

22nd October 2010

EPA Victoria
Compliance & Enforcement Review Team
GPO Box 4395
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
enforcement.review@epa.vic.gov.au

Re: EPA VICTORIA COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT REVIEW DISCUSSION PAPER

Dear Ms/Sir,

The Construction Material Processors Association (CMPA) welcomes the opportunity to provide input into the review of the EPA's Compliance and Enforcement regime.

Enforcement Model

The CMPA considers that the risk based enforcement model (fig. 3 in your discussion paper) is appropriate. The model needs to encourage a partnership between business and the EPA and it is essential that the EPA provides advice to industry on a regular basis. Enforcement is necessary but should only be used as a last resort when Industry is blatantly ignoring or is working contrary to the regulations in place.

Risk Management

The reliance on Industry using risk management principles in running their businesses is supported provided that the EPA regularly discusses issues with Industry and visits sites regularly to clarify and advise the relevant businesses on issues that the business owners may have or that the EPA may see rising in these businesses.

Consistency

The CMPA considers it vital that the EPA ensures a consistent approach in the enforcement of the regulations right across Victoria. It should make no difference where the industry is located in Victoria and the same message and treatment of the individual business is paramount. The EPA needs to ensure that all staff is consistent in their approach and interruption of the regulations.

EPA Enforcement

The EPA needs to take the lead role as dictated by its charter and not delegate this responsibility to other authorities. This is especially important with Local Government. The CMPA has no issues with the local Council ensuring that EPA requirements are met. However, under no circumstances should the Municipalities be able to place their own interpretation on the regulations and insist that a business follow these as part of their Planning Permit requirements.

Approval Process

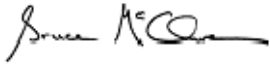
The CMPA considers that there is a real need to streamline the approvals process for businesses trying to obtain the necessary approvals for establishing a new business such as a new quarry site. It is taking far too long for approvals to be given thus increasing costs and delaying the establishment of viable businesses.

Definitions and Guidelines

The definitions and guidelines developed by the EPA need to be concise and easy to understand. All documents need to be written for the community, for the individuals and businesses that need to use and understand the requirements of the relevant acts etc. Unfortunately too many documents tend to reflect the bureaucracy rather than the community who they are developed for.

The CMPA looks forward to discussing our submission with you in more detail if you so desire and await your advice on a suitable meeting date.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce McClure". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Bruce McClure RFD,
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CMPA

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