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**Metropolitan Melbourne**

Sub:

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No: 82

Subject Submission Metropolitan Melbourne Investigation.

14 February 2009

Mary Madigan



Victorian Environment Assessment Council

Level 6, 8 Nicholson St

East Melbourne, Vic 3002

Submission Metropolitan Melbourne Investigation

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Thank you for allowing submissions to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council on Crown & public land.

Firstly I believe along with many of my family and friends that Victoria needs many more native refuge areas. We have mammals and bird life endangered in this area. Places like Langwarrin Flora and Fauna McClelland Drive Langwarrin is of huge environmental significance as is Morning Mist reserve corner of Browns road and Langley road Cranbourne

South.

This reserve is home to many mammals such as sugar glider possums and frogmouth owls. There is also the Cranbourne South tennis club, which I am a member which offers peace from a hectic world to gather your thoughts to face the world. It is interesting to note that many areas such as MMR and Colley street reserve in Pearcedale, we believe to be public land, are not listed on the public land map supplied within City of Casey map on this website.

Colley street reserve Pearcedale is special as it has many grass trees in their natural state. There are many nature walks observing the indigenous flora of the area and offering education on seed collection and conservation.

The Royal Botanical gardens in Cranbourne offers a wonderful outback experience

picnic area and an escape not too far from town. This saves greenhouse emissions and allows us to take elderly folk who are unable to travel, my mother is in care, to see the beauty of nature.

Further to the south of Casey there is the Yaringa Reserve which is pristine mangrove environment. We need these mangroves to hold our coastline, and it is a Ramsar site for international birds from as far away as Siberia. Clearly our coastline is under treat from global warming.

Other areas not covered by this investigation but of great concern is the pristine coastline of crown land near the Port of Hastings( Mornington Peninsula Shire).

We must protect this land from any development.

Some areas such as the corner of Centre road where I live and North road Langwarrin there is significant native flora and fauna and recently we rescued a ringtail possum badly affected by heat stroke in this area. We returned it to the site a few days later where it scurried off happily. I believe this land may be privately owned perhaps ex-quarry land. There is phone tower in the area and the land appears quite steep however the native vegetation and fauna love the refuge.

In Frankston the Pines Flora and Fauna park has endangered bandicoots and this is well documented. Not a place to run a freeway or develop.

I was so concerned our impact on the environment in Victoria I made my property a Land for Wildlife ten years ago. Since then I have planted 100s of native trees and shrubs, put up nesting boxes and have seen for myself the rewards in working with nature. I have installed rainwater tanks, purchased a hybrid electric car and work in a native propagating nursery.

In light of the recent wildfires /firestorms in Gippsland, Kinglake and other areas, Victoria can ill afford to lose any more native flora and fauna. With estimated one million native fauna already lost to major bushfires this year alone. These firestorms where predicted by scientists years ago on the issues of global warming. Making residents unable to clear around their properties as a fire break and then bulldozing other areas for development is self defeating. We need balance and our native vegetation in Victoria is woefully lacking.

Victorias record on carbon emissions is sadly lacking against other states and residents of Victoria are seeing for themselves the terrible deadly consequences.

We in Victoria have no land we can afford to lose. In fact we need much more land to turn back our severe impact with global warming.

Our environment is speaking loud and clear.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Madigan.