



2026 Commonwealth Games Bid Public Hearing

Environment Protection Authority Victoria

Lee Miezis | Chief Executive Officer | 13 October 2023



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Who are we?

Established in 1971, Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) is the state's independent environmental regulator.

EPA is a statutory authority, with a Governing Board appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister for Environment

EPA is responsible for preventing the harmful effects of pollution and waste on Victorian communities and the environment.

In fulfilling its role, EPA draws on its scientific and regulatory expertise, and works with communities, governments, businesses, and industry.

epa.vic.gov.au



Our purpose

Protecting the health of our communities and environment



The outcomes we want to see

By 2027 we want to see the following outcomes:



Our environment is cleaner and communities are healthier



All Victorians reduce their environmental risks



We have impact and influence

EPA's role in the Commonwealth Games



- Engagement with EPA by Development Victoria and the Office of Commonwealth Games (Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions) commenced immediately after proposed Commonwealth Games development sites were identified and publicly announced.
- EPA's primary role was to utilise its regulatory and scientific expertise to provide environment protection advice, including for planning approvals under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
- The planning approval pathway sought for Commonwealth Games villages required Development Victoria (as the proponent) to consult with EPA as a relevant public authority.
- EPA did not have a statutory approval role under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* or the *Environment Protection Act 2017* for development at these sites to proceed.
- Development Victoria sought advice from EPA on specific elements of the Commonwealth Games development proposals.
- Advice provided by EPA in response to requests generally highlighted the risks to the environment and human health due to pollution and waste, and the requirements of the Environment Protection Act 2017 associated with the Commonwealth Games development proposals.