

# Expert Witness

## Independent Contaminated Land Experts for Legal Practitioners

Australian Environmental Auditors (AEA) is one of Australia's leading site contamination and landfill auditing organisations.

AEA specialises specifically in auditing and expert support with a rich history of projects throughout Australia and some of the highest technical expert professionals in the industry.

We are advantaged to have 8 regulatory-appointed/accredited auditors across all states, backed by an in-house technical expert support team from various disciplines and qualifications, with CEnvP certification and a wide range of local and international experience.

Our team provides sensible and scientific environmental solutions with a similar objective to legal practitioners: to help protect human health and the environment by maintaining compliance with legislation while pursuing sustainable outcomes for our clients.

### Expert Witness Services

AEA provides high-level advisory services due to our strong background in contaminated site assessment and remediation as well as landfill and landfill gas assessment, operation and management. We do not compete with contaminated site consultants in assessment, design or remediation work.

We employ sound, experienced technical expert support staff who have a thorough understanding of the most recent regulatory legislation in their assigned jurisdictions, as well as having technical expertise in one or more science or engineering fields.

With several of our auditors possessing over 30 years' experience and all of our experts possessing over 20 years' experience, AEA's auditors and experts are honest, pragmatic and accomplished in all areas of soil, groundwater, vapour contamination and landfill issues.

### Industry Experience

AEA works for a variety of stakeholders and has had significant experience with virtually all types of contaminants in all types of industries.

Industries we have serviced include: state/local government, major national/multinationals, industrial, manufacturers, retailers, property owners, developers, landfill owners & operators, oil & gas, mining & utilities, service industry specialists (legal, consultants, engineers, planners, property advisors), financial, trusts & investors, and transport & automotive.

Some scenarios where we have provided expert advice/witness support for legal practitioners includes:

- emerging contaminants at former legacy sites;
- disputes in planning conditions/restraints;
- landfill clean-up and licensing disputes;
- special expertise such as PFAS or asbestos;
- third party review of forensic techniques or environmental reports;
- unlawful operational activities;
- interpretation of data;
- historically contaminated land to be developed to a sensitive use (e.g. child care centre); and
- independent reviews of site closure plans.





**Phil Hitchcock | Managing Director & Principal Auditor**

*BSc (Hons) (Geology), MAppSc (Hydrogeology and Contaminant Management), CEnvP SC*

30+ professional years

- PFAS assessment
- Landfill gas management
- Hydrogeology
- Soil & groundwater contamination
- Groundwater remediation
- Groundwater modelling & dewatering
- Groundwater impact assessment
- Mining related hydrogeology



**Charlie Barber | Managing Director & Principal Auditor**

*BSc (Geology), CEnvP SC*

30+ professional years

- Contaminated sites management
- Soil & groundwater remediation
- Geology & hydrogeology
- Landfill operations
- Landfill engineering & management
- Landfill & ground gas investigations



**Jean-Paul Pearce | Auditor**

*BEng (Hons) (Civil & Environmental), CEnvP SC*

20+ professional years

- Risk assessment
- PFAS management
- Landfill engineering & management
- Vapour intrusion
- Fate & transport modelling
- Contaminated sites remediation
- Environmental planning
- Groundwater dewatering



**Nick Owen | Auditor**

*BSc (Geology), Post Graduate Diploma Terrain Evaluation/Analyst*

30+ professional years

- Soil and terrain evaluation
- Mine rehabilitation
- Hydrogeology assessment
- Water wellfield development
- Soil mapping
- Contaminated sites assessment



**Alyson Macdonald | Auditor**

*BSc (Chemistry), BE (Hons) (Mechanical & Manufacturing), MEnvEngSc, CEnvP SC, RACTRA*

20+ professional years

- Human health and ecological risk assessment
- Contaminant fate and transport
- Contaminated land, surface water, soil vapour and groundwater investigations
- Environmental due diligence



**Stuart Thurlow | Landfill Manager**

*BSc (Hons)*

20+ professional years

- Landfill gas assessment
- Landfill operations
- Landfill engineering & design
- Leachate management
- Landfill restoration & aftercare
- Environmental monitoring & compliance

Please contact our offices to speak with an auditor or technical assistant about your expert support needs.

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