

25 February 2026

EPA VIC

Via: <https://engage.vic.gov.au>

DRAFT METHODS FOR CALCULATING FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR BULK STORAGE, ONSITE SOIL RETENTION AND WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Methods for Calculating Financial Assurance for Bulk Storage, Onsite Soil Retention and Waste and Resource Recovery (Consultation paper). The CMPA is a member of the EPA Construction Sector Consultation Group and the EPA Resources, Energy and Extraction Sector Consultation Group.

The Victorian construction and demolition (C&D) inert waste recycling industry is proud of its contribution to the circular economy with many of our members being at the forefront of product development and reuse of construction materials across the country, these businesses being pioneers in the industry and in business for decades.

The CMPA supports the principle of responsible, balanced legislation that is in the best interests of the State of Victoria and Australia including the protection of resources that enable extraction of resources and processing of C&D waste that is cost efficient to market and to the Victorian taxpayer who is ultimately the end consumer and beneficiary of that resource.

Submission

The CMPA supports the inclusion of the following text in the final Methods for Calculating Financial Assurance for Bulk Storage, Onsite Soil Retention and Waste and Resource Recovery:

"Certain facilities, such as those processing for recycling purposes paddock rock, asphalt, tiles, bricks or concrete, where there are operation processes in place to minimise contaminants, will not be required to provide financial assurances to the EPA."

Conclusion

The construction and demolition waste recycling industry including paddock rock, asphalt, tiles, bricks or concrete is a vibrant long-established industry producing 7 million tonnes of saleable product per annum in Victoria thereby diverting construction and demolition waste from landfill.

Discussion

CMPA has had extensive interaction with the EPA (Lee Miezis, former CEO and Duncan Pendrigh, former Director Regulatory Services) regarding the EPA Financial Assurance Calculator for paddock rock, asphalt, tiles, bricks or concrete, C&D waste. Potential financial assurances are an ongoing concern for the viability of the industry and given the wording of the Consultation paper, many sites have their outcomes left open to the interpretation of the paper.

The EPA's view on the issue, detailed in a letter dated 24 March 2023 to the CMPA (attached to submission) where it was noted that "facilities recycling paddock rock, asphalt, tiles, bricks and concrete would be "unlikely" to require a financial assurance. I have attached the letter from EPA concerning this interaction which deemed the sites visited as low risk and not requiring Financial Assurance for your reference.

The CMPA would request that the wording be changed to reflect this view in the updated Consultation paper.

Communications were also held recently with EPA as per attached email 30 January 2026: *"There has been no change to EPA's view in the letter of March 2023, and the proposed modifications to the calculation method in publication 2003 also does not impact this view and our current approach to considering the need for financial assurance."*

As discussed today, we would appreciate your thoughts on any additional wording you feel may be helpful in the publication to clarify the use of the current calculation method, and proposed modifications."

The Consultation paper requires further clarification to ensure clarity in the incorporation of the intent of the EPA letter received 24 March 2023 and the following is supported:

"Certain facilities, such as those processing for recycling purposes paddock rock, asphalt, tiles, bricks or concrete, where there are operation processes in place to minimise contaminants, will not be required to provide financial assurances to the EPA"

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 dark ink, appearing to read 'EM Gibson', is positioned above the typed name.

Dr Elizabeth Gibson
General Manager

About CMPA

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 220 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 national 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 2024/25, the sector supplied approximately 58 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.

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