



MEDIA STATEMENT

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2020

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CLARINDA RECYCLING FACILITY TO CONTINUE BUILDING GREENER ROADS

Attributable to Alex Fraser Group Managing Director, Peter Murphy:

Following a review by an independent expert Advisory Committee, a ten year extension has been granted for the Clarinda Recycling Facility, providing a solution to the state's recycling and resources crises, and securing jobs for around 50 Victorians.

The Clarinda Recycling Facility forms a critical part of Victoria's network of world-class recycling facilities, with capacity to recycle one million tonnes of recyclables each year – around 25 per cent of Melbourne's problem glass and construction waste – which is enough to fill the MCG every two years. It represents an important shift away from past landfill and quarry activities of the area, and is a proven example of the circular economy in action.

Over the last few years, Victoria has been increasingly impacted by a resources shortage and a recycling crisis. A metropolitan facility with the recycling and supply capacity of Clarinda is needed more than ever.

The sustainable construction materials recycled at Clarinda are in increasing demand for major infrastructure projects and for ongoing council maintenance work in Melbourne's south east. The site supplies local council roadworks and Victoria's 'Big Build' projects, including the Level Crossing Removal Projects, the Mordialloc Freeway and the Monash Freeway Upgrade. It is also ideally located to supply the planned Suburban Rail Loop and the Suburban Roads Upgrade.

The site makes a positive contribution to the Green Wedge – the former sand quarry has been remediated and is now home to thousands of indigenous trees which, along with the water bodies, provide ideal habitat for dozens of native birds and frog species (38 species). The Clarinda Recycling Facility is a 100% carbon neutral site, with all emissions offset through the planting of native trees around Victoria. We will continue to work with our neighbours, local schools and community groups to further improve environmental outcomes.

Alex Fraser has been working with private and government agencies to identify suitable sites in the south east, and will continue to do so.

In December 2019, the Minister appointed an Independent Expert Advisory Committee to deliberate the matter. The following timeline details the decision review process:

<https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/panels-and-committees/browse-panels-and-committees/projects/clarinda-recycling-facility-advisory-committee>.

The Advisory Committee Report found (see page ii):

- (the site is) being operated to a very high standard with little to no offsite amenity impacts.
- The current recycling operation is strategically a very significant part of the construction and demolition resource recovery industry, both in south east Melbourne and at a metropolitan level.
- The premature closure of the operation without a suitable site being found to replace it would have a significant impact on resource recovery and likely lead to an increase in the waste stream to landfill and the more rapid exploitation of quarry resources.

https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/500851/Clarinda-Recycling-Facility-AC-Report.pdf

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