

# INDEPENDENT REVIEW

*Why Aither*

*Background*

*Experience*

## Why Aither

*From high-level and rapid assessments, to comprehensive public inquiries, Aither delivers reviews with insight and impact.*



### **Knowledgeable – first class skills and experience.**

Aither offers leading policy and strategy experts in infrastructure, agriculture, water and the environment. We have deep experience reviewing policy, programs and investments across the public and private sectors.



### **Integrity – independence and transparency.**

True independence is critical to realising value from external review. Aither is staff owned and operated, with our senior team being highly invested and involved in every engagement. We are impartial; offering transparency in our processes and analysis.



### **Rigour – inquiring minds and robust analysis.**

We are actively engaged in a broad range of areas, we know the right questions to ask, we verify our evidence and apply expert judgement. Critical thinking underpins the high standard of our analysis.



### **Strategic – interdisciplinary insights and advice.**

Drawing on the international experience of our multi-disciplinary team, Aither works across the boundaries of traditional disciplines to provide critical insights. We leverage our skills and experience in economics, strategy, science, engineering and business to deliver the best advice available.



### **Connected – leveraging deep networks.**

Our senior team – including current and former agency heads, corporate directors and executives – contribute to our extensive network of contacts. This keeps us informed and connected, and provides a range of perspectives to draw on.



### **Consultative – effective engagement.**

Aither consults across all levels of government and industry. We communicate effectively with diverse groups, and we know how to listen. We recognise the importance of being across all views, and can synthesise them with meaning and purpose.



### **Practical – a focus on what is important.**

We know that good decisions depend on advice that is clear and concise. We deliver practical recommendations aimed at outcomes and impact.

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Independent evaluation is an invaluable tool for improving policy or strategy in the public or private sector. Independent reviews can help to identify enhancements that lead to better processes and outcomes, and offer an impartial perspective to provide stakeholders and decision makers with confidence.

## Selected project experience

**Third Independent Review of the Product Stewardship (Oil) Act 2000 (Commonwealth Department of the Environment):** Aither reviewed the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of the Product Stewardship for Oil (PSO) Program – including its financial and environmental sustainability using economic modelling techniques. The review included extensive industry and government consultation, and was tabled in Federal Parliament.

**Ten year evaluation of the Environmental Contribution Levy (EC) Program (Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries):** Aither reviewed the EC over a 10 year period to assess the achievements, outcomes and effectiveness of the initiative as well as the broader impacts of legacy, appropriateness and return on investment.

**Second Independent Review of the Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme (Commonwealth Department of the Environment):** Aither reviewed the appropriateness, efficiency and effectiveness, of the Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme – including assessing the regulatory impact of the Scheme, and identifying cost-saving opportunities to benefit industry and Australian consumers.

**Evaluation of flood response coordination (Victorian Department of State Development, Business and Innovation):** Aither evaluated the coordination of the whole of government response through the Secretaries' Flood Recovery Group (SFRG) in Victoria – including governance, planning, communication and monitoring.

**Evaluation of Natural Resources Investment Program (Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment):** Aither evaluated the Victorian Natural Resources Investment Program against the Victorian Government's guidelines for the review of lapsing programs.

**Review of Flood Avoidance associated with Green Infrastructure (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency):** Aither was engaged to undertake a review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 'Flood Loss Avoidance Benefits of Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Management'.

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