

Submission: Interim Planning Directive No. 8 -
Application of Attenuation Code - King Island

Date: 23 November 2023

Confidential treatment: has not been requested

Summary: Planning Directive No 8 has not fully considered the unique circumstance of an attenuation zone being retrospectively applied to an inhabited township, and the disadvantage to which this puts the residents of Grassy if this attenuation code is made permanent, without modification.

Supporting documents: No

Request to be heard: Yes

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About The Waterways Network (TWN)

The Waterways Network is a community of practice focused on the impact of development on the health of the environment, including the social and economic dimensions of that impact, especially on waterways. The TWN is concerned with balancing short term benefits against benefits gained when a longer term view is taken of the costs, externalities and benefits.

We are pleased to make the following submission.

Introduction

The Planning Directive for an attenuation zone is an unusual situation within the planning scheme as:

1. The attenuation zone is being applied retrospectively to an existing township and significantly restricts the further development of the town and constrains development, including accommodation and tourism development.
2. The Planning Directive has been introduced at the request of a commercial mining company prior to the introduction of a final Planning Scheme for King Island that is currently on exhibition.

Submission Points

1. The hearing should be held in the township of Grassy so citizens are able to fully understand and engage with the proposal. There is a significant amount of concern among residents and landowners of the island about this proposal, and as yet the community has not been well-informed.

2 The panel should consider the unique nature of this retrospective directive and its impact in constraining the rights of a township of landholders in how they use their land and in what they may do with their land including building, extending and renovating housing.

3 The directive will constrain the development of Grassy, restricting what can and cannot be done in the township in terms of current plans and future development of the township, in particular with tourism. Tourism provides secure long term employment for current and future residents of the island, while modern mining is typically based on a fly-in and fly-out work force, which has minimal interaction with the economic and social life of the island.

4 Metals 6 should provide all the relevant data required to consider the extent of the attenuation zone to the council so the extent of the attenuation zone can be tested to ensure only the minimum necessary area is included in the attenuation zone.

5 Explicit considerations must be given to the impact on the island's water supply in the assessment of the extent of the attenuation zone and consideration given to excluding the water supply catchment from the attenuation zone or providing the catchment with further clear additional protections.

Yours sincerely,



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