

Navigating the EES

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the West Gate Tunnel Project has been released and is open for public submissions. Information in the EES will help answer your questions about how the project could affect the environment, and what we're doing to manage impacts during construction and when the road opens.

The West Gate Tunnel's design has been two years in development. Over this time, we have worked with communities and stakeholders to understand views, reduce impacts and improve the project. The EES includes details on the environmental effects of the design, how it will be built and operated, and proposed plans for managing effects.

About the EES process

An EES has been required to be prepared for the project by the Minister for Planning. This is a well-established process and the most comprehensive and transparent way for a project's impacts to be considered.

The EES process is managed by the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on behalf of the Minister for Planning, in accordance with the *Environment Effects Act 1978*.

The West Gate Tunnel Project will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge by providing a much needed second river crossing. It will widen the West Gate Freeway generally from 8 to 12 lanes, build a new road tunnel and bridges, and provide direct access to the port, CityLink and the north of the city.

Planning approvals

Outcomes of the EES process will inform two key approvals required for the project to proceed:

- Planning Scheme Amendment – decision maker is Minister for Planning
- EPA Works Approval – decision maker is EPA Victoria



Having your say on the EES

The EES process is the opportunity to have your views considered in planning approvals decisions for the West Gate Tunnel Project.

How do I make a submission?

Interested persons and organisations are invited to submit comments on the EES, the draft Planning Scheme Amendment or Works Approval Application.

Review the EES:

- Online: www.westgatetunnelproject/EES.
- In hard copy at local council offices in Melbourne, Brimbank, Wyndham, Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong and libraries along the project corridor. For more details go to the West Gate Tunnel website.
- Request a hard copy or USB from the Western Distributor Authority. Phone 1300 280 939.

Make your submission

Make your submission to Planning Panels Victoria at www.planning.vic.gov.au/west-gate-tunnel-project-hearing by **5:00pm on Monday 10 July 2017**.

Online submissions are preferred. Hard copy submissions must be accompanied by a coversheet. This can be obtained by calling the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Submissions must relate to information and topics covered in the West Gate Tunnel EES, Works Approval application or Planning Scheme Amendment, and include the name and address of the person making the submission.

Who reads my submission?

All submissions will be considered by an Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC). The Western Distributor Authority as the project proponent, EPA, and other organisations with an interest will also review the submissions. Submissions are treated as public documents.

The IAC is appointed by the Minister for Planning for their expertise in issues relevant to the project. The IAC is responsible for considering the EES, draft Planning Scheme Amendment, EPA Works Approval application and all public submissions, and making recommendations to the Minister for Planning.

After all submissions have been received, the IAC will conduct public hearings. Requests to be heard by the IAC must be made at the time of making a submission through the online form or submission coversheet.

The IAC hearing is scheduled to begin on Monday 14 August 2017. Details of the program will be published online at www.planning.vic.gov.au/west-gate-tunnel-project-hearing as it becomes available.

What happens after the hearings?

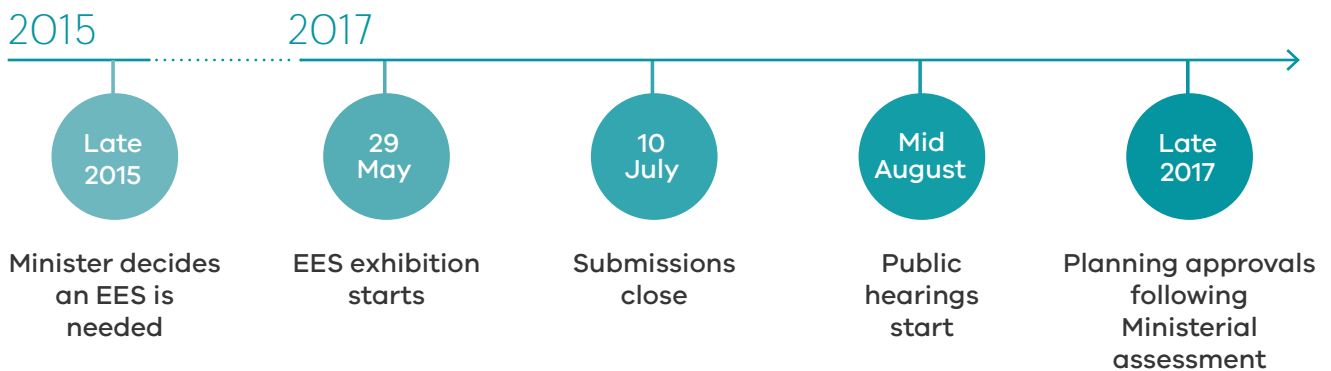
After the public hearings have concluded, the IAC will prepare a report for the Minister for Planning to enable the Minister to make an assessment of the EES. The assessment will be provided to statutory decision makers to inform decisions on the project, including the Planning Scheme Amendment.





Footscray Road
Artist impression only - does not include detailed design


Key steps in the EES process



Contact us

Do you have a question about the project? If you need more information or would like to provide feedback, please get in touch.

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Melbourne Victoria 3001

 **Interpreter service: 13 14 50**

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service. For more information, visit: www.relayservice.gov.au.



Bridge over Footscray Road
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