

# Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

In pursuit of Coliban Water's mission to deliver reliable and affordable water services to meet community needs, now and into the future, we are committed to the philosophy and practices of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

The intent of this Policy Statement is that it will help achieve the strategic goals of Our Strategy: *dhehk gatjin dhehk balak*.

With the endorsement of our customers and key stakeholders, we will:

- Care for Country through respect and incorporation of Traditional Owner values and culture;
- Reduce our environmental impact and pursue the highest possible standards of environmental performance;
- Strive to protect and enhance any waters, lands, catchments or biodiversity that are within our influence;
- Comply with all environmental laws, regulations, duties and licence conditions;
- Proactively manage environmental risks; and
- Build our resilience and capacity to manage the regional effects of climate change.

We will meet these objectives by:

- Understanding and learning from Traditional Owner knowledge and practices through meaningful engagement;
- Using circular economy principles to minimise waste, maximise resources and regenerate nature;
- Being a leader for environmental stewardship and sustainability within our region and our industry to influence the protection and enhancement of the environment;
- Taking an integrated and whole of catchment/water cycle approach that recognises and responds to our environmental reliance and impact;
- Adopting best-available science and technical innovation to deliver cost effective improvements in infrastructure and operations to support improved environmental performance;
- Planning for long-term environmental and cultural water;
- Implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation actions;
- Working collaboratively with organisations, regionally and within our industry, that share responsibility for the environment;
- Pursuing a pathway to net zero carbon;
- Continually improving our environmental management systems and practices, including ensuring that staff and contractors have the requisite competency, training and awareness; and
- Transparently meeting our corporate and regulatory reporting obligations for environmental performance.

Coliban Water's Certified Environment Management System (EMS) will be the primary vehicle through which we will plan, monitor, report and review the delivery of the intent of this policy.



**Bob Cameron**  
Board Chairperson



**Damian Wells**  
Managing Director

**Effective Date:** 19 April 2024

It is considered that this policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.