11 November 2015

Mr Nick Wimbush, Mr Chris Harty and Ms Catherine Wilson
Major Hazard Facilities Advisory Committee
c/- planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Wimbush, Mr Harty and Ms Wilson

Major Hazard Facilities Advisory Committee

Thank you for the advice about the Discussion Paper the Committee is planning to prepare and the opportunity to nominate issues for investigation in the Paper.

It would be appreciated if you could consider the following issues:

- The VPPs offer no spatial policy guidance for the location of State significant major hazard facilities.
- The policy, zone and overlay provisions provide little certainty with regard to preventing encroachments of unsuitable uses into hazard areas surrounding existing major hazard facilities nor do they serve to protect potential scarce potential sites for future major hazard facilities.
- There is no common and appropriate planning tool in the VPPs for the mapping of major hazard facilities and the risks that they hold for the use of surrounding land and this means that potential purchasers of surrounding land maybe unaware of likely future risks, needed emergency preparation and possible restrictions on the future use and development of their land.
- For existing facilities, there is the possibility of surrounding land affected by risk being blighted if not in the same ownership but no mechanism to require the acquisition of that land by the owner of the major hazard facility.
- For existing facilities and possibly new facilities, there is no mechanism to prevent the disposal of surrounding land that is subject to high risk.
- With respect to VPP Clause 52.10 a comprehensive review covering the following matters is supported:
  - The listed types of production, use and storage need to be reviewed given advances in technology particularly with regard to alternative waste technology.
  - A review of threshold distances, including a written documentation of their justification – potential for this to be a Planning Scheme reference document. This should consider the hazard distance for uncontrolled
risks and thresholds for controlled risks according to the controls that are in place – should both be mentioned in the clause?

- The scale of establishments.
- Consideration should be given to whether threshold distances are required in relation to the impact of vibration, noise and escape of liquid waste.

If you have any questions, please contact Roz Franklin, Team Leader Scheme and Systems Review of this office on 5950 1911 or email: rosalyn.franklin@mornpen.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Allan Cowley
Manager Strategic Planning