Brief comments only - don’t have time for more:

1. Overall good – improved policy and engagement. Great to see EPA progressing this.
2. Requires whole of government approach not convinced that there is sufficient engagement with other agencies. If anything, seeing lower appetite for common vision. More stick needs to be applied in Cabinet and integrated approach to community engagement across government (and their agents).
3. Councils need to step up with regard to home wood heaters given the negative impacts on neighbours. Council record in this area, like littering, is poor and not acceptable given the level of impact.
4. Provide data on vehicles also based on purpose. There is a higher growth (not proportional to population growth) in movement of goods but not seeing this adequately expressed as NTC/BTRE etc group by weight/axles whatever.
5. Assess the claims made for major projects rather than list as given to you, eg. Auditor-General has already found Government and ‘experts’ wanting on Light Rail project. Also, recognise that offsetting for CSELR does nothing in reducing load in the area impacted. Has the loss of mature trees been modelled?
6. Workplace incentives – starting with government agencies and their major suppliers - required for reducing unnecessary travel. Where is the response to the Federal Government’s 2012 Telework targets?
7. Showcase as well as financially reward best practice by industry (lower licence fee) – we need to change culture. Check annual reports to see if acknowledged.
8. Publish air quality budgets by region based on maximum loads as per existing conditions of consent for DAs, Masterplan/Growth Plan projections, licences etc.
9. Need accurate information available on websites. NPI by postcode is inadequate as polluters impact across postcodes and sometimes location is based on a PO Box.
10. Don’t sign off on projects that involve unnecessary medium-heavy vehicle movements in areas known to already have congestion/pollution challenges eg. Veolia Waste Transfer located within the Port Botany SEPP - brings waste east from Council to the west only to be moved by train west again. EPA said a good idea as it would go on train – far too simplistic.
11. What happened to Citizen Science project for North Botany Bay?
12. Hazard Reduction Burns – again wishing for better communication won’t make it happen you need a change of culture particularly in National Parks in particular regions. Should be required to consult neighbours (and broader population) properly not simply hang signs on gates.

Regards, Lynda Newnam