



AI advisory for organisations with environmental obligations.

Environmental advisory for the AI era.

Grounded Intelligence advises councils, regulated organisations and environmental consultancies on two fronts: adopting AI well, and managing land, water and contamination risk. Three decades of practice sit behind both.

AI advisers rarely know what an EPA notice or an audit review means in practice; environmental consultants rarely run AI deeper than a chat window. Grounded Intelligence closes that gap: a senior environmental practitioner who uses AI daily in live project delivery, co-chairs the industry's AI special interest group, and turns national AI policy into procedures that hold up under regulator and audit scrutiny.

01 Why now

Governance is now the ask

The NSW Audit Office has called for AI governance to be in place before deployment; a national AI framework is moving from announcement toward legislation. Procurement clauses and QA expectations will arrive ahead of the law.

Adoption is running ahead of oversight

NSW councils already operate 100+ AI tools, yet only a minority hold an AI policy, strategy or tool inventory. The same pattern holds across the environmental consulting sector.

Trust is the barrier

In the sector's own survey, cost ranks last among barriers and trust concerns rank first: professionals use AI for efficiency but will not rely on it where the stakes are highest. Closing that gap takes validation standards and a qualified human in the loop.

02 Services

1· Briefings, seminars & round-tables

Executive and elected-member briefings, staff seminars, facilitated round-tables. Plain English, live demonstrations, material drawn from real projects. Formats from a 45-minute executive session to a full-day workshop.

2· AI readiness & roadmap

Current-state scan, use-case pipeline, risk screen and a 90-day plan. Scoped to what a council or mid-tier firm can actually resource.

3· Responsible AI use & governance, applied

AI-use policy, tool inventory and oversight, validation and QA standards for AI-assisted work, disclosure practice. Localises the national frameworks into procedures a practitioner can follow. Vendor-neutral.

4· AI-enabled environmental practice

Workflow redesign and pilot support for environmental teams: data analysis, monitoring and trend reporting, document review, report drafting with verification protocols. Built by someone who does this work daily.

5· Environmental advisory

Contaminated land and groundwater strategy, PFAS and emerging contaminants, technical review and due diligence, regulator and auditor engagement. The deep technical knowledge and thirty-year practice that keep the AI advice grounded.

03 Grounded in practice

Runs what it recommends. AI-augmented workflows running daily in live contaminated-land delivery — data analysis, EPA-facing trend reporting, drafting and review. Organised the AI panel and presented on AI agents in contaminated-land reporting at EcoForum 2025.

Industry leadership. Founding member and co-chair, ALGA Special Interest Group on AI; co-designed the 2025 industry AI Readiness Survey that now anchors the sector's adoption debate.

Thirty years at the coalface. Hundreds of contaminated sites across Australia, New Zealand and Europe, working with EPAs, auditors, councils, industry and private clients throughout.

Board-level translation. Sustainability advisory lead within a global engineering firm's transformation program; governance advisory to a national health charity.

Clear boundaries. Grounded Intelligence advises, designs and validates. Enterprise builds sit with trusted partners — we scope them and keep them vendor-neutral.

04 Services to outcomes

Service	Typical outputs	Outcome
Briefings & seminars	Executive briefing, staff workshop, round-table facilitation	A shared baseline and informed decisions
Readiness & roadmap	Current-state scan, use-case pipeline, 90-day plan	Lower delivery risk and a costed, sequenced plan
Governance, applied	AI policy, tool inventory, validation/QA standard, disclosure practice	Oversight that stands up to audit and procurement
AI-enabled practice	Workflow redesign, pilot brief, verification protocols	Efficiency gains that keep deliverables defensible
Environmental advisory	Investigation review, options assessment, decision brief	Clear liabilities and regulator-ready decisions

05 Selected experience

- ▶ **AI-augmented delivery, live portfolio** — introduced AI workflows for data analysis, trend reporting and report drafting across a contaminated-land portfolio, including long-term PFAS monitoring at a sensitive government site; faster routine deliverables, with verification gates.
- ▶ **AI policy and risk assessment** — authored the AI-use policy and first-phase AI risk assessments for a multi-disciplinary environmental consultancy.
- ▶ **Industry AI readiness evidence base** — co-designed the survey behind the sector's 2026 AI readiness white paper; co-founded and co-chair the industry SIG developing practitioner guidance for responsible AI use.
- ▶ **Sustainability and transformation advisory** — Independent Certifier (sustainability) for Sydney transport infrastructure; led the sustainability workstream of a global engineering firm's transformation program.
- ▶ **Across the contaminant spectrum** — petroleum, chlorinated solvents, PFAS, metals, landfills and emerging contaminants; led a federal research program on monitored natural attenuation; 23 publications.

06 Engagement models

Briefing / seminar fixed fee, from a single session	Readiness sprint 4–6 weeks, fixed scope	Governance package policy, standard and inventory, fixed scope	Advisory retainer fractional senior adviser, monthly	Project advisory environmental scopes, quoted
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Start with a conversation.

Thirty minutes on where AI meets your obligations, and the most useful place to start.

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