

POST/EMAIL SUBMISSION DETAILS		
Date Received	08/03/2017	
Name	[REDACTED]	
Organisation	Mitchell Shire Council	
Email	[REDACTED]	
Postcode	3764	
Privacy Options	I am making this submission on behalf of an <b>organisation</b> , and understand that it may be published and will include the name of the organisation unless otherwise requested	
Privacy Statement Correct?	Yes	
Privacy Collection Notice Read?	Yes	
Submission Type	Local Government	
Previous engagement in review?	Info session 2015	Yes
	Workshop 2015/16	Yes
	Targetted consultation	Yes
	SRG	
	Written submission to CP?	Yes
	Other? Describe	
Will changes improve function of regs?	Yes	
Reasons	Yes, the proposed changes will simplify the process, remove ambiguity and work further to protect valuable native vegetation.	
Implementation issue with proposed changes?	Yes	
Reasons	Resource limitations of local government.	
Guidelines – guidance or clarification needed?	Yes	
Details	Mitchell Shire Council recommends increased support for local government and that the State Government undertake an impact assessment of the resource implications on local government required to implement the reviewed regulations.	
Terms to include in guidelines glossary?	No Unsure	
Details		
Subscribe to e-newsletter?	Yes. Please send information updates to my email address	
Other comments	Please find attached a submission from Mitchell Shire Council.	
Written submission provided?	Yes – attached	



Please quote our reference in your reply  
Our Ref: PL/04/040

8 March 2017

Review of the Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations  
Regulatory Strategy and Design  
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning  
PO Box 500  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam

## REVIEW OF NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING REGULATIONS

Mitchell Shire Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the State Governments Review of the Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations. At the 20 February 2017 Council meeting, Council resolved to lodge a submission to the review.

Mitchell Shire Council endorses the proposed changes and specifically welcomes the:

- Reintroduction of the three-step approach; *Avoid > Minimise > Offset*;
- Removal of duplication and ambiguity in the planning provisions;
- Clarification of exemptions for native vegetation clearing;
- Ability to secure local sites for offset protection
- Reintroduction of revegetation as an offset option;
- Broadening of biodiversity values to include large trees; and
- Improved mapping of biodiversity values.

Council also supports the ongoing improvements identified in the "*Outcomes report – Review of The Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations*", specifically the provision of additional guidance and support for Council staff in accessing permits to remove native vegetation under the proposed new guidelines.

In addition Mitchell Shire Council identified the need to;

- Investigate the potential use Section 69 agreements under the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* for offset protection;
- Review the roadside vegetation agreements with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) as soon as possible;
- Request the State Government undertake an impact assessment of the resource implications on local government required to implement the reviewed regulations; and
- Provide increased assistance to local government for enforcement and compliance activities relating to illegal native vegetation removal.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Environment Coordinator [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**DIRECTOR ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Cc:

[REDACTED]