



# National Pollutant Inventory



keep an eye  
on pollution

## Development of the NEPM

Australia's National Pollutant Inventory stems from a desire to satisfy community demand to know about pollutant emissions to the environment. It is based on similar inventories compiled overseas including the [United States Toxic Release Inventory](#).

Work and consultation on the NPI started substantially in 1995, and in 1996 the [National Environment Protection Council](#) (NEPC) decided to implement the NPI by developing an [NPI National Environment Protection Measure](#). A project team with members from the Commonwealth, States and Territories was formed, and managed through the NEPC Service Corporation in Adelaide, to draft the NEPM and Impact Statement.

To assist in the development of the draft Measure, a Non-Government Organisation Advisory Group was established to ensure industry, environment and community concerns were considered by the Council. Membership included environment, industry and union groups.

An independent Technical Advisory Panel was established to determine a methodology for evaluating substances to be included on the NPI reporting list and, subsequently, to develop the reporting list. The Panel produced a draft report which was the subject of national consultation in June 1997, along with the draft NEPM and impact statement. Public meetings and workshops were held around Australia over a two month period.

Based on comments received during this national consultation process, the NEPM was revised. This revision was sent to key stakeholders and further comments sought. The NEPM for the NPI was made on 27 February 1998 by NEPC. When making the NPI NEPM the NEPC took into account all the submissions received and the [Impact](#)

## [Statement.](#)

The NPI NEPM, [Impact Statement](#) and [Summary Response Document](#) were tabled in the Commonwealth Parliament on 10 March 1998. They passed through the disallowable period by 10 May 1998 and came into effect on 1 July 1998.

Trials of the process for compiling and presenting the NPI data are being carried out in [south east Queensland](#) and in [Kalgoorlie, Western Australia](#). The south-east Queensland trial is a joint initiative of [Environment Australia](#) and the [Queensland Environmental Protection Agency](#). The Kalgoorlie trial is an initiative of Environment Australia, the [Western Australian Department of Environmental Protection](#) and Western Mining Corporation.

Outcomes of the trials are essential elements in implementing the NPI on a national basis. The experiences gained and lessons learnt will be fed into the 2000 Review of the NPI.

[Earlier NPI trials](#) were run in 1995 by the [Victorian Environment Protection Authority](#) in Dandenong, Port Pirie, Newcastle, and Launceston. These trials collected data on emissions to the air.



| [NPI Home](#) | [About the NPI](#) | [NPI Database](#) |  
[Industry Handbooks](#) | [NPI Contacts and Hotlinks](#) | [NPI Publications](#) | ©