

AVONBANK MINERAL SANDS PROJECT ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS STATEMENT UPDATE

The Minister for Planning has required WIM Resource Pty Ltd (the proponent) to prepare an Environment Effects Statement (EES) to assess the environmental effects of the proposed Avonbank Mineral Sands Project.

The EES, together with a draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA), are expected to be placed on public exhibition for 30 business days commencing in April 2023.

During the public exhibition period, members of the public will be able to read the EES documents and draft PSA, and make written submissions. More information on how to make a submission will be available once the exhibition period commences.

The EES process is accredited to assess impacts on matters of national environmental significance (MNES) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) through the Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of Victoria.

Following public exhibition, the EES, draft PSA and written submissions will be reviewed by an independent EES Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) appointed by the Minister for Planning, to consider the environmental effects of the Project. The IAC will hold a Directions Hearing and formal public hearings to hear from the proponent and any submitters who want to be heard.

The public submission process is independently managed by Planning Panels Victoria.

Submissions must be made using the Engage Victoria submissions page that will be advertised when exhibition commences.

At the commencement of exhibition, the EES and draft PSA documents will be available on the project website and will also be available to review in hard copy at selected locations.

EES Information Pack

You can order an EES Information pack that contains:

- a downloadable electronic version of EES documents, draft PSA and Summary Brochure (via email); or
- a printed copy of the Summary Brochure and a USB drive containing the EES documents and draft PSA.

During the exhibition period, printed copies of the EES and draft PSA will be available for viewing at selected locations. Printed copies will be available upon request.

Please note the EES is a long document (8 volumes comprising 5,500 pages) and we encourage the use of electronic versions to minimise environmental impacts.

To find out more or to order an EES information Pack:

Email avonbankees@wimresource.com.au

Free call 1800 580 787