

# Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 60 Saturday 6 May 2000 By Authority, Victorian Government Printer

**SPECIAL** 

### **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Forest (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2000

Notice is given in accordance with section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**, that a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared in relation to the Forests (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2000.

The reason for and the objective of the proposed Regulations is to provide for the prevention of harm to the forest environment and to forest users in the State forests of Victoria. This objective is currently achieved by the Forests (Miscellaneous) Regulations 1999. These regulations will expire on 16 May 2000, being the day which is six months from the day they were made.

The proposed Regulations will promote this objective by providing for the branding of forest produce to indicate its status (where desirable), by providing a range of offences which generally relate to damage to the forest environment and infrastructure and to a number of health and safety matters. The proposed Regulations also prescribe the manner of furnishing a sawmiller's statistical return form under section 94 of the **Forests Act 1958**.

The RIS provides some possible alternatives to the proposed Regulations including a Code of Practice and a program of public education. The RIS states that the benefits of the proposed regulations, including the preservation of environmental values, are largely benefits which cannot be delivered by a program of public education or a voluntary Code of Practice. The benefits of the proposed Regulations are therefore considered to outweigh the alternatives as described in the RIS.

Copies of the RIS and the proposed Regulations may be obtained from the Information Centre, Department of Natural Resources and Environment. Ground Floor, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002. Telephone (03) 9637 8428 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. or on the Internet at http://www.nre.vic.gov.au/ris/

Public comments are invited on the RIS and accompanying proposed regulations. All comments must be in writing and must be sent to Mr Terry Kempton-Hall, Project Officer, Level 13, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002 by no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday 5 June 2000.

Dated: 13 April 2000

SHERRYL GARBUTT MP Minister for Environment and Conservation

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