



Our Ref: CA/06/3040, LandTracs: CM101705

Doug Owens
Shoreham Foreshore Reserve CoM
PO Box 24
SHOREHAM VIC 3916

Dear Mr Owens,

FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF WESTERN PORT FORESHORES

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me and representatives of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Department) to discuss the future management options of the Western Port foreshore reserves. As we discussed, the Department is reviewing the current management arrangements for the foreshore reserves in this area with a view to creating a more sustainable model which ensures that coastal Crown land is managed to a high standard.

Currently the Western Port foreshore reserves (from Pt Leo to Crib Point) contain a number of independent foreshores which are managed by different committees of management with different resources available to each. The Department is of the view that any management of these areas must consider the high value placed on them by the Victorian community and that coastal Crown land is managed consistently across the state.

Some of the options considered include:

- Maintaining the current management arrangements of an independent committee of management over each reserve.
- The creation of a single self-sustaining reserve management body to manage all these areas in a consistent way;
- Combining smaller committees with little to no financial resources with an adjoining committee who has greater financial independence.
- Creating two large committees to manage the area as two separate reserves.

Meeting with you was an important step to openly discuss future management options and to gain an understanding of how the committees feel about this management proposal. I appreciate your honesty during this process.

I have taken on board all your comments and concerns and would like to inform you that at this stage no action will be taken to change the management structure of reserves in this area.

I can advise that an expert panel has been convened to review the management of coastal Crown land across the state and that a discussion paper will be released for public consultation by the middle of the year. As part of this process, the committees and the wider Victorian public will have the opportunity to review the discussion paper and provide comments for consideration.

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The Department will review the management arrangements of coastal Crown land around Western Port once a final paper is released. I will also ensure that I consult with each of you directly prior to any action being taken in this area.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your time and feedback into this investigation and I appreciate the passion and commitment that the committees, staff and community have for managing the foreshores for the use and enjoyment of all Victorians.

If you have any further inquiries, please contact Jenny Symons, Environmental Planner, at DELWP's Port Phillip regional office on 9210 9430 or email enviroplan.portphillip@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Padovani', is positioned above the typed name.

CHRIS PADOVANI
REGIONAL MANAGER
LAND, PLANNING AND APPROVALS
PORT PHILLIP REGION

DATE: 1/4/2016