

MORDIALLOC FREEWAY

Environment Effects
Statement

THE PROCESS

OCTOBER 2018



Authorised and published
by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Process

What is an Environment Effects Statement (EES)?

An EES is a formal process that looks at the potential environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts of a project and how they will be managed.

The EES scoping requirements will focus on the potential impacts to:

- **Transport efficiency, capacity and safety:** journey and road safety improvements.
- **Biodiversity:** migratory birds and the native vegetation when modifying grasslands and wetlands.
- **Water, catchment values and hydrology:** quality of water flows and drainage in the Mordialloc Creek catchment and the Edithvale-Seaford Wetlands.
- **Land contamination and acid sulphate soils:** quality of soil and possibility of disturbance during construction.
- **Cultural heritage:** Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage.
- **Amenity and environment quality:** increased traffic and noise for residents and nearby parklands, in addition to local air quality with exposure to vehicle emissions.
- **Social, land use and infrastructure:** changes from bridges over interchanges and the wetlands.

What will be studied and investigated?

We will engage independent consultants to undertake technical studies and investigations, to assess and better understand the impacts of the freeway:

1. Biodiversity and habitat
2. Traffic and transport
3. Noise and vibration effects
4. Land use and planning
5. Aboriginal cultural heritage
6. Historic cultural heritage
7. Social effects
8. Landscape and visual effects
9. Air quality and greenhouse gas
10. Surface water and hydrology
11. Groundwater
12. Economic effects
13. Soils and contamination

What impact will the EES have on the Mordialloc Freeway?

The EES is not an approval process itself, rather it enables statutory decision-makers, such as Ministers, local government and statutory authorities, to make decisions about whether or how a project with potentially significant environmental effects should proceed.

How is an EES managed?

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) manages the process on behalf of the Minister for Planning.

However, in close consultation with DELWP, we will be responsible for coordinating the investigations and technical studies to understand the impact to the environment and local community.

We will also be responsible for providing opportunities for input and feedback with the community.

Public review

Can the community participate in the EES process?

Community feedback is an integral part of the EES process. The community will be invited to review the EES documentation, which will include an extensive report on the studies and assessment of the potential impacts and how these will be managed.

We encourage the community to provide formal feedback through the submission process.

When will the EES documentation be available to review?

The Minister for Planning will announce when the EES documentation will be available to review.

We'll promote the announcement on our website, email our project subscribers, hold information sessions and post information on social media.

We'll also engage local community groups, residents and businesses to help distribute information through their networks

How can the public comment on the EES?

Formal submissions are managed by Planning Panels Victoria (PPV). Submissions can be made both online or in writing with details to be provided by PPV at the commencement of public exhibition.



Timeline



September 2017:

- Victorian Minister for Planning determines EES is required.



January 2018:

- Federal Minister for Environment and Energy determines project is a controlled action



March 2018:

- EES draft scoping requirements open for public comment.



April – October 2018:

- Minister for Planning sets the EES scoping requirements
- MRPA undertakes the EES studies



October 2018:

- EES public exhibition commences



Early 2019:

- Independent inquiry considers EES and public submissions
- Submitters may be invited to present in person
- Victorian Minister for Planning will make final assessment



Mid 2019:

- Building the freeway starts



End 2021:

- Building the freeway completed

Federal environment assessment requirements

What is a controlled action?

In January 2018, the Federal Minister for Environment and Energy announced the project would also be a 'controlled action' under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) due to matters of national environmental significance.

Process for the controlled action

Under a bilateral agreement, the Victorian Government will manage all the environmental assessments for the controlled action throughout the EES process.

Once the EES process is complete, the Federal Government will make decisions, relying on the assessment report prepared by the State Government.

The purpose of the bilateral agreement is to avoid duplication of the environmental assessment processes.

Assessment

How will the EES be assessed

The Minister for Planning will make a final assessment of the EES and will issue recommendations about whether the environmental effects are acceptable, and whether the project should be modified or subject to environmental mitigation or management measures.

Final decision

Statutory decision-makers will consider the Minister for Planning recommendations. Several approvals may be required, including planning approval.

For more Information

To stay up-to-date on the EES process:

Visit: roadprojects.vic.gov.au and subscribe for updates.

Email: contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au

Call: 1800 105 105



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