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community.yallourn

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Thank you for the opportunity for the Wellington Shire Council to formally review and comment on the Draft Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan (DMRP) for the Yallourn Mine. From an Officer perspective I would comment as follows.

The draft plan captures the high-level values of the Latrobe River System and the importance of maintaining flows downstream of the rehabilitated Yallourn Mine.

As the plan progresses it is essential that the downstream impacts to water quality and quantity are assessed adequately and based on best practice and robust science, with appropriate mitigation and monitoring established in order protect downstream aquatic and terrestrial ecology, wetland function and protection of Ramsar convention wetlands, as well as recreational, cultural and amenity values.

The protection of these values is integral to Wellington Shire from biodiversity, social, cultural, business and tourism perspectives.

From an economic development perspective Council would strongly encourage the use of local (Gippsland-based) trades to undertake the works involved in facilitating the rehabilitation process.

Regards

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