5 November 2015

Nick Wimbush
Planning Panels Victoria
GPO Box 2392
Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Mr Wimbush,

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Major Hazards Facilities Advisory Committee.

Generally the TOR is clear on the purpose and outputs of the Advisory Committee, as well as the intended process. It is noted that following initial consultation with the parties nominated in Clause 14 of the TOR, a Discussion Paper will be prepared and published shortly thereafter.

Of the approximately 45 approved MHFs in Victoria, Yarra Ranges LGA contains only the Silvan Reservoir located at Stonyford Road, Silvan and owned by Melbourne Water. Treatment facilities associated with the reservoir are generally buffered from nearby residential and commercial land uses by on-site areas of native bushland.

The Silvan Reservoir is classified as a MHF owing to the storage of large quantities of liquid chlorine gas. A leakage of chlorine gas has potential to affect Monbulk Road to the north and east, as well as nearby areas of Silvan.

Clause 11 of the TOR appears to accurately describe relevant planning and other policy relating to MHFs.

Yarra Ranges Council looks forward to the opportunity to provide input into consideration of improvements to land use planning for areas surrounding major hazard facilities.

Yours sincerely

Ben Champion
Strategic Planner