

Submitted on Sunday, September 30, 2018 - 09:00

DETAILS

Company:
First name: Leonie
Last name: Stubbs
Address: [REDACTED]
Suburb: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Sector: Community

NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING

1 . Would a strategic approach to clearing, through a strategic purpose permit, benefit you?

Response: yes

Comments:

I concur with the points set out in the discussion paper. In particular any management tool which improves outcomes from the cumulative impacts of clearing is of benefit.

2. Is the 'purpose component' reasonable to apply considering the added complexity of assessing this type of clearing permit?

Response: yes

Comments:

I believe it is reasonable.

3. Is the proposed fee structure fair and does it adequately reflect differences in the financial capacity of clearing permit applicants?

Response: yes

Comments:

User pays is an important tool as it highlights the fact that native vegetation is not worthless. It has considerable value and any clearing application should be considered to be a serious matter that will have long term consequences for the natural environment. Hopefully it made lead to less clearing as other options by applicants are considered. My only concern is that department staff may feel pressured to agree to clearing permits when in fact it should not occur because of the fact that the applicant is now contributing to the process.

4. What is the likely impact on your business or industry of the proposed clearing fee structure?

Comments:

Not applicable

5. Additional comments regarding Native Vegetation Clearing not addressed in the questions above.

Comments:

More resources should be made available for investigation to ensure that illegal clearing rates do not increase due to the fact that applicants must now pay. It's not enough to set fees and provide permits. We need people in the field checking that applicants are doing the right thing.

WATER

6. Do you consider it reasonable for taxpayers to pay 100 per cent of the cost of assessing water licence and permit applications and if so, why?

Response: no

Comments:

Fresh water is a valuable resource that must be valued more than it currently is by business as well as the community. When users are charged a fee there is more consideration paid to whether the licence is absolutely necessary and how much water is actually required.

7. If water licence and permit assessment fees were introduced, what do you consider to be an appropriate fee for a water licence or permit application?

Comments:

I believe that a fee that covers the assessment/application costs is reasonable.

8. Would you consider a risk-based model for determining water licence and permit application fees to be appropriate? If not, what basis could the department use to structure fees?

Response: yes

Comments:

I believe a risk-based model is appropriate *9. What would be the likely impact on your business or industry if water licence and permit fees were introduced?*

Comments:

Not applicable

10. If water licence and permit assessment fees were introduced, how could the collection of fees be timed to better support your business or industry? For example, would you benefit from paying fees up front, at the end of a licence assessment or annualised over the term of the licence?

Response: unsure

Comments

Not applicable

*11 . Additional comments regarding Water licences and permits not addressed in the questions

above.*

Comments: