

## **APEEL – The Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law: <http://apeel.org.au>**

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By way of introduction, an extract from APEEL's website:

*'The Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law (APEEL) is comprised of experts with experience in environmental law, research, practice and design and our aim is to set out a vision for environmental laws that ensure we have a healthy, functioning and resilient environment to benefit people for generations to come. We will achieve this through a system of laws that makes their implementation as transparent, efficient, effective and participatory as possible.'*

The APEEL experts comprise environmental law practitioners, academics with international standing, and a retired judge of the Federal Court.

Their work is focused on research and producing technical papers on the reform of environmental laws. Through their work they have identified several core themes and ways to improve them.

Their technical discussion papers include:

1. The foundations of environmental law
2. Environmental governance
3. Terrestrial biodiversity conservation and natural resources management
4. Marine and coastal issues
5. Climate law
6. Energy regulation
7. The private sector, business law and environmental performance
8. Democracy and the environment

As it possible to note from the themes above, APEEL works on a wide range of issues which are, however, all linked to environmental preservation. The environment in itself is made by a multitude of components that are interconnected, and impact directly or indirectly with each other.

However, the most important work of APEEL is the *Blueprint for the Next Generation of Australian Environmental Law*, which is a detailed framework for a complete reform of environmental law in our country. This document also identifies the key actors in environmental law, as well as methods of examination and research in this field. This 30-page document highlights in a concise but specific way, future strategies with clear examples on how to tackle environmental issues.

APEEL's reformist approach has been highlighted and reported by several media such as *The Australian*, *The Conversation* and *The Guardian*. This shows how the problems raised by APEEL are both highly relevant, and worthy to be diffused on a national and international scale.

Raising awareness on the environment is what APEEL is also trying to do. Their online contents are clear and easy to understand for non-experts of environmental law, but they also provide highly academic and technical analysis useful to understand in depth what their vision is, and direct actions toward better environmental policy.

Academic research should be accessible to everyone and not elitist, and APEEL surely makes research easy to understand and is well-presented.

APEEL's vision of a more environmental-friendly world represents an example of how scholars and experts can have a direct impact in policy making, and generally in how everyone lives, since everybody benefits from a clean environment. Also, APEEL's actions remind us how everything we do even today, impacts on the future.

HOPE embraces the ideas, and principles of APEEL, and encourages all its members and their acquaintances to know more about APEEL and their remarkable work.

APEEL website: <http://apeel.org.au>

APEEL - 57 Recommendations for the next generation of Australia's environmental laws: [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56401dfde4b090fd5510d622/t/58f98c9a3e00bed09c88c4ed/1492749468106/APEEL\\_recommendations.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56401dfde4b090fd5510d622/t/58f98c9a3e00bed09c88c4ed/1492749468106/APEEL_recommendations.pdf)

APEEL overview paper:

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56401dfde4b090fd5510d622/t/58f99ce7579fb3435965bb11/1492753641256/APEEL\\_Future\\_of\\_Australian\\_Environmental\\_Laws\\_Overview.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56401dfde4b090fd5510d622/t/58f99ce7579fb3435965bb11/1492753641256/APEEL_Future_of_Australian_Environmental_Laws_Overview.pdf)