

13 May 2016

Water for Victoria – Discussion Paper
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Victoria

Dear Sir/Madam

CMPA Submission to “Water for Victoria – Discussion Paper”

The Construction Materials Processors Association (CMPA) is dedicated to the representation, advocacy and service of its Members in the Victorian Earth Resources industry. The CMPA represents a broad spectrum of businesses that extract and process hard rock, gravel, sand, clay, lime, soil, and gypsum. CMPA members also operate recycling businesses. CMPA members are typically small to medium sized family businesses, local government and utilities. Many are regionally based employers (90%) and support the Victorian economy through providing for local construction, major infrastructure and road maintenance needs.

The Extractive industry underpins growth and development in Victoria through supply of the construction materials described above. 47 million tonnes in 2012/13 was produced (~10 tonnes/person/annum in Victoria) to a value of approximately \$737 million. CMPA members account for approximately half of this production, and more than half of this industry sector’s employment. Also of import is the need to have supply of construction materials located in close proximity to their utilization to save on transport costs and reduce the carbon footprint.

The CMPA supports responsible, balanced legislation and community engagement that is in the best interests of the State and acknowledges Victoria’s Aboriginal communities and cultural heritage.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the “Water for Victoria – Discussion Paper” (Paper). The following point is made by CMPA:

The Paper would benefit from the recognition that deposits of sand and gravel by their very nature occur on/near water ways and on flood plains. This sand and gravel is essential for the construction industry especially with the population in Victoria predicted to grow by 100,000 people per annum. As such, it is strongly recommended that a strategy for extraction of sand and gravel on flood plains be considered for development. This would fit with the Premier’s comment (p.1) “We understand the need to balance agriculture, industry, recreational and environmental needs...”

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



Dr Elizabeth Gibson
General Manager