

Premiers Commitments – Appendix 8

Extracts from <http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/our-commitment.html>

Our Commitment

The Victorian Government is committed to keeping our families strong and our communities vibrant. The hopes and dreams of Victorian families are the focal point of our policy development. We want families to be better off, not just financially but in every way.....

Comment: *'An open cut coal mine near my home does not feature in my hopes and dreams.'* Deb Porter

Agriculture

The Coalition Government will bring about a new era in Victorian agriculture, where farming enterprises have the full support of government and the future is a bright one for young people looking to work on the land. We will work hard to promote the success of Victoria's food producers because all Victorians benefit from a prosperous farming sector that provides quality local produce and generates direct and indirect jobs.....

Comment: *'Farming enterprises are being put at risk by mining activities, I have not yet seen an example of an open cut coal mine that has a crop in the middle of it, our community and the areas the mining company are proposing to open cut mine are occupied with farming, business and other activities and has close proximity to our town centre, schools and other community infrastructure'* Deb Porter

Regional development

The Coalition Government will spearhead a regional resurgence in Victoria that will create new prosperity, more opportunities and better quality of life.....

Comment: *'a better quality of life is not my idea of a coal mine operation with its noise, contamination, infrastructure stress, dislocation of community members, where you cannot see the stars anymore because the lights are on all night....'* Deb Porter

Integrity of government

The Coalition Government is taking unprecedented steps toward establishing a world's best practice anti-corruption and integrity system in Victoria. The Coalition is committed to achieving the highest standard in government integrity by establishing new bodies and new powers to root out corruption and ensure every Victorian can have faith in government and elected officials.....

Comment: *'My experience, and that of others I have read and spoken to is not one of faith and integrity at the moment, moreover one of disregard through this process.'* Deb Porter

Water and the environment

The Coalition Government is committed to making our cities more liveable by making them more water sustainable and improving the environment.

The capture and use of stormwater and recycled water for non-drinking purposes will transform the urban environment, restoring our waterways and freeing up drinking water to ensure abundant and secure supplies for urban households.

In managing our water, we will focus on these key principles:

Government ownership of water and water infrastructure

Water should be used more than once wherever possible

Water self-sufficiency in our cities

A balance between population growth and water availability

Water security for food producers

Improvement of the environmental health of Victorian rivers

On other aspects of the environment we will form strong partnership with local communities, ensure the protection of our biodiversity and eco-systems, improve the sustainability of our natural resources, and plan ahead for our rivers, wetlands and marine environment.

Comment: *'A partnership is impossible to form if you do not respond, do not uphold integrity as a core value and allow destructive activity to occur risking our natural resources and biodiversity'* Deb Porter