

30 August 2024

Department of Transport and Planning
State Government Victoria

Via: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/shape-our-victoria>

Dear Sir/Madam

HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE FOR VICTORIA: VICTORIA'S FUTURE PLAN

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Victoria's Future Plan.

CMPA is the premier representative body for the Victorian extractive resources industry. It represents a broad spectrum of those involved in construction material processing including construction and demolition waste recycling businesses and has a membership base consisting of over 200 quarries across the industry. Together, these members employ approximately 2000 Victorians which underpins the construction industry of almost 240,000 employees (<https://liveinmelbourne.vic.gov.au/connect/victorian-industries/transport-defence-and-construction>).

CMPA members are typically small to medium sized family, and private businesses, local government, utility providers and public companies. Many are regionally based employers and service local construction, infrastructure, and road maintenance needs. The extractives sector is a key pillar within the construction industry underpinning the growth and economic development of Victoria through supply of the construction materials.

In 2022/23, the sector supplied approximately 72 million tonnes of construction materials and 7 million tonnes of recycled construction and demolition waste (25% of total freight movement in Victoria) to the market, at a value of approximately \$1.4 billion directly supporting Victoria's \$80 billion Big Build (<https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/about>) and the estimated 1.6 million new homes required by 2050 (<https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/geology-exploration/industry-investment/joint-ministerial-statement-on-extractive-resources>). Small to medium quarries account for approximately half of this production and is submitted to be a vital industry supporting the ongoing economic prosperity of Victorians. An additional 6.5 million tonnes of recycled construction and demolition waste was also produced.

The CMPA supports the principle of responsible, balanced legislation that is in the best interests of the State of Victoria and Australia.

Discussion

The "Big Ideas for Victoria's Future" document is comprehensive. However, it neglects to include future planning of quarries without which, urban development would not occur. The general rule is that quarries are located close to where the construction material is being used to enable lower carbon footprints; lower freight costs and reduce wear and tear on the roads. This has occurred historically throughout urban development in Australia with many quarries having a new land use once the construction material has been extracted, e.g. Highpoint Shopping Centre Maribyrnong VIC and Fitzroy Gardens Melbourne VIC. Quarries generally precede residential or industrial development then have historically coexisted for a time to eventually be rehabilitated for its future land use once the resource has been exhausted.

Submission

Strategic land use planning requires consideration of quarry approvals and rock source/quality location (to prevent the inadvertent sterilisation of the construction material asset) to enable Victoria's Future Plan. Multiple quarries lead to a variety of choice in the material quality, type and price enabling a competitive market in construction materials and, hence, more affordable industry and residential development.

I would be pleased to discuss these matters with you. Please contact me on 0434 692 618 or via email at elizabeth.gibson@cmpavic.asn.au in respect of any matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'EM Gibson'.

Dr Elizabeth Gibson
General Manager