

18 August 2011

Mr Stephen Gattford
Project Co-ordinator, Statutory Policy Review
EPA
GPO Box 4395
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Gattford,

RE: STATUTORY POLICY REVIEW

I refer to the recent Statutory Policy Review workshops conducted by the department seeking views on Victoria's EPA's statutory policy framework. I thank you for the opportunity for the Construction Material Processors Association (CMPA) to attend the workshop on Friday 5 August 2011.

The CMPA is an industry association representing a broad spectrum of those involved in construction material processing businesses engaged in the extracting, processing or otherwise working in hard rock, gravel, sand, masonry, clay, lime, soil, gypsum or recycling; industry consultants, industry suppliers and any industry worker. The Association was formed more than 10 years ago in response to burgeoning Government demands on the industry and a need to provide a single coherent voice to stand up to unjustified imposts.

As was stated at the workshop, the workshop convenor mentioned that the EPA wants to become a more modern regulator and in the process make standards, policies and regulations a lot clearer, concise and easier to understand. The CMPA supports this view as our organization has been very concerned about the incredible increase in red tape from various government departments over the last few years and would welcome attempts to address and reverse this trend.

A number of topics (shown below) were examined in some detail at the workshop as potential improvements to the statutory policy framework and the CMPA supports the sediment expressed in these comments.

- How to provide certainty and remove barriers to investment,
- Clarification of roles and responsibilities of government agencies.
- How to make industry obligations clearer and more transparent
- Planning needs to be sound, practical and consistent

The department has regulatory processes in place and the CMPA members obviously understand the need for many of these requirements. However our organization considers that there are many improvements that can be made and believe that regulatory balance is the key and is the answer. Balance in the quest of increasing social and environmental needs with the need of industry to be able to confidently risk its capital and ingenuity in the pursuit of profit-making ventures in a fiercely competitive environment.

We look forward to next stage of this review and the CMPA would of course be willing to be part of this review process.

Yours sincerely



Bruce McClure RFD, psc(r)
C.P. Eng., AIMM
General Manager