

NPi

UPDATE

information on the National Pollutant Inventory — a national internet database of pollutant emissions

Issue 2 September 1998

FIRST EIGHT NPI HANDBOOKS READY

The first eight *National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) Industry Handbooks* have been completed and are being issued to industry. They were approved for release by the CEOs of environment agencies from the Commonwealth, States and Territories. Environment Australia is producing the handbooks and the State and Territory environment agencies will distribute them to reporting facilities.

Each handbook is designed to guide specific industry sectors estimate emissions for the NPI. They are comprised of a generic *Guide to the NPI* book and one or more *Emission Estimation Technique Manual*.

The Guide has general information on the NPI and will help facilities work out if they need to report.

The manuals describe the procedures and recommended approaches for estimating emissions arising from different types of industrial processes.

Handbooks are packaged in a recycled plastic folder and have enough room to hold other NPI related documents, such as this, and future issues, of *NPI Update* and disks for electronic reporting which are currently being considered.

The first eight completed handbooks are for the following sectors:

- *glass and glass product manufacturing*
- *ceramic product manufacturing*
- *paper and paper product manufacturing*
- *paint and ink manufacturing*
- *non-ferrous metal casting*
- *medicinal and pharmaceutical product manufacturing*
- *printing, publishing and services to printing*
- *iron and steel casting and forging and steel pipe and tube manufacturing*

Further handbooks are currently being developed. The following three handbooks are due to be finalised in August:

- *metal coating and finishing*
 - *galvanising*
 - *electroplating and anodising;*
- *surface coating; and*
- *dry cleaning.*

The next batch of six handbooks are due to be completed in October (see over for the indicative timeline for handbook development). All of these documents are available on the NPI website at www.environment.gov.au/net/npi.html

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The National Pollutant Inventory is funded by Environment Australia, and is being cooperatively implemented by the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments.

NPI essential facts

The National Pollutant Inventory:

is an internet database designed to provide the community, industry and government with information on the types and amounts of certain chemicals being emitted to the environment.

trial database can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/net/npi.html> The first national database will be available in early 2000.

data will come from industry and non-industry sources. This means that data on emissions from household sources and small industry will be on the database alongside data from industrial facilities.

requires industrial facilities using more than a certain amount of the substances listed on the NPI to estimate and report emissions of these substances.

database will include contextual information to give meaning to the raw emissions data. This information is designed to help people understand where emissions come from, why they occur, and at what level they are harmful.

is being cooperatively implemented by the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. It was developed as a National Environment Protection Measure through the National Environment Protection Council.



WHAT'S THE PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING AN EMISSION ESTIMATION TECHNIQUE MANUAL?

Emission Estimation Technique Manuals are being developed through a rigorous process which is ensuring that industry and interested stakeholders have the opportunity to be involved.

Environment Australia is responsible for developing the manuals and is doing this in close consultation with the States and Territories through three supporting projects.

These projects are being undertaken by consultants:

- *in conjunction with the integrated trial of the NPI in south-east Queensland by Queensland's Department of Environment;*
- *with the New South Wales Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA); and*
- *in conjunction with a trial of the NPI in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, focusing on the mining sector, by the Western Mining Corporation and the Western Australian Department of Environmental Protection.*

Each of these projects is complementary. For example, the manuals developed by the project team working on the south east Queensland trial will be used in the Kalgoorlie trial. Similarly, the manuals developed by the NSW EPA will be used in the south-east Queensland trial.

Each of the manuals developed by each project undergoes a period of national consultation to ensure that they are nationally relevant. Once finalised, each manual is published by Environment Australia and combined with and *Guide to the NPI* to become a sector specific *NPI Industry Handbook*.

The general process for developing the manuals is detailed below.

1. KEY STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION.

Draft manuals are developed, in consultation with key industry stakeholders, through the above projects. The exact method of consultation with key industry associations varies between the projects eg. industry workshops held or industry reference groups established.

2. **NATIONAL CONSULTATION.** The draft manuals are sent to Environment Australia by the relevant project manager. Environment Australia then distributes the drafts for comment to relevant national industry associations, peak industry bodies, environmental non-government organisations, Commonwealth, State and Territory governments and individuals who have previously expressed interest. A comment period of approximately four to six weeks is given. The comments received are forwarded, through Environment Australia, to the relevant project manager.

3. **REVIEW.** The draft manuals are revised by the relevant project manager based on the comments received (approximately 3-4 weeks). The revised draft manuals are then sent to Environment Australia.

4. **APPROVAL.** Environment Australia sends the revised draft manuals, together with a summary of the comments received and the response to the comments, to organisations which provided written comments on earlier drafts. At the same time, Environment Australia sends the revised draft manuals, together with a summary of the comments received and the response to the comments, to each State and Territory government for formal approval.

5. **PUBLICATION.** Once the manuals have been agreed to by the CEOs of Commonwealth, State and Territory, environment departments, Environment Australia publishes the documents.

6. **IMPLEMENTATION.** The manuals are then combined with the generic *Guide to the NPI* to form the *NPI Industry Handbook* and distributed to industry directly by the State and Territory environment agencies.

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NSW EPA CONSULTS WITH INDUSTRY REFERENCE GROUPS

Industry reference groups are playing a key role in determining the content of the manuals developed by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA).

On behalf of Environment Australia, NSW EPA is developing manuals for the following sectors:

- oil and gas extraction
- mining
- petroleum refining
- alumina production
- aluminium smelting
- organic industrial chemical manufacturing
- incineration.

Early in the project NSW EPA identified three key outcomes that it wanted to come out of the manual development process. These were that the manuals:

1. presented a technically rigorous, credible approach to estimating emissions—particularly ensuring that there would be no systematic underestimation of emissions.
2. were practical, useful and tailored to the needs and existing degree of knowledge of the likely users.
3. offered an opportunity for industry involvement in this critical aspect of the NPI which would have the additional benefits of developing industry awareness, knowledge and commitment to the Inventory.

To achieve these outcomes, industry reference groups were established for each of the manuals. These groups provided information and data and served as a forum for discussing and reviewing proposed emission estimation techniques.

Industry also had an opportunity, through the groups, to give comments and feedback on specific aspects of the NPI. This feedback was then relayed to Environment Australia and the NPI Implementation Working Group.

NSW EPA's consultation process resulted in the production of manuals which reflect current industry data and information gathering processes while also generating support among industry for the NPI.

For more information:

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WA FOCUSING ON NICKEL AND GOLD

The NPI Kalgoorlie Mining Trial is developing manuals to estimate the emissions from nickel smelting and gold refining.

Both handbooks are being designed to harmonise with the NPI Mining handbook which is currently undergoing national consultation. The effectiveness of the handbook in enabling the mining industry to comply with NPI reporting is also being tested.

Developing these two handbooks has been particularly challenging because little information is available from similar work done overseas.

Industry reference groups were formed to provide expertise from a range of processes within the gold and nickel industry. The groups consist of companies involved in the Kalgoorlie Trial as well as a number of other interested companies.

In early July the first draft of both handbooks was released for comment to a number of mining stakeholders, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy, and the Minerals Council. These groups were asked to give further input into and direction of their development

Following this, the mining industry and Chambers are providing specific expertise to work with the trial team to address a number of issues that have been identified as of major concern to the industry.

A final round of meetings is planned with each industry reference group. The nickel and gold handbooks are expected to then be available for national consultation.

The Kalgoorlie NPI Trial is a joint project funded by the Western Mining Corporation, the West Australian Department of Environmental Protection and Environment Australia.

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NATIONAL EETS DEVELOPED IN SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND

The trial team from the Queensland Department of Environment pioneered the concept of developing manuals to assist the industry sectors represented in the trial, to report their emissions. This concept has been so successful that Environment Australia has entered into another contract with the Department to include the development of the extra manuals for national use.

This meant the team in the Department was required to consult nationally with the relevant industry sectors.

The first eight published manuals (see front page) were developed by the Queensland trial team. A further 12 draft manuals are currently proceeding through the consultation phase and the remaining manuals are being developed gradually.

As a part of the trial, a series of aggregated emission workbooks were developed which were used for estimating aggregated emissions from sources such as service stations, domestic cleaning and painting.

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Timetable FOR INDUSTRY HANDBOOK DEVELOPMENT

Following is an indicative timetable for the development of NPI industry handbooks.

The first eight handbooks were agreed to by the Chief Executive Officers of the all the environment authorities on 25 June 1998 and have been published by Environment Australia. These handbooks are now being issued by the State and Territory Environment authorities to the relevant reporting facilities.

In consultation with Environment Australia the handbooks are being developed by the:

- *Queensland by Queensland's Department of Environment*
- *New South Wales Environment Protection Authority*
- *Western Mining Corporation and the Western Australian Department of Environmental Protection.*

ANZSIC code	Produced by	Industry handbook	National Consultation	(Anticipated) agreement by CEOs of environment authorities
2542 & 2547	QLD	Paint and ink manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
2712 & 2713	QLD	Iron and steel manufacturing - casting and forging and steel pipe and tube manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
261 series	QLD	Glass & Glass Product manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
233 series	QLD	Paper & Paper Product Manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
2543	QLD	Medicinal & Pharmaceutical Product Manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
241 & 242 series	QLD	Printing, Publishing and services to printing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
2733	QLD	Non-ferrous metal casting	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
262 series	QLD	Ceramic product manufacturing	Jan/March 1998	25 June 1998
2764	QLD	Metal Coating and Finishing – Galvanising – Electroplating and Anodising	Jan/March 1998	August 1998
2764	QLD	Surface Coating	Jan/March 1998	August 1998
N/A	NSW	Incineration	July 1998	October 1998
263	QLD	Cement, Lime, and Plaster Manufacturing – Cement Manufacturing – Lime and Dolomite Manufacturing – Gypsum and Plaster Manufacturing	July 1998	October 1998
2633, 2634, 2635	QLD	Concrete Product Manufacturing	July 1998	October 1998
2171	QLD	Sugar manufacturing	July 1998	October 1998
216 series	QLD	Bakery product manufacturing	July 1998	October 1998
2182	QLD	Beer and malt manufacturing	July 1998	October 1998
251 series	NSW	Petroleum refining	July 1998	November 1998
1200	NSW	Oil and gas extraction	July 1998	November 1998
2721	NSW	Alumina production	July 1998	November 1998
2722	NSW	Aluminium smelting	July 1998	November 1998
131 series	NSW	Metal ore mining	July 1998	November 1998
N/A	QLD	Combustion in Boilers (coal, fuel oil, woodwaste and natural gas)	August 1998	November 1998
2534	NSW	Organic Industrial Chemical Manufacturing (synthetic organic chemical manufacture)	August 1998	November 1998
N/A	QLD	Stationery I.C Engines	August 1998	November 1998
N/A	QLD	Explosives Detonation	August 1998	November 1998
2811	QLD	Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	August 1998	November 1998

TIMETABLE FOR INDUSTRY HANDBOOK DEVELOPMENT, CONTINUED.

ANZSIC code	Produced by	Industry handbook	National Consultation	(Anticipated) agreement by CEOs of environment authorities
820	QLD	Defence	August 1998	November 1998
N/A	QLD	Fuel organic liquid storage	August 1998	November 1998
3610	ESAA	Electricity supply (fossil fuel electric power generation)	August 1998	November 1998
7810	QLD	Scientific research facilities	August 1998	November 1998
640	QLD	Airports	August 1998	November 1998
2531	QLD	Fertiliser manufacturing: urea	August 1998	December 1998
2729	WA	Basic non- ferrous metal manufacturing : nickel smelting	August 1998	December 1998
2531	QLD	Fertiliser manufacturing : phosphate	August 1998	December 1998
2729	WA	Basic non – ferrous metal manufacturing : gold refining	August 1998	December 1998
2531	QLD	Fertiliser manufacturing: synthetic Ammonia	August 1998	December 1998
2531	QLD	Fertiliser manufacturing: sulphate of ammonia	August 1998	December 1998
TBA	QLD	Inorganic Chemical Manufacture	August 1998	December 1998
	QLD	Mining of Non-metallic Minerals	September 1998	December 1998
2261	QLD	Leather tanning	September 1998	December 1998
9521	QLD	Laundries and dry cleaners	September 1998	December 1998
N/A	QLD	Lead Acid Battery Production	September 1998	December 1998
2111	QLD	Meat Industry – Abattoirs & Butchery	September 1998	December 1998
2173	QLD	Seafood processing	September 1998	December 1998
2130	QLD	Fruit & Vegetable Processing	September 1998	December 1998
212 series	QLD	Dairy product manufacturing	September 1998	December 1998
2140	QLD	Oil and fat manufacturing (vegetable oil only)	September 1998	December 1998
2179	QLD	Food manufacturing: Snack Food Manufacture	September 1998	December 1998
2179	QLD	Food manufacturing: Nut Processing & Roasting	September 1998	December 1998
2179	QLD	Food manufacturing: coffee production	September 1998	December 1998
N/A	QLD	Hot Mix Asphalt Plants	September 1998	January 1999
2329	QLD	Wood product manufacturing	September 1998	January 1999
222 series	QLD	Textile Product Manufacturing	September 1998	January 1999
2841 & 2849	QLD	Computers and electronics	September 1998	January 1999
2921	QLD	Wooden furniture manufacturing	September 1998	January 1999
2211	QLD	Wool scouring	September 1998	January 1999
TBA	QLD	Explosives Manufacturing	September 1998	January 1999
2183 & 2184	QLD	Wine & Spirit manufacturing	September 1998	January 1999
0211	QLD	Cotton Ginning	September 1998	January 1999
N/A	QLD	Spent Solvent Recycling	October 1998	February 1999
TBA	QLD	Landfills	October 1998	February 1999
3702	QLD	Sewage and drainage services	October 1998	February 1999
2823	QLD	Railway equipment manufacturing (railway workshops)	October 1998	February 1999
2821	QLD	Shipbuilding (shipyards/docks)	October 1998	February 1999
370 series	QLD	Water supply	October 1998	February 1999
2564	QLD	Plastic product rigid fibre reinforced manufacturing (fibreglass manufacture)	October 1998	February 1999
	QLD	Adhesive Tapes	October 1998	February 1999
2711	TBA	Iron and steel production		TBA





National Pollutant Inventory

STOP PRESS: SEQ TRIAL DATABASE ON THE NET

The NPI south east Queensland trial database is to be launched on 4 September 1998 in Brisbane by Federal Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment, Senator Ian Macdonald, and the Queensland Environment & Heritage Minister, Rod Welford.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

We need to know what you think about the database. Feedback can be given by completing the electronic feedback form on the database or filling out a form provided at display locations in south east Queensland. Alternatively hard copy feedback forms can be obtained from the SEQ NPI Unit. Comments need to be received by 25 September 1998.

Community responses will be collated and recommendations included as part of the final report of the NPI trial for Environment Australia.

The NPI trial database is available:

- **on the internet:**
<http://www.environment.gov.au/net/npi.html>
- as a permanent **display** at the Queensland Sciencecentre, top floor, 110 George Street, Brisbane.

In addition, there will be **hands-on demonstrations** around the south east Queensland region at the following locations and times:

- Gold Coast, Robina Library, Robina Town Centre, Shop 56, Level 2, High Street, 11 September, 12-5pm.
- Brisbane Central, Central City Public Library, City Plaza, corner George and Adelaide Street, 15 September, 12-5pm.
- Caloundra, Caloundra City Library, Omrah Avenue (opposite Council Chambers) 21 September, 12-5 pm.
- Ipswich, Ipswich City Council Library (Global Info Link Building), South Street, 22 September, 12-5pm.
- Wynnum, Wynnum Library, 66 Bay Terrace, 24 September, 4-8 pm.

If you are a member of a community group, or have specific queries on the NPI, you can also join us for a **community workshop** at the School of Arts Building, 166 Ann Street, 8 September at 6.30 pm. If you would like to attend, contact the NPI Unit by Friday 4 September 1998.

Briefings will also be made available to community, special interest, and school groups. If you would like to host a briefing, or want to know about briefings scheduled in your area contact the NPI Unit.

For more information:

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For feedback forms or to attend the community workshop:

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