



Commissioner
for Environmental
Sustainability
Victoria

SUBMISSION 1
RECEIVED 18/07/2017

Level 36, 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Australia
PO Box 500
East Melbourne Victoria 8002
Australia
Telephone: +61 3 9948 2829
www.ces.vic.gov.au
ABN: 90 719 052 204

18 July 2017

Mr Josh Bull MP
Chair, Victorian Parliament's Environment, Natural Resources and Regional
Development Committee
Parliament House, Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE, VIC, 3002

Dear Mr Bull

**Call for Submissions: Inquiry into the Management, Governance and Use of
Environmental Water**

Thank you for your invitation for my Office to make a submission to the Inquiry into the Management, Governance and Use of Environmental Water.

My Office provides independent statutory environmental reporting for Victoria. The *Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Act 2003* requires that "the Commissioner must prepare and submit to the Minister a periodical Report on the State of the Environment of Victoria prepared at intervals not exceeding 5 years" (s.17 (1)).

My predecessor, Commissioner Kate Auty, included an analysis of "Effective Protection and Delivery of Environmental Water" in the Victorian State of the Environment Report 2013 (pp. 259-275; references pp. 580-583). This analysis can be found on our website (<http://www.ces.vic.gov.au/publications/state-environment-report-2013>). The extract from the 2013 report is attached (Appendix 1) for your convenience.

The 2018 Victorian State of the Environment Report is now being prepared and will address Action 3.6 of *Water for Victoria* as follows:

Action 3.6: "Better monitor and report on the benefits of environmental watering", authorises the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability to "report on the outcomes of environmental watering in Victoria, as part of the five-yearly State of the Environment Report".

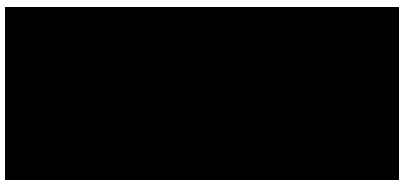
Our work on Action 3.6 will commence this year.



I will follow this Inquiry, including public submissions to your Committee, with keen interest.

Best wishes for a successful Inquiry and please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any of the above.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Gillian Sparkes
Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria

Attachment 1: (pp 257-275; references pp. 580-583)