

EPA Proactive Regulation Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement

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The EPA is a proactive regulator

The EPA will focus its compliance, monitoring and enforcement activities where the greatest harm may occur and where its regulatory interventions or contribution to a systems approach will have the greatest effect on the outcome

The EPA has adopted principles guiding its approach to being a proactive regulator. We apply these principles in our compliance, monitoring and enforcement activities and the EPA is committed to:

Being anticipatory in its compliance strategies and implementation plans	The EPA is future focused, plans ahead, monitors, and checks for system level risks such as the cumulative effect of low-level non-compliance. The EPA also checks for opportunities to enhance the integrity of the systems within which it operates.
Being transparent in its priorities and outcomes of compliance activities	The EPA sets clear organisational priorities. The EPA articulates its decisions and findings clearly. Unless there is a justifiable reason, the EPA will publish information relating to its CME activities and interventions undertaken in reports or on the website as appropriate.
Assisting and educating regulated parties to understand their obligations	The EPA supports its regulated community to understand what is expected of them, for example by using non-statutory interventions, such as guidance, to explain requirements and expectations. The EPA sets clear enforcement boundaries that drive changes in behaviour.
Being connected internally within the EPA and externally with other agencies that operate within the same systems as the EPA	The EPA's work is wide in scope and significance, it recognises that the EPA is part of a number of wider regulatory systems and its actions reflect this. The EPA understands the roles of other agencies and shares its sources of intelligence, data and expertise where appropriate. The EPA works with other agencies to achieve environmental outcomes, reduce harm to people and collaborates with international communities.
Making evidence-driven decisions	The EPA's actions and activities are based on evidence and intelligence. The EPA uses accurate and reliable information and evidence to make appropriate decisions.
Being confident in its compliance activities and decision making	The EPA understands the regulated communities and the EPA's responsibilities in relation to those communities. The EPA also understands what it is not responsible for. The EPA is fair and impartial, ensuring that stakeholders, including duty holders and the wider community, have confidence in, and trust, the EPA's compliance regime and how it is applied.
Taking enforcement action to achieve compliance outcomes	The EPA takes enforcement action to address risk of harm or where there is evidence of carelessness, recklessness, deliberate wrongdoing, or where non-compliance has been persistent.