

## VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT – PUBLIC BRIEFING

---

On 3 September 2008, the Minister for Planning appointed an Inquiry to consider the Victorian Desalination Project EES and submissions made to it, in accordance with Terms of Reference dated 19 August 2008. The Inquiry comprises Kathryn Mitchell (Chair), Nick Wimbush, Chris Harty, Garth Lampe and Greg Sharpley.

As part of its investigations and in accordance with Section 4(3) of its Terms of Reference, the Inquiry will hold a public session at which the Proponent and its specialists will outline the content of the EES and the Works Approval Application.

It is proposed to hold this session from 10.00am to 1.00pm on Wednesday 10 September, in Hearing Room 1, Level 1, 8 Nicholson Street, Melbourne. It should be noted that this session will not take the place of a Directions Hearing nor any of the public hearings, rather it is to provide the opportunity for the Inquiry to be informed of the general content and outline of the EES. Please note that this will commence at 10.00am sharp and if you are attending, you will need to sign in at the ground floor security desk.

It is understood that the Proponent has been conducting three hour briefing sessions since the release of the EES in the study region for a wide range of interested parties. The Inquiry considers that a similar briefing to it would provide background information and enable it to hear from the Proponent in the same way that many other groups have.

Further, it should be noted that the Inquiry will be holding the Directions Hearing (8 October) and public hearings (from 14 October to 7 November) at Pakenham. The Directions Hearing will provide the opportunity for interested parties to raise issues and ask questions about this Inquiry process. There will be no opportunity for this to occur at the public briefing session.

At the date of this notice (3 September 2008), no submissions have as yet been received on this project by Planning Panels Victoria. Therefore the Inquiry is inviting a representative from each of the members of the Technical Reference Group to attend this session, as well as providing a similar opportunity for the public through the posting of this notice on the website. This notice may be forwarded to interested people. The Inquiry will be seeking that the Proponent post all relevant material on its website on a regular basis.

Please advise Michael Crossman at [michael.crossman@dpced.vic.gov.au](mailto:michael.crossman@dpced.vic.gov.au) if you wish to attend this briefing and provide an email address and phone number. (Depending on the number of people registered to attend, there may be a possibility of the venue being changed – if this occurs you will be notified accordingly).