

Appendix A:

Submissions and comments

We have consulted with DEECA and EPA and we considered their views when reaching our review conclusions. As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, we gave a draft copy of this report, or relevant extracts, to those agencies and asked for their submissions and comments.

Responsibility for the accuracy, fairness and balance of those comments rests solely with the agency head.

Responses received

Agency	Page
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action	A-2
Environment Protection Authority Victoria	A-4



Department of Energy, Environment
and Climate Action

PO Box 500, East Melbourne,
Victoria 8002 Australia

Mr Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General
Victorian Auditor-General's Office
Level 31, 35 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Ref: SEC015908



Dear Mr Greaves

**PROPOSED PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT - UNDERSTANDING VICTORIA'S
CONTAMINATED LAND**

Thank you for your letter of 3 March 2023, providing the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) with the opportunity to comment on the proposed report for the limited assurance engagement 'Understanding Victoria's Contaminated Land'.

Please find enclosed DEECA's response to the recommendations in the report and the actions DEECA proposes to take, including expected completion dates. DEECA welcomes the two recommendations made to the department and the actions in response are part of DEECA's forward work plan.

In line with the report's recommendations, DEECA will conduct an evaluation of Victoria Unearthed (VU) to assess if it is fit for purpose and meets users' needs and to identify areas for improvement. DEECA will also work with the Environment Protection Authority Victoria to make data quality statements easily accessible and available to end users of VU.

Thank you again for your audit report. I appreciate the professional and diligent way this limited assurance review has been conducted.

If you require further information, please contact Eve Graham, Director Environment Protection, DEECA, at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely




Matt Lowe
Acting Secretary

Encl.

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorized by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to foi_unit@delwp.vic.gov.au or FOI Unit, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.



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Understanding Victoria's Contaminated Land VAGO Limited Assurance Audit

DEECA's Management Action Plan

Recommendations	Agreed Action	Completion Date
<p>Recommendation #1</p> <p>DEECA evaluates Victoria Unearthed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess if it is fit for purpose and meets users' needs • identify areas for improvement. 	<p>Accepted</p> <p>DEECA accepts this recommendation and will commit to an evaluation of Victoria Unearthed.</p> <p>The evaluation will provide an independent report on whether Victoria Unearthed is fit for purpose, meets users' needs, and will identify areas for improvement.</p>	1 December 2023
<p>Recommendation #2</p> <p>Makes data quality statements on each Victoria Unearthed dataset available to users.</p>	<p>Accepted</p> <p>DEECA accepts this recommendation and will work with EPA to make data quality statements easily accessible and available to users.</p>	30 June 2023

OFFICIAL



EPA ref: C1383

Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General
Victorian Auditor-General's Office

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Andrew

Proposed report - Understanding Victoria's Contaminated Land

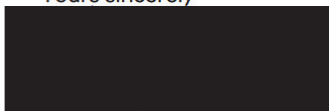
Thank you for your letter of 3 March 2023 about the proposed report of the independent assurance review *Understanding Victoria's Contaminated Land*. Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) welcomes the scrutiny of the review process and the opportunity it provides to learn and improve our performance.

EPA accepts the recommendation that it work with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action to make data quality statements on each Victoria Uearthed dataset available to users. The action to complete and publish these data quality statements will be completed by 30 June 2023.

I acknowledge the consideration and acquittal of our comments on the provisional report and more broadly, the constructive engagement EPA has experienced through the audit.

If you would like any further information, please contact Matt d'Abbs, Chief Quality Officer by email to [REDACTED] or by phone to [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



Lee Miezijs
Chief Executive Officer

16 / 03 / 2023

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