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# VCE UNITS INFORMATION

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## VCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE UNITS 1 AND 2 CONTINUED

### OUTCOMES

#### Unit 1

- Students should be able to compare the processes and timeframes for obtaining the key inputs required for life on Earth, describe strategies for the minimisation of waste product outputs, and explain how Earth's four systems interact to sustain life
- Students should be able to describe the flow of matter and energy, nutrient exchange and environmental changes in ecosystems across Earth's four systems over different time scales
- Students should be able to design and undertake an investigation

#### Unit 2

- Students should be able to compare a selected pollutant that results in bioaccumulation with an air- or water-borne pollutant, with reference to their sources, characteristics and dispersal, explain how they can be measured and monitored, and describe treatment options
- Students should be able to compare the sources, nature, transport mechanism, effects and treatment of three selected pollutants, with reference to their actions in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere.
- Students should be able to investigate and communicate a substantiated response to an issue involving the management of a selected pollutant of local interest