

**Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Act 2001
AMENDED NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION:
ANGAHOOK-OTWAY INVESTIGATION**

Pursuant to section 15 of the *Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Act 2001* (the VEAC act), the Minister for Environment has amended the request to VEAC made by the former Minister for Environment and Conservation concerning the Angahook-Lorne State Park dated 8 September 2002.

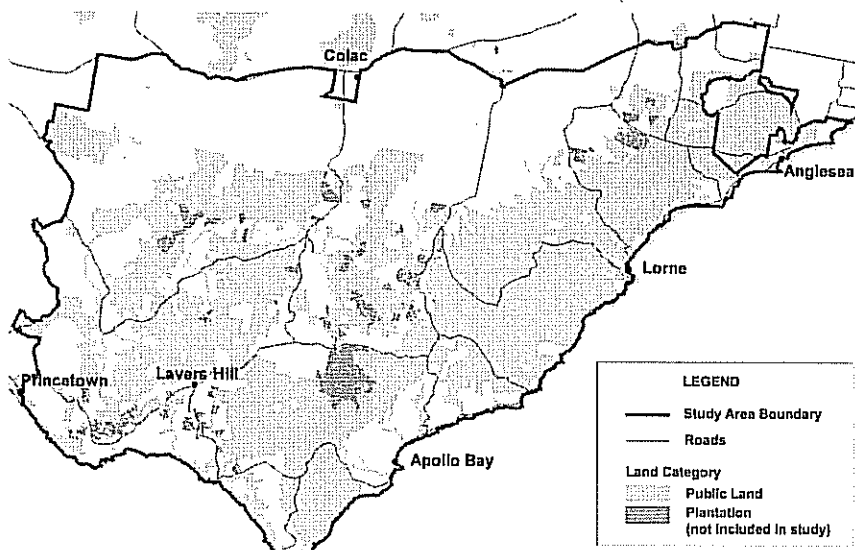
VEAC is now requested to carry out an investigation of the public land landward of low water mark within the Otway Ranges area shown on the accompanying plan. The purpose of the investigation is to determine the boundaries of:

- (a) a single national park in the Otway Ranges including public land extending from Anglesea to Cape Otway, specifying whether or not the Great Ocean Road should be included in the park; and
- (b) any other public land currently managed as State Forest which would be suitable for addition to existing State Parks or nature conservation reserves, or for inclusion in new nature conservation reserves once native forest logging ceases in the Otways.

The Council is required to prepare a discussion paper and draft proposals paper and to submit a written report on the results of its investigation by 3 September 2004.

In addition to the considerations specified in section 18 of the VEAC Act, the Council must also take into consideration the following matters:

- Victorian Government's policies with respect to logging and woodchipping in the Otways;
- Definition of "national park" used by the former Land Conservation Council and the former Environment Conservation Council;
- Objects of the National Parks Act with respect to national parks;
- Victorian Coastal Strategy 2002;
- Victorian Government's Great Ocean Road Region Strategy;
- Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Development Plan;
- Anglesea Heathland Agreement between the Secretary to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and Alcoa Australia Limited;
- Relevant regional catchment strategies.



SUBMISSIONS INVITED

Submissions are now invited from interested groups and individuals for

consideration for a Discussion Paper which will be published later in the year. Submissions should be addressed to the Executive Officer at the address below or by Fax or E-mail. If submissions are sent by Fax or E-mail, please include postal address if you wish to receive progress reports on the Investigation.
SUBMISSION PERIOD CLOSSES ON 28 APRIL 2003.

NOTE THAT ONLY SUBMISSIONS SENT DIRECTLY TO VEAC CAN BE TREATED AS SUBMISSIONS.

There will be further opportunities for submissions following publication of the Discussion Paper and also following the Draft Proposals Paper.

Unless specifically requested otherwise, all submissions to the Council become public documents. If you wish your submission to be considered confidential, a written request must accompany the submission. If the confidentiality request is not accepted, your submission will be returned to you.

Information contained in all submissions may also be stored and used by VEAC or the Department of Sustainability and Environment, for purposes relating to this investigation and subsequent Government consideration of matters related to the investigation.

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