



5 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

ABN 87 537 598 625
Level 6, 8 Nicholson Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002
PO Box 500
East Melbourne VIC 8002
T: 03 9637 9642
F: 03 9637 8024
enquiries@arcc.vic.gov.au
www.arcc.vic.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Mt Buller Water Storage Project

As the mountain's local Water Supply Authority, the Mt Buller and Mt Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board (RMB) is responsible for providing adequate potable water to the village and its residents. The need for greater water storage capacity is key to addressing supply issues that currently limit resort operations.

In the "white season" there is an increasing demand for water to supply snowmaking operations to address variations in natural snowfall. In the warmer months, adequate water supply is required for "green season" visitation and to provide an essential water source for firefighting at the resort and in surrounding forested areas of the Central Highlands. The RMB has identified that on-mountain water storage is insufficient to supply both peak winter and summer demands. The RMB has also identified that insufficient water storage is a major impediment to climate change adaptation planning.

Victorian alpine tourism also makes a significant contribution to the overall visitor economy. In the winter season of 2015, close to 1.4 million people visited an alpine resort in Victoria, generating \$671 million in Gross State Product and 5,942 FTE jobs. Mt Buller accounted for approximately 40% of this economic activity. Construction of the proposed water storage asset would also enable Mt Buller to further enhance its contribution to the regional economy through increased tourism and private investment.

An adequate on-mountain water supply will become more important as the predicted impacts of climate change are realised. The Mt Buller Water Storage Facility is a cornerstone project for the resort's adaptive response to a challenging and uncertain future environment.

Yours Sincerely

Bill Jaboor
Chair Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council

REFERENCE: NP/24/3185

Ref: LBRMB417

U/MA/IP/RMB/Snowmaking/2016

4th July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002



ABN 25 153 985 829

Head Office:

Village Centre
Mt Buller, VIC 3723

Telephone 03 5777 7800
Facsimile 03 5777 7801

Postal address:

PO Box 1
Mt Buller, VIC 3723

www.mtbuller.com.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in relation to the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. Buller Ski Lifts has been consulted with on the design and planning of this proposed facility and know the proposed site well. Buller Ski Lifts wish to offer support in favour of the proposal, for the following reasons;

1. This project is crucial for the long term financial sustainability of Mt Buller.
2. This project is essential to fulfil the potential of the Mt Buller snowmaking system.
3. This is clearly the preferred site within our Ski Field Leased area.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, water supply for snow making activity as well as being able to have adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes related to fire fighting.

In conclusion, we fully support the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laurie Blampied", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Laurie Blampied

General Manager

Tel: 03 5777 7800

Email: laurie.blampied@skibuller.com.au

cc Mr John Huber Mt Buller RMB



Wednesday 6th July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

ATT: Planning

PO Box 500

Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in relation to the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

As you may be aware, Mt Buller and the surrounding area, is subject to extreme fire risk, being located within an Alpine Resort and surrounded by National Park. Furthermore, the topography and limited access and egress creates additional complications for fire-fighting and can impact evacuation.

The area has a long history of bushfire, including significant fires in 2002, 2006-2007 and more recently in 2013-2014. The CFA, to support local and broader regional fire-fighting efforts, have previously utilised Mt Buller's current water storage which also happens to be the mountains only storage of potable water.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the ongoing safety of Mt Buller and the wider region. This project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, water supply for snow making activity as well as being able to have adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes including fire fighting.

An on mountain water storage would provide a significant resource of water, which could provide gravity fed supply of water for fire-fighting. As the water would be gravity fed, it would remove the need to rely on electricity to pump the water, which is significant as electricity cannot be relied upon during fire.

North East Region

Seymour

D12 Headquarters
39 McIntyre Street
Seymour Vic 3660
PO Box 369
Seymour Vic 3661
T: 03 5735 3100
F: 03 5792 3266

Lilydale

D13 Headquarters
18-22 Lakeview Dr
Lilydale
VIC 3140
T: 03 8739 1300
F: 03 8739 1382

Shepparton

D22 Headquarters
205 Numurkah Road
PO Box 932
Shepparton Vic 3630
T: 03 5833 2400
F: 03 5833 2482

Wangaratta

D23 Headquarters
1 Ely Street
Wangaratta Vic 3677
PO Box 565
Wangaratta Vic 3676
T: 03 5721 4122
F: 03 5721 3497

Wodonga

D24 Headquarters
55 Moorefield Park Drive
Wodonga Vic 3690
T: 02 6043 4400
F: 02 6059 8250



CFA have reviewed the design of the water storage and can confirm that as proposed it would provide an opportunity to support helicopter and gravity fed fire suppression efforts.

In conclusion, we support the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darren Viney', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

Darren Viney
Manager Community Safety
CFA North East Region

Mt Buller Club Lodge Working Group
Alpine Central, Summit Road
Mount Buller VIC 3723

1 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the Mt Buller Water Storage Project and planning permit submitted by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management.

The Mt Buller Club Lodge Working Group have been consulted with on the design and planning of this proposed facility and know the proposed site well.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This significant project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, while also providing increased water supply for snow making activity and emergency response activities.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project will assist in:

- Positively Impacting on employment, specifically youth employment;
- Assist in providing confidence of future capital investment on the mountain;
- Assist in combating the shortening winter season due to climate change;
- Assist in preserving/extending the winter season;
- Assist in combating the concern over lack of visitation to the resort due to decreased levels in snow

In conclusion, we fully support the efforts of the proponent in seeking a planning permit to support the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours faithfully,



John Aid
Member
Mt Buller Club Lodge Working Group



6 July 2016

Att: Planning
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
PO Box 500
MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Planning Permit Application – Mount Buller Water Storage Project

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) is pleased to endorse the Mount Buller Water Storage Project and supports the planning application lodged by Mount Buller Mount Stirling Resort Management for the development of a 100ML water storage facility on the mountain.

GMW understands the critical importance of the project to the ongoing sustainability of Mount Buller and the wider region. We understand that the project will help to provide adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort as well as water supply for snow making activity and it will also ensure adequate reserves of water are available for emergency purposes such as fire fighting.

GMW trusts that any permit granted for construction of the storage will ensure that it complies with GMW's extraction licence conditions and is constructed and operated to its standards and satisfaction.

Overall GMW supports this planning application and the regional and community benefits the project will bring.

Yours sincerely

Neil Brennan
INTERIM MANAGING DIRECTOR

1 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam

PLANNING PERMIT - MT BULLER WATER STORAGE PROJECT

I write in support of the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. The Mansfield Mt Buller Regional Tourism Association (MMBRTA) has been consulted in relation to the design and planning of this proposed facility and know the proposed site well.

Not only will this project see visitation levels sustained and increased on Mt Buller, the wider Mansfield Region will benefit from visitation and tourism related activities and ensure the whole area continues to be a vibrant and thriving community.

The project will provide infrastructure critical to expanding tourism opportunities outside the snow season by allowing for potable water supply to accommodation providers during summer on Mount Buller. It will also assist in preserving and extending the winter season by increased snow making capacity.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This project will assist with the water supply for snow making activity as well as being able to have adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes related to fire fighting.

In conclusion, Mansfield Mt Buller Regional Tourism Association fully supports the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

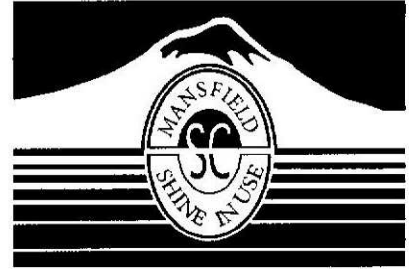
Yours faithfully



Alex Green
Chairman

MANSFIELD SECONDARY COLLEGE

View Street Mansfield 3722
P.O. Box 203 Mansfield VIC 3724
Ph. 03 5775 2022 Fax 03 5775 1484
mansfield.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
ABN 70 410 273 838



4 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in relation to the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. Mansfield Secondary College has been consulted with on the design and planning of this proposed facility. We offer support in favour of the proposal, for the following reason;

- Several of our students are aspiring winter athletes. In partnership with the Alpine Resort Management Board, Mansfield Secondary College provisions for (academic) educational outcomes to be achieved, which complement their on-snow training and development. The school does this by facilitating an alternative campus of the college, which exists for the winter season only. The ability of the school and the Alpine Resort Management Board to be able to cater for these students has a flow-on effect for the socio-economic fabric of our community.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, water supply for snow making activity as well as being able to have adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes related to fire fighting.

In conclusion, we fully support the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy Hall', is written over a horizontal line.

Timothy Hall
Principal



MT BULLER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO Box 30
Mt Buller Vic 3723

1 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in relation to the planning permit application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. The Mt Buller Chamber of Commerce have been consulted with on the design and planning of this proposed facility and know the proposed site well.

The Mt Buller Chamber of Commerce wish to offer support in favour of the issuing of a planning permit for the Mt Buller Water Storage Project as this is an important project that will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, while also providing increased water supply for snow making activity and emergency response activity.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. In particular, the Mt Buller Water Storage Project will provide greater opportunity for employers and employees, specifically providing greater opportunity for youth employment, on Mt Buller by assisting in preserving and extending the season which in turn provides employer confidence and the opportunity to provide more jobs for longer periods of time.

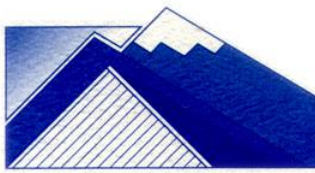
Additionally, with the Mt Buller Water Storage Project preserving and extending snow conditions, the concern for businesses on the mountain over lack of visitation will ease.

In conclusion, The Mt Buller Chamber of Commerce fully support the issuing of a planning permit to the Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Socrates Pilipasidis', is positioned above the typed name.

Socrates Pilipasidis
Chairman
Mt Buller Chamber of Commerce



6 July 2016

Planning Department
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Planning Permit, Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

I write in relation to the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. The Mt Buller Ratepayers Association have been consulted in relation to the design and planning of this proposed facility and know the proposed site well. The Mt Buller Ratepayers Association offers its support in favour of the proposal, for the following reasons;

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project will assist in:

- Positively impacting on employment, specifically youth employment
- Assist in providing confidence of future capital investment on the mountain
- Assist in combating the shortening winter season due to climate change
- Assist in preserving/extending the winter season
- Assist in combating the reduction in visitation to the resort due to decreased levels of snow

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, water supply for snow making activity as well as being able to have adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes related to fire fighting.

In conclusion, we fully support the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wilson
Secretary, MBRA

Tourism & Transport Forum (TTF)

ABN 54 050 036 041

Level 6, 7 Macquarie Place | Sydney NSW 2000

PO Box R1804 | Royal Exchange NSW 1225

T +61 2 9240 2000 | F +61 2 9240 2020

E contact@tff.org.au | www.tff.org.au



1 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Planning Division

Attn: Christine Wyatt, Deputy Secretary

PO Box 500

Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Ms Wyatt,

RE: Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in support of the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

The Tourism & Transport Forum Australia (TTF) is the peak national body for the tourism, transport and aviation sectors across Australia. We are a CEO forum representing some of the leading institutions and corporations in the Australian visitor economy. Our membership spans accommodation and transport providers, airlines and airports, restaurants and retailers, business and major events organisers, property developers, investors and land managers, amusement and cultural attractions, and professional services. TTF utilises its expertise and networks to develop and advocate public policy for the sustainable long-term growth of the visitor economy.

The economic engine of winter contributed \$647 million to Gross State Product (GSP) and 6,000 jobs to Victoria's economy in 2012. Snow security is increasingly a challenge, with the growing reliance on snow-making reinforcing the need for government investment in providing basic underground infrastructure, such as water and power, in partnership with the lift companies that provide snow guns and other equipment.

TTF supports the construction of an additional new water storage facility to provide a higher level of security of water resources available to the Mt Buller Resort. TTF has also outlined its support for this project in its pre-Budget submission to the 2016-17 Victorian State Budget, enclosed for your information.

Mt Buller Resort is one of the key drivers of the local and regional economy, and contributes significantly to the region's tourism identity as a year-round destination. Not only does Mt Buller capture up to 40 per cent of the visitors to Victoria's alpine resorts, the highest visitation of the Victorian resorts, equating to over \$200 million of GSP; but it also generates an estimated \$89 million, or 21 per cent, of the Mansfield Shire Gross Regional Product (based on 2011 figures).

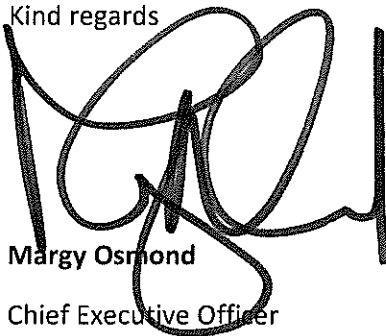
A larger and more reliable on-mountain water storage facility is required to secure the existing snowmaking program, essential to maintaining skiable terrain and overall product. Such a storage facility is also a proactive response to improve resilience to increased weather variability as well as provide adequate reserves of water for emergency purposes related to firefighting.

A secure water supply is also required for Mt Buller to maintain a reliable potable water supply with the benefit of developing summertime offerings and increase visitation during the 'green season', supporting all-year visitation. While the 'green season' is in its infancy, it is still worth \$94 million to GSP and supports 1,000 jobs in Victoria.

The Mt Buller water storage facility is key to improving the mountain's sustainability through maintaining snowmaking capacity, which is critical to creating wider economic and employment benefits to the regional Victorian economy. TTF supports the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter in further detail, we remain available at your convenience.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MOS', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Margy Osmond

Chief Executive Officer

Encl.

5 July 2016

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Planning Permit - Mt Buller Water Storage Project

I write in relation to the planning application lodged by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management for the development of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project. Tourism North East has been consulted with regarding the design and planning of this proposed facility, and is fully supportive of the development.

Increased water capacity is key to the ongoing sustainability and viability of Mt Buller – a destination that is crucial in driving tourism related visitation and yield opportunities for the entire region. In winter, more water would enable the resort to produce greater levels of more consistent snow, ensuring that Mt Buller remains an attractive winter destination amongst a range of domestic and international visitors. In summer, enhanced water storage would also address Mt Buller's potable water supply and emergency management issues, which is again essential to maintain the operation of the resort and support its growth as one of North East Victoria's key nature-based tourism assets.

Tourism North East works across five regionally significant product pillars: Cycle, Food & Wine, Nature Based Tourism, Snow and Arts & Culture. Mt Buller is seen as the hero within two of these areas – Cycle (byway of its mountain bike product) and Snow, where it is considered to be the most popular snow resort in Victoria, owning 40% of the State's alpine visitor market. As such, the ongoing viability of Mt Buller is central not only to the activities of Tourism North East but the ongoing success of the High Country region as a whole.

In conclusion, we fully support the issuing of a planning permit to the proponent to commence the construction of the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Your Sincerely,



Amber Gardner
CEO, Tourism North East

1 July 2016
PO Box 522,
Brighton, Vic 3186

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
ATT: Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Permit | Mt Buller Water Storage Project

The VSA wishes to lend its support for the Mt Buller Water Storage Project and planning permit submitted by Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management.

The Mt Buller Ratepayers and Club Lodge Working Group has also made submissions in support of this planning permit and we wish to emphasise that this project is crucial to the survival of Mt Buller as a viable Snowsports resort, and the Water Storage Project is of critical importance to the sustainability of Mt Buller and the wider region. This significant project will assist with the provision of adequate levels of potable water for residents and visitors to the Resort, while also providing increased water supply for snow making activity and emergency response activities.

The Mt Buller Water Storage Project will assist in:

- Positively Impacting on employment, specifically youth employment;
- Assist in providing confidence of future capital investment on the mountain;
- Assist in combating the shortening winter season due to climate change;
- Assist in preserving/extending the winter season;
- Assist in combating the concern over lack of visitation to the resort due to decreased levels in snow

In conclusion, we fully support the efforts of the proponent in seeking a planning permit to support the Mt Buller Water Storage Project.

Yours Faithfully



Rob Anderson

President – Victorian Snowsports Association