

Protecting your local environment: What you need to know and how to Have Your Say

The legal rights of the local community and landholders to have their say about decisions impacting the environment will be the subject of a workshop in Nelson Bay to be conducted by EDO NSW (formerly the Environmental Defenders Office), a community legal centre specialising in environmental law.

Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association will host a free EDO NSW workshop which will explain how the community can influence environmental decision-making, including decisions about planning and development, native plants and animals, mining and coal seam gas.

The workshop will also demonstrate how the community can use EDO NSW's new online tool "**Have Your Say**" to more effectively engage in decision-making processes.

The workshop will be held on Tuesday 25th February 2014 from 2pm - 4pm at the Nelson Bay Bowling Club on Stockton Street, Nelson Bay. If attending please RSVP to EDO NSW on (02) 9262 6989 or education@edonsw.org.au

Visit EDO NSW's "**Have Your Say**" site to keep up to date with changes to environmental laws and policies, developments and resource projects in your local area.
http://www.edonsw.org.au/have_your_say

The site is a one stop shop setting out all current opportunities to comment on a range of proposals concerning the environment. This includes development applications for large scale projects such as coastal developments in environmentally sensitive areas and mining projects, draft plans of management for protected areas such as national parks, the listing of plants and animals on the threatened species registers and the making of local environmental plans.

The site also explains how the community can use these important opportunities to achieve relevant outcomes for their environment. This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust.

EDO NSW also puts out a weekly bulletin <http://www.edonsw.org.au/ebulletin> with the latest updates on all the latest important environmental law news in NSW.

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