

EAST GIPPSLAND NEWS 12/12/2012

Bastion Point rally

'Save Bastion Point' campaigners rallied on the steps of Parliament House, Melbourne, on Monday in protest of what they claim as the beach being "destroyed by a giant breakwater and access road on the beach".

Surfboards, board shorts, zinc cream, thongs and music made for a lively rally, organised by the Save Bastion Point Campaign with

support from the Victorian National Parks Association and Surfrider Foundation Australia. An online petition signed by nearly 2000 supporters was also presented.

Victorian Environment Minister Ryan Smith is expected to make a decision on the long-running and controversial Bastion Point Ocean Access project at Mallacoota's Bastion Point before Christmas.

"This will be a massive

litmus test for the Victorian Government's coastal planning credentials," spokesman for the Save Bastion Point Campaign, Leo Op den Brouw said.

"The government's own independent planning panel ruled that the proposal contradicts coastal policy, and a recent review led by the Department of Transport recommended a range of lower impact options."