



Victoria Government Gazette

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SPECIAL

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Fisheries (Rock Lobster and Giant Crab) Regulations 2001

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 Fisheries (Rock Lobster and Giant Crab) Regulations 2001.

The reason for, and the objective of, the proposed Regulations is to amend the Fisheries Regulations 1998 to enable the giant crab and rock lobster commercial fisheries to be managed by individual transferable quota, to provide for continued sustainable use, protection and good management of Victoria's fish resources in particular the rock lobster and giant crab fisheries, and to make other minor amendments.

Proposed regulatory changes include:

- a new giant crab fishery and access licence with prescribed fees, entitlements and conditions to enable the fishery to be managed by quota;
- a giant crab closed season;
- amended conditions for rock lobster fishery access licences to enable the fishery to be managed by quota;
- specifications for a rock lobster pot and giant crab pot;
- offence to receive rock lobster or giant crab direct from the licence holder at the place of landing without a catch disposal record;
- closure of the Tamboon Inlet fishery;
- an application fee for the transfer of individual quota units for the giant crab, rock lobster and scallop (ocean) fisheries;
- transitional provisions and other minor amendments.

The RIS provides some possible alternatives to the proposed Regulations including the use of weighing stations at certain ports, a sealed bin weighing scheme, paper based system for reporting of landed catch, individual tagging, and an approved industry code of practice. Whilst some of the alternatives could clearly

achieve the objective of these Regulations, it would be at a higher cost and the net benefits would be significantly lower. Other alternatives could be introduced for less cost than the proposed Regulations but with a much higher risk that the objectives of regulation would not be achieved.

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, or by telephoning 13 61 86 between 8.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. or on the internet at <http://www.nre.vic.gov.au/fishing>

Public comments are invited on the RIS and accompanying proposed Regulations. All comments must be in writing and must be sent to Serena Scopel, Senior Policy Officer, Fisheries Victoria, Level 15, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002 by no later than 5.00 p.m. Monday 17 September 2001.

Dated 15 August 2001

CANDY BROAD
Minister for Energy
and Resources

Gazette Services

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Government Information and Communications Branch

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Level 3, 356 Collins Street

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