

Protecting Sand Resources in Nyora

South Gippsland Shire Council endorsed its submission to the State Government's Strategic Extractive Resource Areas (SERA) Pilot Project at its meeting yesterday.

Council has recognised the strategic importance of the Nyora sand resource for the local and broader Victorian economy for many years. The submission demonstrates Council's support of the introduction of new planning scheme controls through the SERA project to protect the resource and amenity of local residents.

A request will be made to the Minister for Planning that any process to formally introduce the SERA planning controls into the South Gippsland Planning Scheme will occur with further public consultation and independent review by a planning panel or advisory committee.

South Gippsland Shire Chair Administrator Julie Eisenbise understood the balance needed between providing such an important resource to the local and Victorian economy while respecting the needs of local nearby residents.

"There is a high priority to protect the sand resource at Nyora due to its economic importance – the sand is of high-quality and is close to market where there is a high demand as finding these new resources is becoming increasingly difficult.

"There is a balance that needs to be achieved between providing access to this resource and the impact of amenity to local residents. This is why we are pleased to see the State Government engaging with local residents on the project but we are encouraging them to continue this work in any further stages of the project to ensure residents concerns are considered and mitigated where possible," said Ms Eisenbise.

PR2561 23/7/20