



22/06/2007 11:37 AM

To land.whitepaper@dse.vic.gov.au

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Subject Submission Land and Biodiversity White Paper from the
Australian Biosphere Volunteers Inc.

The Chairman.

Dear Sir Gustav Nossal,

The Australian Biosphere Volunteers Inc. have a web site under construction at <www.australianbiospherevolunteers.info>.

You may find it relates the development of your Green Paper.

As you will learn from the website ABV Inc. volunteers initiated the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve called the Mornington Peninsula and Westernport Biosphere reserve at a meeting at 7 Meadow lane Mt Eliza on 11th June 1999.

They founded the ABV Inc on the 19th of December 2003 when they realized the need for a network of sustainable, volunteer, grassroots, inclusive communities throughout Australia.

They agreed that the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve Program model such as the MP&WP Biosphere Reserve served as the best and oldest proved system to engage communities in sustainable living.

These volunteers tried to and believe that they initiated interest in the program in other places such as Noosa, Canberra, MT Warning, Cooktown and elsewhere, early in the century and ABV Inc is continuing seeding such interest nationwide.

We believe that our initiative needs be considered by your committee as a means of attracting communities into a network of sustainability through this program across Victoria.

Other biosphere reserves in Victoria are in the pipeline and could include the Bellarine Peninsula/Geelong, the volcanic plain from the Plenty River to the SA border, Mildura, the Yarra Valley and a necklace of biosphere reserves on the watersheds of the rivers around Melbourne.

We would like the opportunity of speaking to your Committee.

Yours Craig Forster.

Secretar, ABV Inc