

C5240 Eyre Peninsula Desalination Augmentation Marine Science Review Panel (MSRP)

Project Name	EP Desalination Project					
Purpose	Regular MSRP Meeting (07)					
Date	15/05/2023			Time	11am (ACST)	
Venue	Online (Webex)					
Attendance Ab =Absent Ap=Apologies P=Present	Dr Don Plowman MSRP Chair	P	Dr Anu Kumar MSRP	P	Prof Sean Connell MSRP	P
	Dr Ian Wallis MSRP	P	Dr John Luick MSRP	P	Dr Hazel Vandeleur SA Water EP Environmental lead	P
	David Henchcliffe SA Water EP Project Director	P	Tiani Zollo Semmler SA Water – Executive Officer	P		

SUMMARY OF MEETING AND DISCUSSIONS OF PANEL

The seventh meeting of the Marine Science Review Panel for the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project was held on the 15th of May 2023.

The meeting began with an acknowledgement of country.

MSRP Membership

Membership of the panel was discussed given the resignation of Professor Alistair Hobday as he could no longer commit the time. Discussed the need for fish specialist to sit on panel. MSRP agreed especially given current concerns from industry and regarding the impact of brine on marine species it would be beneficial to have the expertise on panel. The panel agreed on a list of potential candidates with similar expertise and agreed that the Chair / TZS should contact and ascertain availability.

Project Update

The panel was given a project update which included information on:

- Stakeholder engagement activities
- Current project timelines/milestones

Community Science Forums Feedback/Concerns:

The panel discussed and reviewed concerns/feedback which were raised during SA Water's Community Science Forums and the media relating to the 'Hands Off Our Boston Bay' event. These concerns included:

- Saline dispersion impacting marine environment.
 - o Longer term impacts
- Intake impacting recreation fishers and mussel Industry.
- Displacement of recreation fishing

- This may be due to miscommunication about exclusion zones.
- Cumulative impacts (system already showing impact) "straw the breaks the camel's back".
- EPBC species
 - E.g., Pipe fish, leafy sea dragon species, sharks etc.
 - Panel were advised that a self-assessment will be undertaken, and SA Water are working with CPB/DEW to address these concerns adequately.
- Dodge Tides (perception known tidal movements) no dispersion for days.
- Algal cysts in sediments being released.
- No plankton sampling.

MSRP noted these concerns and noted that technical input and/or review by the panel could be required of SAW response and works going forward.

Marine Studies Update

The panel were updated as to the status and scope of marine studies including works not yet agreed / commissioned:

- *Bathymetry*
- *Fish Surveys Site specific habitat mapping*
- *Particle Tracking update*
- *Near-mid field modelling*
- *Sediments.*
- *Plankton Sampling*
- *Benthic infauna*
- *Mussels*

Next Meeting

Next meeting scheduled for July with date to be confirmed.