



Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation

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Mr Andrew Beatty
Director
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Dear Mr Beatty and Ms Sack

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 2024 on behalf of the Nepean Ratepayers' Association regarding coastal erosion concerns between Point Nepean and Sorrento. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) has advised it is committed to pursuing evidence-based action to ensure any proposed actions will have a clear scientific basis. As part of this commitment, DEECA will commission an independent review of previous reports and technical information, covering the issues raised by the Nepean Ratepayers' Association relating to coastal erosion between Point Nepean and Sorrento. This is important work that will support DEECA's exploration of potential options.

The review will obtain updated data, including new wave data from the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program wave buoys and the Port Phillip Bay Coastal Hazard Assessment. It will identify emerging knowledge gaps, refine current options through updated modelling, and develop options using an adaptation-based approach aligned with the Marine and Coastal Policy 2020. I support DEECA's position that this work needs to be completed before formal mediation is considered.

The Victorian Government is committed to finding practical strategies to mitigate coastal hazards and will continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to manage Victoria's coastline.

Since your letter, I have had the opportunity to visit Portsea and Sorrento beaches to meet with community members to hear their concerns alongside local MP, Tom McIntosh MP. I appreciate the ongoing work from the community, and from land managers to better preserve and manage the precious coastline along the Mornington Peninsula.

If you have any further queries about this matter, please contact Stephen Chapple, Regional Director Port Phillip, DEECA, on 0400 818 676 or at stephen.chapple@deeca.vic.gov.au.

Thank you for writing to me. I trust this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Member for Oakleigh
Minister for Environment

21 / 10 / 2024

