

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Inquiry into the 2022-23 Budget Estimates



The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Energy,
Environment and Climate Change
19 May 2022



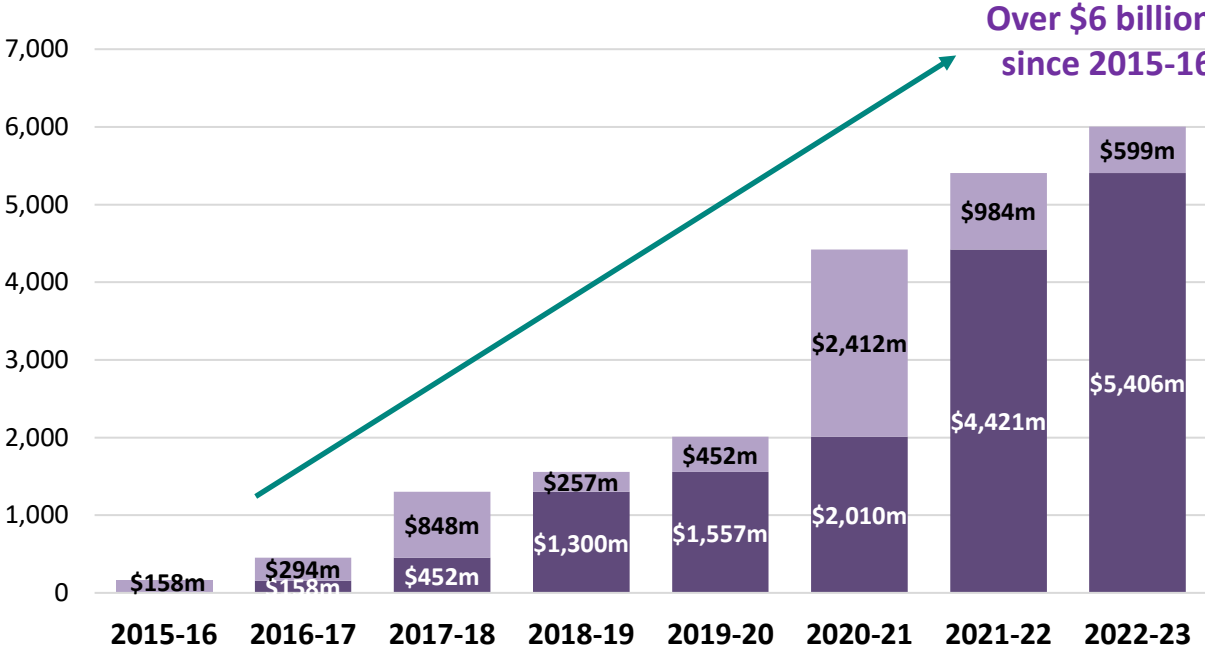
Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

Investment in Energy, Environment and Climate Change

The 2022-23 Budget has delivered additional investment of \$599 million in new funding approved.

This results in an investment of over \$6 billion since the 2015-16 budget.

Cumulative Investment in the Energy, Environment and Climate Change portfolio



Over \$6 billion since 2015-16

■ Prior year(s) funding approved ■ New funding approved

* Energy new investment only included from 2017-18 budget.

2022-23 Budget Highlights

\$303 million for a cleaner, cheaper and stronger energy system for all Victorians

\$200 million for the Environment

\$96 million for Bushfire Response and Emergency Management

\$303 million for a cleaner, cheaper and stronger energy system for all Victorians

- **\$250 million** for a one-off **\$250 Power Saving Bonus** for all Victorian households that use the Victorian Energy Compare website to search for the cheapest electricity deal.
- **\$11.8 million** over five years for **Decarbonising freight with hydrogen**, funding a renewable hydrogen refuelling network demonstration project for freight vehicles between Melbourne and Sydney.
- **\$10.0 million** over two years for the **Energy Resilience solutions and Community Microgrid Program** to improve the supply of electricity at locations at high risk of bushfires and extreme weather.
- **\$9.0 million** over two years towards **Cheaper electricity for Victorians**, for critical energy affordability support services and one-on-one assistance for Victorians who need it most.



Energy continued

- **\$8.0 million** over five years for **Improving Energy Safety and Skills**, for the provision of mandatory skills maintenance training for electrical workers to ensure continuing professional development and improved safety skills.
- **\$6.7 million** over two years for **Unlocking offshore wind, renewable hydrogen and new energy manufacturing to create jobs**.
- **\$4.2 million** for **Victoria's Renewable Energy Target**, to maintain engagement in national energy market decision-making that supports the interests of all Victorians and to deliver the second Victorian Renewable Energy Target auction.
- **\$2.4 million** to continue the **Powerline Bushfire Safety Program**, delivering safer powerlines to the Victorian community.
- **\$1.2 million** towards **Driving down gas bills for businesses and households** to support gas reliability and affordability while reducing carbon emissions through regulatory reform.



\$200 million for the Environment

Includes:

- **\$60 million** over four years to the Environment Protection Authority to **Sustain the EPA's strengthened regulatory functions**.
- **\$27.6 million** over five years for **Strengthening the Victorian Forestry Plan** which will support eucalyptus seed collection, upgrades to storage facilities and seed viability testing. Funding is also provided to develop new procedures for forest coupe regeneration and continued vital regulation of native timber harvesting through forest protection surveys and regulatory prescriptions.
- **\$16.9 million** for **VicCoasts: Building a safe, healthier and more resilient marine and coastal environment for the community** to address critical erosion and flood risks, protect marine and coastal assets and support the adaptation and resilience of coastal communities.
- **\$16.5 million** over four years for **Protecting Victoria's park heritage icons** for building repairs to improve safety and enhance public access to iconic Victorian heritage sites.



Environment continued

- **\$10.0 million** over three years for **Great Ocean Road management reforms and erosion preparedness** to continue the transfer of land management to the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority.
- **\$9.8 million** over four years for **new and improved suburban parks** to deliver a master plan and priority works at the Dandenong Police Paddocks Reserve and improved local parks at Jells Park and Gowanbrae.
- **\$9.6 million** over three years for **safer public dams**.
- **\$9.5 million** over two years for **Community infrastructure accessibility and sustainability** for works to improve access to community infrastructure and reduce the energy footprint of public buildings.
- **\$7.7 million** over two years for **Environment protection and air quality**.
- **\$6.6 million** over three years for **Keeping the public safe** through the management of abandoned and legacy mines and quarries.



Environment continued

- **\$5.8 million** over two years for **Enabling Joint Management in Barmah National Park** in partnership with the Yorta Yorta people.
- **\$5.0 million** for **Securing Victoria's Alpine Future**.
- **\$4.8 million** over three years for **Safeguarding Victoria's critical seed and botanical collection** to fund critical building works at the Royal Botanical Gardens National Herbarium.
- **\$5.3 million** over two years for **Wildlife care and protection**.
- **\$4.0 million** over two years for the **Recycling Victoria - Household Chemical Collection Program** to continue to make it easier for Victorians to safely dispose of household hazardous chemicals and hard-to-recycle products.
- **\$1.0 million** for **Victoria's Great Outdoors program** to further establish the Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park.



\$96 million for Bushfire Response and Emergency Management

- **\$46.8 million** over five years for **Bushfire prevention and protection** to continue an expanded risk-based integrated land and fuel management program, and for preparedness activities for the 2021-22 bushfire season.
- **\$24.6 million** over one year for **Critical capital works to keep Victorians safe from fire and other emergencies** to replace and renew critical fire and emergency assets.
- **\$14.9 million** in 2021-22 for **aerial firefighting** that supported the State's firefighting capability during the 2021-22 bushfire season.



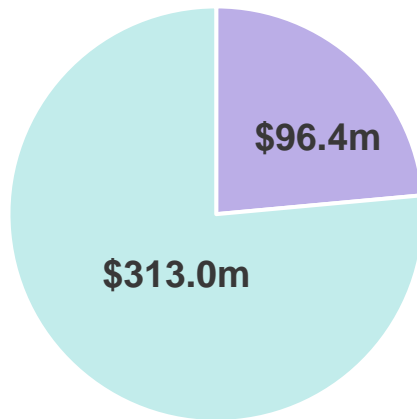
Bushfire Response and Emergency Management continued

- **\$7.6 million** over one year for **Emergency access to roads and trails** to ensure the safety of the strategic fire network and public land roads and crossings impacted by the storm and flood events from 2021.
- **\$1.7 million** over one year for **Securing Victoria's energy supply** to coordinate and manage the ongoing energy emergency recovery work at Yallourn Power Station.



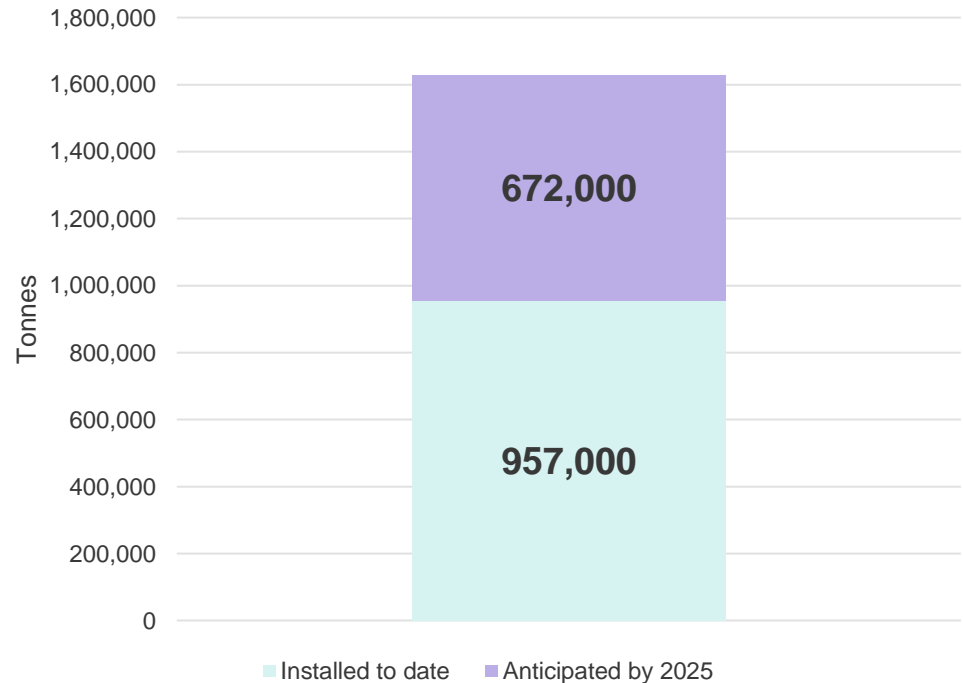
Record investment to transform and reform waste and recycling in Victoria

Investment leveraged from grants to improve the waste and recycling sector



■ Victorian Government grants ■ Leveraged investment

New waste and recovery capacity created



2035 Interim Targets Independent Expert Panel

- Panel to provide advice on recommended interim targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions between 2031 and 2035
- Members bring skills and experience across climate change policy, law, economics, industry and investment
- Panel's final advice by 1 March 2023 which will be tabled in Parliament
- Government decision required by 31 March 2023

- Already met the initial target – to cut emissions by 15 to 20 per cent two years early – reducing emissions by 24.8 per cent between 2005 and 2019.

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