Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Offsetting EES Impacts by establishing a North East Link Sustainability Centre

My name is Morgan Koegel and I am the General Manager at 3000acres. We’re a Melbourne based not-for-profit on a mission to help more people, grow more food, in more places. We help communities to become more sustainable and resilient through initiatives such as community gardens, composting and harvesting events.

Further to my letter in support for offsetting EES impacts by establishing a North East Link Sustainability Centre, I wanted to share 3000acres’ vision for the sort of urban agriculture activities which could take place on site.

Agriculture and food waste are substantial contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, and pose a variety of other sustainability challenges for the planet. As our population grows but our arable land shrinks, we need to carefully consider what our food systems will look like in the future to be able to sustain us and the planet.

Urban agriculture plays a role not only in allowing people to live more sustainable lives, but to be educated on the broader food system and take action. We believe that supporting people to grow food not only reconnects them with concepts such as seasonality and food mileage, but gives them an appreciation for the difficulty of food production in general. This learning and experience can play a role in shifting attitudes and behaviours, and building a more sustainable society.

At the proposed North East Link Sustainability Centre, we see the capacity for a variety of urban agriculture activities to take place. This could include community composting, community food growing, food swaps and educational programs. By providing a space for local people to come together to share, learn and meet other like-minded people, the North East Link Sustainability Centre could play a key part in increasing sustainable practices in the area. These would include a reduction to food waste heading for landfill, a decrease in food mileage and plastics and an increase in seasonal buying behaviours.

We ask that you please consider the potential positive impacts of such a centre in making your decision around this project.

Warm regards,

Morgan Koegel

3000acres
Melbourne Food Hub
2 Wingrove St,
Alphington VIC 3078
ABN: 21 600 039 754

www.3000acres.org