

Ken Raine is the Senior Manager of the Western Australian Pollution Response team of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). The Pollution Response Unit was brokered and initiated by Ken after the Bellevue chemical fire incident in 2001 which caused the WA Govt to finance a Pollution / Hazmat response Team.

Ken has led the unit for over 14 years and has not lost his commitment, energy or vision to achieve for Pollution Response not only as a job for DWER and the Minister but to the people of WA to ensure their wellbeing and safety. Ken believes in an all government approach to pollution, hazmat incidents and emergencies for the common good of all and has served on many state and Commonwealth emergency managements committees in Western Australia. He is recognised for his excellent attitude, service, commitment and vision. This was recognised in January 2018 when Ken was awarded an Australia day Achievement medal for his work in Pollution Response by the WA Government.

Ken has always assisted and encouraged other regulators to work together under the umbrella of AELERT. Ken passionately believes that Australia needs a common platform for pollution response and to have consistent and competent response and capability.

In furtherance of this vision Ken in 2015 established the Emergency Operations Cluster of AELERT and chaired the group for two years, stepping down in February 2017 but remaining as the WA Rep. Ken's Pollution response group have been recognised as the leaders in this field and Ken has willingly shared all his policies and procedures within the group and many have been adopted across the country e.g. particulate monitoring at major fires, asbestos testing kits, even the makeup and design of his response vehicles. This has seen a commonality of branding and responses across Australia to pollution events. Ken has led the EOC group with drive and established a common glossary of terms for all users. Ken has designed and delivered Pollution training across Australia to Environmental Response Teams which has been well received.

Ken should be also be commended for his drive to share knowledge across the country and create one environment pollution team that can then be deployed on a mutual aid platform to assist across the country, all with the same training, equipment and expertise.