

**For Public Notice via Internet**

**REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978***

**Title of Proposal:** Monash - CityLink – West Gate Upgrade

**Proponent:** VicRoads and CityLink Melbourne Limited

**Description of Project:**

Upgrade of Monash-CityLink-West Gate Freeway to construct an additional traffic lane in each direction along the existing alignment; introduction of contra flow traffic lanes on the West Gate Bridge during peak periods and the construction of new entry and exit ramps to reduce the traffic merging issues on the West Gate freeway in South Melbourne. The site is the existing freeway road space and reservation and a 7m wide strip of adjacent land in limited areas. See attached locality plan.

**Decision:**

The Minister for Planning has decided that an Environment Effects Statement is not required for the proposed Monash – CityLink – West Gate freeway upgrade as described in the referral submitted by VicRoads and CityLink Melbourne Limited, subject to the following conditions:

- Further air quality monitoring and modelling be undertaken to assess the level of risk associated with increased traffic volumes, and subsequently to determine suitable mitigation responses, to the satisfaction of the Environment Protection Authority; and
- A Project Environmental Protection Strategy be prepared and implemented in consultation with the relevant local governments and to the satisfaction of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, the Environment Protection Authority and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.

**Reasons for Decision:**

- The proposed Monash-CityLink-West Gate Freeway (MCLWG) upgrade project will expand the capacity of an existing freeway along its current alignment and largely within the previously established road reservation;
- As the proposed works are within a highly modified urban environment, any incremental impacts on landscape, cultural heritage, residential and recreational amenity, educational institution uses, run-off volumes and water quality, and flora and fauna, are likely to be relatively minor;
- Measures to mitigate increased traffic noise in accordance with established traffic noise policy are proposed to be applied;
- Measures to mitigate any risks associated with increased air emissions in accordance with State Environment Protection Policy are expected to be implemented; and
- Potential environmental effects can be managed by VicRoads in accordance with an endorsed Project Environmental Protection Strategy.

**Date of Decision:** 26 June 2007