

## Environmental Policy

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### Policy

SRW shall demonstrate its commitment to providing sustainable water resources and the protection of Southern Victoria's environment by:

- recognising the inherent impacts of our established assets and the regulated nature of water delivery;
- understanding the need to balance social, economic and environmental values in our everyday operations, future modernisation and improvement works;
- complying with all relevant legislation and continually improving our practices. In particular, we will seek to prevent or minimise:
  - Resource and energy consumption
  - Greenhouse gas emissions
  - Waste generation and pollution
  - Adverse waterway impacts
  - Adverse biodiversity impacts
- responding to the challenges of climate change with due consideration of mitigation and adaption measures, having regard to economic and social impacts.

We will seek to:

- Achieve environmental improvements
- Improve water use efficiency.

We will achieve this by:

- Maintaining an Environmental Management System (EMS) consistent with AS/NZS ISO 14001
  - Maintaining an Environmental Strategy with objectives and targets
  - Maintaining relationships with customers, stakeholders and agencies to facilitate coordinated approaches to environmental issues
  - Reporting SRW's environmental performance internally and externally.
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### Reporting

- SRW will prepare and deliver an Annual Report including environmental performance data to DELWP.
- Updates on environmental issues and EMS implementation will be provided at SRW Health, Safety and Environment Committee meetings.
- SRW will report environmental performance annually as required to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Environmental Indicators Survey.

- The Manager Environment will report annually to the SRW Board on performance against our Sustainability Strategy objectives and targets.
  - Environmental incidents shall be managed and reported through the EMS or by the relevant existing plan (e.g. Blue Green Algae Incident Management Plan). The Corporate Incident Management Plan will be activated as appropriate.
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**Definitions**

**AS/NZS ISO 14001** - International Standard for Environmental Management Systems

DELWP – Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

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**Effective date and review date**

This policy takes effect on 5 June 2019.  
It is due for management review in August 2020 and board review in May 2022.

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**Who is affected**

This policy applies to all Southern Rural Water staff and contractors.

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**Rationale**

Southern Rural Water's vision is to be excellent in rural water management, driving growth and customer productivity in Southern Victoria.

This policy has been developed to state SRW's ongoing commitment to managing its business in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

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**Contact**

For more information please contact the Manager Environment.

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**Related documents**

- SRW's Environmental Management System
  - SRW's Statement of Obligations
  - Letter of Expectations
  - SRW's Zero Emissions Pledge
  - SRW's Risk Appetite Statement
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**Communications**

This policy will be made available on SRW's external website and internal Wiki.

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