

C5240 Eyre Peninsula Desalination Augmentation Marine Science Review Panel

Date	10/06/2022	Time (ACST)	Start: 1.04pm, End: 4.42pm	
Meeting No.	01	Venue	Online, via Teams	
Attendance Ab = Absent Ap = Apologies P = Present	Chair - Dr Don Plowman (DP)	P	Dr Anu Kumar (AK)	Ap
	Dr Ian Wallis (IW)	P	Dr Alistair Hobday (AH)	P
	Dr John Luick (JL)	P	Dr Hazel Vandeleur (HV) (SAW representative)	P
	Prof Sean Connell (SC)	P	Gary Neave (TSA)	Ap
	Steve Dangerfield (TSA)	P	Executive Officer (TSA)	P

The first meeting of the Marine Science Review Panel for the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project was held on the 10th of June 2022. The meeting began with an acknowledgement of the country.

The agenda for the Panel's first meeting included an overview/background presentation on the project, a review of the SARDI Hydrodynamic Modelling, a review of the Larval Transport Modelling, a review of the Environmental Performance Criteria and a consideration of reports prepared by the aquaculture industries.

At the meeting, Panel members were presented with a summary of the project background and the status of the marine environmental investigations to date. The session also confirmed the roles, terms of operation and functions of the Panel as part of the project. The Panel was reminded of their confidential agreement with SA Water and conflict of interest declaration.

Outcomes from the Panel's discussion are summarised below:

The Panel agreed to provide a report(s) at the end of MSRP meetings to advise the Site Selection Committee in recommending a site by the end of July 2022.

From a marine impact perspective, there are unlikely to be adverse issues with both the intake and outlet for the sites proposed outside of Proper and Boston Bays. This is due to the more exposed oceanographic conditions at the other locations.

Preliminary modelling undertaken by SARDI presented in the milestone reports was considered appropriate and well-validated to model water flows at a bay scale level. The Panel identified that there would be valuable to understand the flows and impact at each layer of the model. Therefore, vertical profiles of the water in regard to temperature and salinity should be known, and some sensitivity tests should be conducted. They also requested information regarding the movement of saline discharge under different conditions and further consideration of the impact of wind shear versus tidal impacts on the overall water movement in the bay.

There is a need for further modelling of larval transport around the intakes for Billy Lights Point and Point Boston. The Panel identified that there would be helpful further to consider the impacts of the intake on larvae. The Panel identified particle tracking modelling as necessary in understanding larvae behaviour as impacted by reef structures, existing aquaculture areas and vertical movement in the water column. Their view on volumes of water extracted is minimal compared with the total volume in the bay. The intake pipe should be able to be located to minimise larvae intake.

The Panel considered the criteria listed for the Environmental Performance Criteria for site selection and construction. The Panel recommended specific reference to the importance of the aquaculture industries and that the design principles should contain a statement about the design contributing to the enhancement of the marine environment, referring to the Living Seawall project. The Panel will revisit Environmental Performance Criteria document in their next meeting.

The Panel identified habitat/seagrass mapping and the temperature and salinity tolerance modelling report to be progressed for consideration at the next meeting.