

## Newcastle Community Consultative Committee on the Environment



### Background

- Premier announced an independent inquiry in response to Orica incident on 8 August
- Review completed by Mr Brendan O'Reilly on 30
  September 2011
- Recommendation 7 establishment of a pilot community consultative committee





### **Terms of Reference**

- The Committee will
  - advise the Minister on matters of environmental concern in Newcastle LGA
  - Advise the Minister on actions or measures to minimise environmental impact from major industry
  - Promote dialogue between industry and community
  - Contribute to implementation of a monitoring network
  - Advise community and industry on EPA response to matters raised by the Committee
  - Consider matters referred to it by the Minister



#### **Committee Procedures**

- Procedures to be drafted by the EPA and supported by the Committee.
- Summary of meeting outcomes to be posted on Committee webpage at <u>http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/Newc</u> <u>astleCttee/index.htm</u>
- EPA is secretariat meeting minutes will be posted on webpage.
- Committee member profiles and contact details on webpage
- Dedicated electronic mail box for Committee correspondence and feedback/questions from community via webpage.
- Meeting frequency, time and location.





# Newcastle Community and Industry Round Table Workshop



### **Recommendations - Overview of Legislative Amendments**

- Improve risk assessment process as part of development consent process.
- Define a 'serious environmental incident' based on list of hazardous chemicals.
- Co-ordinate incident notifications through one agency EPA Environment Line.
- Establish working group industry, community, agencies to advise on practical implementation of new reforms.



### **Recommendations – Emergency Structure and Framework**

- Renew community awareness and test the DISPLAN.
- Priority action for Newcastle consultative committee – develop PIRMP template - use technical expertise.



### Recommendations – Newcastle Community Consultative Committee on the Environment

- Resources available to committee consider an interactive website to facilitate wider community involvement.
- Committee is a pilot consider changes as pilot progresses.



### Recommendations – Industry funded environmental monitoring network

• Liaise with EPA experts – consolidate network with existing projects.