

[REDACTED]

From: Bob Gould [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 31 July 2020 9:40 AM
To: ecosystems
Cc: office@ellensandell.com
Subject: Western Highway Duplication

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To whom it may concern

Although I'm a Queenslander I have lived in Melbourne in the past and have travelled extensively in Victoria from the mulga country to the snowy mountain tops. I have seen the fairy penguins and had my first taste of snow in the mountains. This precious country needs to be preserved so that others may have these same experiences.

The bushfires in the recent past have done enormous damage to the populations of many of our unique species. We need to take advantage of every opportunity not to cause more harm to the environment that shelters these species. At this time when the economy is under threat there is an opportunity here for the government to create on-going jobs caring for the environment.

We cannot hope to stop extinction unless we stop the destructive activities that are driving it. We need to:

- End native forest logging and transition to a plantation based timber industry
- Phase out coal and gas burning, which is making the climate crisis worse and driving devastating extreme events like heat waves, fires and floods
- Stop destructive and unnecessary development like the Western Highway Duplication and the proposed Westernport gas ship terminal which continue to bit-by-bit erode the health of Victoria's environment for corporate profits.
- Change the laws that allow wildlife to be killed, and grasslands and other habitat to be cleared, with little to no ramifications.

I believe the Western Highway Duplication Development is an extreme threat to wildlife and the environment and a serious and damaging affront to the culture and society of the Djab Wurrung traditional owner. It is time to stop such activities and listen to the voices of the people. I consent to having my submission published.

Kind regards
Robert Gould