity	6	20,507
Commitment for expenditure		0
Contingent Assets and Liabilities		0

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**EYRE PENINSULA
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year ended 30 June 2005**

	<i>Note</i>	2005 \$
Funds held at 1 July		0
Cash outflows from Operating Activities		
Board Fees and Expenses		16,984
Supplies and Services		23,596
Service Level Agreement		67,707
Total Outflows from Operating Activities		<u>108,287</u>
Cash inflows from Operating Activities		
		0
Total inflows from Operating Activities		<u>0</u>
Net cash flow from Ordinary Activities	9	<u>(108,287)</u>
Cash flows from SA Government		
Grants received		108,287
Net cash flow		<u>0</u>
Funds held at 30 June		0

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NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Board Objectives

(a) Establishment of the Board

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board (the Board) was established pursuant to the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (the NRM Act) on 9 December 2004. The Board is a body corporate. For details of events occurring after the reporting date please refer to note 10.

(b) Board's Objectives

The objectives of the Board are to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region, to prepare and implement a Regional Natural Resources Management Plan and review that Plan to ensure that the objectives of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* are being achieved.

In addition, the Board promotes public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, undertakes and supports educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management and provides mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programs or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources.

The Board provides advice on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources within its region and can conduct any inquiry or audit with regard to those natural resources.

The principal source of funds for the Board during the 2004-05 year has been monies appropriated by Parliament to the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation for establishment of the Board and transition to the new integrated structure for the management of the State's natural resources.

2. Statement of Accounting Policy

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued pursuant to the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. The accounts are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using historical cost accounting, which does not take into account changing money values.

Australia will be adopting Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) for reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. The Board will adopt these standards for the first time in the published financial report for the year ended 30 June 2006. The introduction of the AIFRS will have no material effect on the financial report.

3. Board Fees and Expenses

	2005
	\$
Board fees	17,682
Other	<u>1,155</u>
Total	<u>18,837</u>



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4. Supplies and Services

	2005
	\$
Travel	9,950
Accommodation	2,199
Training	6,124
Printing	916
Office set-up	5,000
Other	<u>55</u>
Total	<u>24,244</u>

5. Payments to SA Government

The Board paid \$67,707 for the provision of services. These services are administrative in nature and included the provision of an Executive Support Officer. \$23,007 of the amount paid relates to the 2005-06 year.

6. Payables and Equity

The payables represent sitting fees and associated travel reimbursements for Board members attendance at Board meetings held during 2004-05 but not paid as at 30 June 2005.

Pending the formal wind-up of existing Prescribed Bodies during the 2005-06 year, it is expected that the Board will be the recipient of a transfer of net assets. At balance sheet date, no transfers had taken place.

7. Auditors' Remuneration

Audit fees for the Board are initially payable by the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation

8. Board Members

The following are members of the Board who have served during the course of the reporting period:

Brian Foster
Evelyn Poole
Sandra McCallum
Tony Irvine
Peter Treloar
Jim Pollock
Cecilia Woolford
Sean O'Brien
Hadyn Davey

Aggregate Board Fees and superannuation received or receivable by members of the Board amounted to \$18,837.

Handwritten initials or marks at the bottom right of the page.

The number of Board members included in the above figures are shown in their relevant Board Fees and superannuation bands:

	Number of Board Members
\$ Nil	4
\$1 to \$9,999	4
\$10,000 to \$19,999	1
	9

9. Cash Flow Reconciliation

Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Net Cost of Services:

Net cash used in operating activities	(108,287)
Cash flows from Government	108,287
Changes in Assets/Liabilities:	
Increase in payables	(2,500)
Increase in prepaid expenses	23,007
Net Result from Ordinary Activities	20,507

10. Events Occurring after Reporting Date

A number of the prescribed bodies (as defined in Schedule 4, Part 18 of the NRM Act) will be dissolved during 2005-06 and any assets, liabilities and equity of these prescribed bodies will be transferred to the NRM Board in accordance with the NRM Act.

It is expected that the revenue, expenditure and cash flows of the NRM Board will be materially higher during 2005-06 due to the absorption of prescribed bodies (referred to above), the functioning of the Board for a full financial year and the increase in activity as the Board moves towards full operation.

Certification of the Financial Report

We certify that:

- (a) the financial statements are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board and give an accurate indication of the financial transactions of the Board for the year then ended;
- (b) as presenting fairly, in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the financial position of the entity as at the reporting date and the result of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- (c) that internal controls over financial reporting have been effective throughout the reporting period.



George Knezevic
Chief Finance Officer
Department of Water, Land
and Biodiversity Conservation



Brian Foster
Presiding Member
Eyre Peninsula
Natural Resources Management
Board