

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) – JOB PACKAGE  
**LAKE EYRE BASIN SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL CHAIR/MEMBER**  
**(Part-time Office Holder Positions)**

### **About the Lake Eyre Basin Scientific Advisory Panel**

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The Lake Eyre Basin Scientific Advisory Panel is an independent, statutory panel established under the [Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement Act 2004 \(IGA Act\)](#).

The Panel advises Lake Eyre Basin Ministers on current knowledge gaps and the strategic scientific investigations required to consistently monitor the condition of the basin across jurisdictions and support future management of the Basin. The Panel also has a role in providing scientific input to the development of policies and strategies under the Agreement.

Appointments to the Panel are made by Basin Ministers on a part-time officer arrangement for an initial term of 3 years although a member may be subsequently appointed for a further 3-year term. The Remuneration Tribunal provides guidance on the remuneration and allowances that members are eligible to receive. Relevant Remuneration Tribunal Determinations can be found at the [Remuneration Tribunal website](#).

Panel membership will be selected with consideration of expertise, professional standing and experience, gender, geographical representation, career stage and cultural diversity. The expertise being sought is included in the Selection Criteria set out below.

### **Role Description**

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#### **Duties**

The Panel provides relevant, timely and high quality scientific and technical advice to Basin Ministers on matters relevant to the management of water and related natural resources within the Agreement Area, consistent with the spirit and intent of the Agreement. In particular, the Panel provides advice on:

1. The identification of requirements for the effective monitoring of the condition of the rivers and catchments within the Agreement Area, and
2. The establishment of programs to meet those requirements.

In requesting such scientific and technical advice, Basin Ministers may request the Panel to participate in steering committees and working groups as necessary.

With support of the Lake Eyre Basin Secretariat in the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, the Panel will prepare relevant advice in consultation with scientific experts, the Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee (that includes First Nations people and community representatives), Basin state/territory governments, and any other relevant people and organisations.

### **Additional responsibilities of the Panel Chair**

- Chair meetings of the Panel, including bringing the group to agreement on decisions and provide clear guidance on Panel recommendations.
- Provide leadership, strategic direction and advice to Panel members to facilitate efficient and effective achievement of Panel responsibilities.
- Work in collaboration with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to plan and prepare for efficient and effective meetings, including reviewing draft agendas and annotated agendas, participating in agenda setting and pre-brief meetings to discuss agenda items and meeting management.
- Delegate work to Panel members in accordance with their expertise, interest and capacity.
- Represent the Panel in response to media enquiries, in consultation with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

### **Confidentiality, privacy and conflicts of interest**

Members are required to agree to a Confidentiality and Privacy Deed and to declare conflicts of interest.

### **Selection Criteria**

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#### *Essential*

1. Specialist scientific knowledge and training in areas related to water and related natural resources in one or more of the following areas:
  - Hydrology, particularly in relation to rivers in the Lake Eyre Basin.
  - Hydrogeology.
  - Freshwater ecology conservation and biodiversity. This includes ecology of waterbirds, rivers and wetland systems in the arid and semi-arid zone of Australia, and the ecological impacts of river regulation.
  - Water quality.
  - Environmental and natural resource planning and management.
  - Environmental restoration

2. Experience and/or knowledge of monitoring and evaluation programs related to the management of rivers and catchments.
3. Familiarity with relevant scientific literature, with relevant publication history.
4. Experience in providing scientific advice in areas related to water and related natural resources, and/or ability to provide relevant, timely and high quality technical and scientific advice.
5. Established networks with other experts and relevant groups
6. Understanding of matters impacting the Lake Eyre Basin Agreement Area and its surrounding areas.
7. Ability and willingness to commit to an initial 3-year term.

#### *Desirable*

1. Specific, on-ground experience and expertise relating to the Lake Eyre Basin.
2. An understanding of First Nations management of Country, including First Nations values of water and how these align with current water resource management frameworks, will be viewed favourably.
3. Experience in engaging and collaborating with stakeholders and First Nations people and communities.
4. Experience on professional boards, panel or committee and/or working groups.
5. Experience communicating expert advice to non-scientists and/or government bodies.

#### *Panel Chair position*

1. For the role of Chair, demonstrated expertise and experience in:
  - Chairing a Panel (or Committee).
  - Creating collaborative cohesion.
  - Strategic leadership and direction setting.
  - Engagement with government and government policy.

#### **Commitment**

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The Scientific Advisory Panel typically meets four times a year:

- Face to face meetings may be between 2-3 days in duration (including travel)
- Intersessional meetings may be held online.
- Some weekend and out of hours travel may be required to attend in-person meetings.

Members are expected to be well prepared for all meetings and may need to undertake additional work out-of-session to review material and participate in working groups.

The Panel Chair may delegate work as required to members in accordance with expertise, capacity, and interest, with a view to maintaining fair and equitable workloads across all Panel members.

### **To apply**

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Applications should consist of your statement of claims no more than 2-3 pages addressing the duties and selection criteria, your current resume, and contact details of two professional referees.

Please indicate if you wish to be considered for the position of Panel Member or Panel Chair.

Please submit your application to the Lake Eyre Basin Secretariat: [lebsecretariat@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:lebsecretariat@dcceew.gov.au) by (11:59pm, Sunday 15 October 2023 (AEST)).

**For more information about the position please contact:**

Lake Eyre Basin Secretariat Manager: Rod Shaw at [lebsecretariat@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:lebsecretariat@dcceew.gov.au).