

NELR editorial

Dear Readers,

Climate change and human rights

The phenomenon of human induced climate change has cast a new perspective on almost all aspects of modern society with many areas of law now being reconsidered through a greenhouse prism. In this issue we examine the implications of climate change from a human rights perspective. A recent speech at Monash University by the CEO of World Vision, Tim Costello, outlines the role of aid organisations in dealing with the consequences of climate change. Another recent speech by the Hon John von Doussa, former President of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission, elaborates upon the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in connection with climate change. A paper by law student Naomi Wynn considers discrimination law aspects, and a paper by environmental consultant Pepe Clark, comments on the utility of a human rights based perspective in the Pacific Island context.

Establishment of Young NELA

This first issue of the Review for 2009 also celebrates an exciting new stage for our Association with the establishment of Young NELA, a national network dedicated to serving the interests of young practitioners and students in law and other professions involved with the environment on a national level. See the inside back cover for more details.

Environmental Law Harmonisation Project

One of the key objectives of NELA is to promote the harmonisation of environmental laws across Australian jurisdictions. The NELA Executive has recently agreed to donate a sum to Monash University for the conduct of research in this area. Monash is keen to gain input to this research from environmental law practitioners, academics or others interested in regulatory harmonisation. See inside back cover for contact details.

New Federal sub-editor

I am very pleased to welcome Dr Nicola Durrant as the new Federal sub-editor. Nicola has practised as a solicitor in environmental and planning law in Sydney and is currently a post-doctoral research fellow at Queensland University of Technology. Her expertise in climate change law will be of great value to the Review.

Regards
Wayne Gumley