



4 July 2018

Mr Kyle Garland
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Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
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RE: Clean Air for All Victorians: Victoria's Air Quality Statement

Dear Kyle,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the engagement process for the *Clean Air for All Victorians* initiative. The Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (CASANZ) is a not-for-profit technical organisation with our members working in research, government, consulting, academia and industry. The Society has a proud history of championing initiatives aimed at improving air quality. A few Victorian examples include:

- The branch was funded by the NHMRC to host a meeting of the international task force of the WHO's International Program on Chemical Safety charged with reviewing the WHO air quality guideline for nitrogen dioxide
- The branch was actively involved in promoting the public consultation, information and development sessions for the State Environment Protection Policies: Air Quality Management and Ambient Air Quality
- The branch hosted the 2015 Clean Air and Environment Conference where the Federal Government Minister for the Environment announced CASANZ as a Clean Air Champion.

CASANZ warmly supports the significant funding investment for development of a Victorian Air Quality Strategy. The importance of clean air has been well demonstrated and the solutions required to secure a clean air future will require a collaborative, innovative and practical approach. We believe CASANZ has an essential role to play in this process.

CASANZ brings together air quality professionals through Special Interest Group (SIG) workshops, branch events and our biennial conference. These events enable relationship building, exchange of ideas and interrogation of existing/old science. Our quarterly scientific journal celebrates research and development whilst our training platform of webinars and courses provides opportunities for continuing professional development and education. These functions are critical for collaboration, innovation and practical approaches.

Our suggestion for helping to deliver "great air quality" is for the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to utilise, recognise and support CASANZ.

Options for utilising CASANZ are:

- Make use of our network of air quality professionals to disseminate and gather information
- Engage with training opportunities. For example our Low Cost Sensor Training Course held in October 2017 covered the emerging field of low cost sensor technology and its application in air quality measurement. The course was held in partnership with QUT and attracted delegates from

Australia, Spain, New Zealand, Indonesia and China. The course relates directly to the DELWP objective of *Improving our Understanding of where and when air pollution occurs*. CASANZ training courses can be developed to meet a specific need or tailored to an identified audience.

- Participate in workshops, conferences and events. CASANZ is working on a biomass smoke workshop intended to highlight the many aspects of smoke management and its implications for air quality in Australia and New Zealand. DELWP participation in this event would provide the forum for *Tackling Emerging Air Quality Issues*.
- Use the CASANZ webinar platform for an online discussion or engagement session with the air quality industry.

Options for recognising CASANZ are:

- Work conducted in the air quality field should be based on sound science and represent an ethical approach. The Victorian community should have confidence that work conducted to secure an air quality future has integrity and is undertaken by individuals and organisations who are highly skilled in the technical area. In our opinion this is best achieved by requiring works to be completed or reviewed by Certified Air Quality Professionals (CAQP). The CAQP status is awarded to CASANZ members who meet minimum criteria for qualifications, experience and contribution to the industry. CAQPs must also abide by the CASANZ Code of Ethics and undertake continuing professional development to maintain their certification.

Options for supporting CASANZ are:

- We strive to meet our objective of *Healthy Air for All* by connecting and supporting the air quality industry. We achieve this when individuals and organisations are active members. It is suggested that DELWP become a CASANZ Corporate member and consider options for sponsoring or partnering with the Society.

Overall, it is our strong desire to support all initiatives aimed at improving air quality. The list outlined above is not exhaustive but rather an illustration of examples where CASANZ can collaborate with DELPW to help achieve our common goals.

We welcome an opportunity to discuss these matters further.

Yours sincerely,



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