



Your ref.

Our ref. [REDACTED]

Contact: [REDACTED]

12 February 2018

Department Of Environment, Land, Water and Planning  
Online: [engage.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-localised-planning-statement](http://engage.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-localised-planning-statement)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Macedon Ranges Draft Localised Planning Statement**

Thank you for providing the opportunity for [REDACTED] to provide comment on the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee Issues Paper, dated 7 March 2016.

As previously submitted to the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee Issues Paper,

[REDACTED] is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].

[REDACTED] considers the protection of [REDACTED] as vital for the wellbeing of Victorian communities, as these catchments provide Victorian townships [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] maintains and operates [REDACTED] specific to the Macedon Ranges policy area, these being [REDACTED].

Additionally, we operate and maintain [REDACTED] assets within the policy area.

As such, [REDACTED] strongly supports the draft Macedon Ranges Localised Planning Statement and the acknowledgment of the Policy domains of Water catchments and supply, Transport and infrastructure, and associated Policy domain strategies.



We value the function that State and Local Planning Policy provides to the [REDACTED] and we hope that our comments below will contribute to enhancing this role within the Macedon Ranges region.

Should you have any queries with regard to our feedback, please contact [REDACTED], or email at [REDACTED].

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

██████████ feedback on the Macedon Ranges Draft Localised Planning Statement.

## Water Catchments and Supply

### Paragraph 5.

*The riparian land alongside waterways support biodiversity and provide habitat connectivity for animals and amenity for communities.*

██████████ **Comment:** It is important to recognise that riparian land is vital to managing and improving instream water quality, which, in turn, provides both a public health benefit and an environmental benefit.

Therefore, a suggested amendment to Paragraph 5 is:

***The riparian land alongside waterways supports waterway health and biodiversity, and provides habitat connectivity for animals, public health benefits and amenity for communities.***

## Water Catchments and Supply - Strategies

*Manage the effects of development and land use including dams in Declared Water Supply Catchments.*

*Manage development in Declared Water Supply Catchments to protect water quality and natural systems.*

██████████ **Comment:** Dot points 1 and 5, listed above, are repetitive; therefore, we suggest replacing Dot Point 1 with:

- ***Protect water quality and natural systems in Declared Water Supply Catchments from the effects of development and land use, including non-agricultural dams***

*Reinforce the role of waterways as biodiversity linkages and as corridors for native plants and animals.*

██████████ **Comment:** Dot Point 3, listed above, identifies the role waterways play; however, it should be broadened to include Riparian land and waterway health, as per the suggested amendment below:

- ***Reinforce the role of waterways and riparian land as providing waterway health functions, as biodiversity linkages and as corridors for native plants and animals.***

## Aboriginal cultural heritage - Strategies

██████████ **Comment:** The Policy provides an opportunity to seek a greater balance between cultural differences; suggest adding the following as a strategy:

- ***Encourage the modern culture of 'Land Ownership' to seek a balance with traditional values of 'Land Custodianship'***

## European cultural heritage - Strategies

*Conserve and enhance the character of state- and/or nationally significant European cultural heritage values (including aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual values) in the policy area's heritage places, precincts and landscapes.*

██████████ **Comment: Dot Point 1, listed above, could be expanded so that further requirements that are already covered in existing legislation are included, therefore avoiding unnecessary duplication. Suggest adding the following:**

- *...heritage places, precincts and landscapes in accordance with the Heritage Act.*

## Transport and infrastructure

### Paragraph 5

*The policy area's settlements need essential services — water, electricity, energy, telecommunications and waste management — infrastructure for their survival and growth.*

██████████ **Comment: Sewerage is infrastructure that is often neglected, but plays as vital a role as water and electricity in supporting communities. Suggest adding:**

- *...need essential services — water, sewerage, electricity, energy and waste management...*

## Transport and infrastructure – Strategies

*Provide infrastructure and services to support diverse community and business needs.*

██████████ **Comment: As reflected in Dot Point 5, listed above, infrastructure and services should provide equitable access, which should be reflected in Dot Point 1 of this strategy. Suggest removing Dot Point 5 and amending Dot Point 1 to read:**

- *Provide efficient, fit-for-purpose infrastructure and services to support equitable access and diverse community and business needs.*

██████████ **Comment: Decentralised infrastructure, such as Onsite Wastewater Systems (Septic Tanks), requires centralised management, through such instruments as municipal domestic wastewater management planning. Suggest an additional strategy;**

- *Ensure resourcing for management of decentralised infrastructure such as onsite wastewater systems.*

*Ensure the future operation and development of the main road and rail corridors is considered when managing the growth of settlements.*

██████████ **Comment: Greater consideration needs to be provided to the shared use of transport corridors with other essential service infrastructure to ensure greater efficiency of development and to reduce potential impacts on the environment. Suggest amending the strategy to read:**

- *Ensure the future operation and development of the main road and rail corridors, including shared corridor use with other essential infrastructure, is considered when managing the growth of settlements.*