

Communique – NSW Hemp Industry Taskforce

20 June 2024

The A/Chair, Dianna Watkins, Director Regulatory Policy & Economics, welcomed members to the fifth meeting of the NSW Hemp Industry Taskforce, on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the opportunities for the NSW industrial hemp industry in a low-carbon, circular economy.

The Taskforce received presentations from Mr Winton Evers, EcoProfit, Mr Andrew Taylor, Circularity Program Manager, Bega Group and Dr Tona Sanchez-Palacios, Research Fellow at the School of Agricultural Sciences, Murdoch University in Western Australia.

The Taskforce notes its thanks to the presenters for providing their insight and expertise.

The Taskforce then discussed a range of related matters including:

- Opportunities to foster greater connections and the flow of data across the hemp supply chain to increase confidence, meet market requirements and reduce risk as the industry expands.
- The need to chart potential market pathways for hemp-based products to increase awareness of the potential for the hemp industry to provide low emission materials in a circular economy.
- The potential to utilise hemp as a ‘green technology’ for the purposes of soil remediation.
- The collection and communication of relevant evidence and data to support access to markets and finance.

The Taskforce has agreed review progress on the development of the NSW industry objectives at its next meeting.

The next meeting of the Taskforce will be Thursday 18 July 2024.