



Victorian
Competition & Efficiency
Commission

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20 March 2014

Mr Dominic Passaportis
Manager
Policy and Legislation, Fire and Emergency Management Division
Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Level 3, 8 Nicholson Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr Passaportis

ADVICE ON THE ADEQUACY OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Thank you for seeking advice on the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) on the proposed Forests (Fire Protection) Regulations 2014.

The Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission (VCEC) advises on the adequacy of RISs as required under section 10(3) of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1994* (the Act). I advise the final version of the RIS received by the VCEC on 19 March 2014 meets the requirements of section 10 of the Act.

The VCEC's advice is based on the adequacy of the evidence presented in the RIS and is focused on the quality of the analysis rather than the merits of the proposal itself. **Therefore, the VCEC's advice the RIS is adequate does not represent an endorsement of the proposal.**

In making this assessment, the VCEC notes that the RIS transparently highlights the data gaps that have prevented all the costs — including those associated with the negotiated compliance approach adopted by the Department — and benefits of the proposal to be estimated. The VCEC, thus, draws stakeholder attention to the discussion points that have been included in the RIS, and notes that stakeholder feedback will help to inform the final decision on the preferred approach.

In the interests of transparency, it is government policy VCEC's advice be published with the RIS when it is released for consultation.

If you have any questions, please contact RegulationReview@vcec.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Walker

Assistant Director

Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission