

**From:** [epc council](#)  
**To:** [ecosystems](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Removal of VEAC  
**Date:** Thursday, 10 December 2020 11:57:01 AM

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**From:** ron Ramadge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 October 2020 5:24 PM  
**To:** epc council <epc.council@parliament.vic.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Removal of VEAC

Sent my email as follows.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a prospector, fisherman, outdoors person that has enjoyed the Victorian bush and all it offers to its recreational users for over 60 years. It is a resource that needs correct management and safeguards but should not be locked up from the public. Recreational past times conducted in the Victorian bush are important and many people will be affected by unjust closures. Camping, fishing, prospecting, 4x4 Driving etc all contribute to the health and well being of my fellow Victorians and restricting access to bush areas will only contribute to the stress that we are all under in particular after the Covid 19 situation. Common sense not agenda must prevail and the freedom to use our majestic forests, parks and public lands must not be withheld from all Victorians of all ages, gender or race.

To this end;

I ask that you abolish the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) and dismiss the present Central West Investigation Final Report on the grounds it is scientifically unfounded, does not take account of the full range of issues of Ecologically Sustainable Development, nor does it represent the genuine interests of the majority of stakeholders and community groups.

Their own report shows that over 65% of written submissions, are opposed to the creation of any more locked up National Parks.

VEAC has been shown to be biased and incompetent when reporting on issues they have no experience in. I ask you to consider the creation of a new Victorian Public Land Use Commission (VPLUC) as opposed to VEAC. The VPLUC will look at land categories in a similar way to the First Peoples, which placed humans at the centre of land use, partitioned the landscape into actively managed ecological mosaics with a specific purpose for each area and which integrated ecological enhancement (and hence sustainability) into the planned use of that land. The PMAV who I support are excited about the opportunity to work with our indigenous community to make this happen and we have already garnered support for this very purpose.

Gold mining and prospecting have an important role to play in the economic recovery of Victoria, especially regional centres who have higher unemployment rate than metro and this would include many indigenous youths. Fishing is one of the largest participant sports in Australia and contributes hugely to the economy along with camping, 4x4 driving and many other recreational activities that use State forests, National parks and Public lands.

I believe a new community commission like the VPLUC, made up of local community and economic groups, a truer representation of the many varied users who utilise the Victorian bush, would be readily available and could quickly address any issues or decision needed to be made to assist Victoria moving forward.

Best Regards,  
Ron Ramadge

Sent from my iPhone