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Central West Investigation
Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
GPO Box 527
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

*Certified to best practice standards
ISO 9001 / 14001 and AS/NZS 4801*

Dear Sir / Madam

Central West Investigation - Mount Cole Reservoir

GWMWater is pleased to make a submission regarding the VEAC Central West Investigation. I would also thank VEAC staff for being responsive to questions posed about the investigation and recommendations.

GWMWater manages Mount Cole Reservoir on the western side of the Mount Buangor State Park. The reservoir is not part of the State Park and is zoned as a public utility for water supply services. However, the reservoir's catchment is within the State Park. Mount Cole Reservoir is a significant part of the water supply for Ararat and will be more important with future projects to secure rural water supplies in the East Grampians area.

We are generally supportive of the recommendation to create the Mount Buangor National Park. The added security for the catchment supporting Mount Cole Reservoir is a positive development for GWMWater. However, the infrastructure associated with the reservoir and water supply should not be incorporated into the new national park. The infrastructure is the responsibility of GWMWater. We are currently exploring the option of becoming the formal public land manager for the area. The three parcels associated with Mount Cole Reservoir are:

- 34A~2\Warrack zoned FZ
- 34B~2\Warrack zoned PUZ
- 34C~2\Warrack zoned PUZ

This would appear to be no change from existing arrangements in so far as the proposed transition from a state park to national park is concerned.

Any questions about this submission can be directed to Dean Robertson, Environmental Officer, dean.robertson@gwmwater.org.au or (03) 5381 9823.

Yours sincerely

Mark Williams
Managing Director