



Minister for Planning

8 Nicholson Street
PO Box 500
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: (03) 9637 8097
Facsimile: (03) 9637 8921
ABN 90 719 052 204
DX 210098

27 OCT 2010

Our Ref: CMIN024294
File: 10/024340-01

Mr Ewen Nevett
Project Director - Western Highway
VicRoads
237 Ring Road
WENDOUREE VIC 3355

Dear Mr Nevett

REFERRAL UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978* WESTERN HIGHWAY DUPLICATION – ARARAT TO STAWELL

Thank you for your referral seeking my advice on the need for an Environment Effects Statement (EES), under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*, for the Western Highway Duplication project between Ararat and Stawell.

I have determined, under section 8B(3) of the *Environment Effects Act 1978*, that assessment through an EES is required for this project, for the reasons set out in the enclosed reasons for decision. This letter provides notice under section 8B(4) of the Act, including in relation to procedures and requirements that are to apply to the EES.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Trevor Blake, Chief Environmental Assessment Officer, on (03) 9637 9623.

Yours sincerely

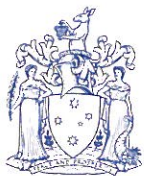
JUSTIN MADDEN MLC
Minister for Planning

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Mr Tim Pallas MP
Minister for Roads and Ports
80 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000


Dear Minister

REFERRAL UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978* WESTERN HIGHWAY DUPLICATION – ARARAT TO STAWELL

VicRoads have recently sought my advice on the need for an Environment Effects Statement (EES), under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*, for the Western Highway Duplication project between Ararat and Stawell.

I have determined, under section 8B(3) of the *Environment Effects Act 1978*, that assessment through an EES is required for this project, for the reasons set out in the enclosed reasons for decision. This letter provides notice under section 8B(4) of the Act, including in relation to procedures and requirements that are to apply to the EES.

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Cr Gwenda Allgood
Mayor
Ararat Rural City Council
PO Box 246
ARARAT VIC 3377

Dear Mayor

REFERRAL UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978* WESTERN HIGHWAY DUPLICATION – ARARAT TO STAWELL

VicRoads has sought my advice on the need for an Environment Effects Statement (EES), under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (EE Act), for the proposed duplication of the Western Highway between Ararat and Stawell.

I have determined that an EES is required for this project, as described in the referral accepted on 22 September 2010, for the reasons attached.

This letter provides notice to you, as a relevant decision-maker, under both sections 8A and 8B(4) of the EE Act. Therefore, I draw your attention to the provisions of section 8C of the Act, which prevent decisions from being made and works from proceeding until the EES has been completed and my subsequent assessment of the project has been considered. I raise this in the context of your future decisions under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Trevor Blake, Chief Environmental Assessment Officer, on (03) 9637 9547.

Yours sincerely

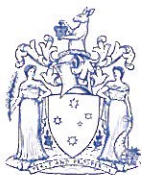
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File: 10/024340-01

Cr Kevin Erwin
Mayor
Northern Grampians Shire Council
PO Box 580
STAWELL VIC 3380

Dear Mayor

REFERRAL UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978* WESTERN HIGHWAY DUPLICATION – ARARAT TO STAWELL

VicRoads has sought my advice on the need for an Environment Effects Statement (EES), under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (EE Act), for the proposed duplication of the Western Highway between Ararat and Stawell.

I have determined that an EES is required for this project, as described in the referral accepted on 22 September 2010, for the reasons attached.

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