



Australian Paper

a member of the Nippon Paper Group

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Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
PO Box 500
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Submission to
Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Statewide Assessment of Public Land

Australian Paper plays a significant role in contributing to the health of the Victorian economy. As the state's largest paper manufacturer we contribute over \$600million annually to the state and support the employment of more than 6,000 people.

We are also one of the largest private employers in the Latrobe Valley, an area which already faces significant employment difficulties due to the transition underway in the power generation industry.

Australian Paper is reliant on the fibre from the state forest resources and therefore appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the draft proposals contained in the Statewide Assessment of Public Land.

We are a member of the Victorian Forest Industry Association (VAFI) and we fully support the recommendations contained in their submission. It is important to avoid any changes to land use due to the apparent ambiguity contained in the draft recommendations. It is also essential to ensure there is no net reduction in fibre supply from state forest which is critical to the ongoing employment of the people in the Latrobe Valley.

The discussion paper contains valuable data and analysis and we look forward to further participation as the assessment progresses.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Williams
Chief Operating Officer