



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

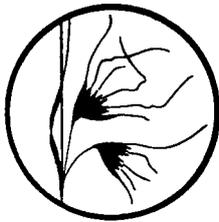
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL
Ms Caroline Le Couteur MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair)
Mr Mark Parton MLA

Submission Cover Sheet

Draft Variation to the Territory Plan No 360
- Molonglo River Reserve: changes to public land
reserve overlay boundaries and minor zone adjustment

Submission Number: 2

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Friends of Grasslands

supporting native grassy ecosystems

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The Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
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Dear Sir/Madam

Inquiry into Draft Variation 360 – Molonglo River Reserve: changes to public land reserve overlay boundaries and minor zone adjustment

Friends of Grasslands (FOG) is a community group dedicated to the conservation of natural temperate grassy ecosystems in south-eastern Australia. FOG advocates, educates and advises on matters to do with the conservation of grassy ecosystems, and carries out surveys and other on-ground work. FOG is based in Canberra and its members include professional scientists, landowners, land managers and interested members of the public. FOG has a long term interest in the Molonglo River Reserve and the Pink Tailed Worm Lizard population in this area, and has made numerous submissions in the past concerning these.

As far as FOG is aware, the draft variation will make changes to the public land reserve overlay boundaries on the Territory Plan Map for the area of the Molonglo River Reserve so that the Territory Plan Map is aligned with the provisions in the Molonglo River Reserve – Reserve Management Plan. FOG supports this proposal.

However, in addition we wish to submit that this is an opportune time to incorporate the Coombs “tip” – currently subject to a development moratorium – into the River Reserve area. FOG supports the retention of the tip area for the following reasons:

- a) The retention of the tip mitigates against the requirement to manage an Outer-Asset Protection Zone within the Molonglo River Reserve (and directly within Pink-tailed Worm-lizard habitat) adjacent to the Coombs Peninsular.
- b) The area provides an opportunity to provide a high quality low impact recreation hub outside the Reserve.

FOG does not intend to appear at a public hearing concerning this matter.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Robertson
President

12 May 2019