

Solicitor

The Environment Defenders Office is a community legal centre specialising in environmental law. We are seeking a solicitor to join our staff team.

Background

The Environment Defenders Office (EDO) is an independent, non-profit, community legal centre specialising in public interest environmental law. The EDO helps groups and individuals to protect and conserve the environment by providing advice and information and engaging in casework, community legal education, law reform and policy development.

We are seeking a passionate and experienced environmental lawyer to join our legal team.

Responsibilities

- Respond to inquiries from individuals, community and environment groups on a wide range of legal issues relating to the environment
- Provide oral and written advice
- Undertake legal research
- Conduct litigation of behalf of EDO clients, in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and other jurisdictions
- Deliver community legal education programs including lectures, seminars and workshops
- Undertake policy and law reform work including legal research and contributing to the preparation of reports and submissions
- Participate in all relevant aspects of EDO planning, review and reporting
- Participate in the further development and implementation of service delivery initiatives
- Contribute to the running of the EDO office

Selection criteria - skills, qualifications and experience required

- Admission or eligibility for admission to legal practice in Victoria
- Knowledge of environmental law and environmental issues
- Ability to provide legal advice orally and in writing
- Good file management skills, including the capacity to run files with minimal administrative support
- Experience in the conduct of litigation in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and other jurisdictions
- Demonstrated commitment to and interest in environmental issues
- Legal research skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Computer skills including ability to use Microsoft Word
- A current driver's licence

Terms and conditions

The position reports to the Principal Solicitor.

It is intended that the successful applicant for the position will commence in January 2009.

It is intended that the position will be a full-time permanent position. However the EDO encourages flexible work arrangements. There is scope for negotiation with respect to days and hours of work so suitably qualified and experienced applicants who are unable to work full time because of family or other commitments are encouraged to apply.

A salary of \$55,000-\$70,000 per annum plus compulsory superannuation is offered for the position. Actual salary will be dependent upon skills and experience.

The terms and conditions of employment at the EDO are as contained in the Social and Community Services Award which we expect will soon be replaced by a Community Legal Sector Multi Business Agreement.

Terms and conditions of employment are based on the SACS Award with over award salary and conditions negotiable. Annual leave loading and compulsory superannuation are additional to the base salary.

How to apply

Potential applicants are welcome to contact the Principal Solicitor, Brendan Sydes, on 8341 3105, to discuss the position.

Written applications in electronic form should be sent by email to the Principal Solicitor at Brendan.Sydes@edo.org.au. Please do not send hard copies. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged by return email.

Applications should:

- address the selection criteria
- include a current resume
- include details of at least two relevant referees

Applicants may be asked to supply examples of previous written work as part of the selection process.

This position is offered in conjunction with several other positions. Applications for multiple positions are welcome. Applications should indicate clearly the position(s) for which the applicant wishes to be considered.