

22.0219/01/2006
VC37**MINERAL SPRINGS PROTECTION**

This policy applies to the environs, catchments and aquifers of mineral springs in Hepburn Shire as shown on Schedule 2 to the Environmental Significance Overlay - Mineral Springs and Groundwater Protection (shown on the planning scheme maps as **ESO2**).

Policy Basis

This policy:

- Applies the protection of catchments, waterways and groundwater SPPF objective in clause 15.01 to local circumstances.
- Builds on the MSS objectives in clause 21.09 relating to the protection of surface and ground water quality.
- Applies the objectives of the draft Victorian Mineral Springs Reserves Masterplan review 1999 and Hepburn Mineral Springs relating to mineral springs and mineral springs reserve management.
- Applies the findings of the Mineral and Spring Water Resource Protection Discussion Paper 1996 and Mineral Springs Risk Assessment report to protect mineral springs.

A significant number of mineral springs are located throughout Hepburn Shire. Many of these are recognised tourism locations, while others retain a natural recreation setting. It is important that the quality of the mineral water sources and the character of the springs and their environs are managed to prevent the loss of these significant assets.

Objectives*Mineral Springs Water*

- To enhance and protect the quality and quantity of mineral spring water.
- To ensure that new development does not compromise the integrity of the aquifer.

The built environment

- To ensure that all use and development is compatible with the underlying character of surrounding built areas.
- To ensure that all use and development is compatible with the characteristics and integrity of individual mineral springs.
- To protect and enhance the setting of the mineral springs.

Policy*Exercising Discretion*

Where a permit is required for use and development in sites identified in the ESO2, it is policy to:

- Ensure the design of development proposals directs all stormwater and drainage away from the eye of the spring and demonstrate that no adverse effect on spring water will occur.
- Not support proposals for chemical and liquid fuel storage within 200 metres of the mineral or freshwater springs eye.

- Ensure that proposals include an appropriate effluent and waste water treatment and disposal system to prevent liquid waste disposal to groundwater sources.
- Encourage proposals to be consistent with the North Central Catchment Management Strategy Waterways and Water Resources Program.

Where a permit is required for development in the areas shown in the Mineral Springs Masterplan, it is policy to:

- Ensure proposals consider the height, bulk and form and any design recommendations outlined in the relevant Mineral Springs Masterplan.

Where a permit is required for a use or development within the Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve, it is policy to:

- Ensure proposals do not adversely effect the supply of mineral water in the Reserve.
- Encourage the retention and enhancement of large trees where appropriate.
- Require proposals to be adequately serviced for stormwater drainage and wastewater disposal.
- Ensure proposals consider the height, bulk and form and any design recommendations outlined in the relevant Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve Strategy Plan.

Decision Guidelines

It is policy that the responsible authority consider as appropriate:

- The impact of proposals on the recommendation of the draft Mineral Springs Masterplan 1999, the Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve Strategic Plan or any other masterplan prepared for the future development of any mineral springs site.
- The impact of proposals for:
 - urban development being drainage and stormwater run-off, waste water disposal, stream bed erosion, solid waste disposal, commercial waste disposal, storage of fuel, pesticide and fertiliser and hazardous materials;
 - subdivision;
 - forestry/timber production; or
 - mining /extractive industry

on those areas identified at risk in the Mineral Springs Risk Assessment Report, 1996.

- The impact on the quality and yield of water from the spring and the need to avoid pollution of mineral springs aquifers.
- The need to retain vegetation to minimise erosion and scouring of mineral spring eyes.
- Comments received from the Victorian Mineral Water Committee, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and the relevant water authority.

Reference Documents

Draft Loddon Water Quality Strategy

Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve Strategy Plan, February 1997

Mineral Springs Risk Assessment, Sinclair Knight Merz, 1996.

Mineral Springs Master Plans, CDLD and RPD Group, 1999.

North Central Catchment Management Strategy, June 1997

Water Supply Catchments and Aquifer Intake Areas Interim Planning Guide,
Ministry for Planning and Environment, Department of Conservation Forest and Lands and
Department of Industry, technology and Resources, 1987.