

MEDIA RELEASE

23 January 2013

Mallacoota Community to Keep Fighting Bastion Point Proposal

Today the Minister for the Environment, Ryan Smith, gave Coastal Management Act approval for the 'Option 3b' breakwater and beach road proposal at Bastion Point - a proposal that has incurred major resistance over the past decade.

"This resistance is likely to continue" says Leo op den Brouw, spokesman for the Save Bastion Point Campaign. "We cannot support the Option 3b proposal in any way. So-called "strict conditions" set down by the Minister do not mitigate against this disastrous development."

"Recent consultation shows the vast majority of the community expressed opposition to it. Moreover, the economic case is so weak it is likely to become an expensive white elephant and a constant drain on public funds."

Mr op den Brouw says "we will continue to oppose this uneconomic and environmentally destructive project. This decision by the Minister shows that no piece of Victoria's coastline or beach is safe from poorly planned and destructive developments".

"Victorians love their beaches and unspoilt coastlines" said Simon Branigan, Marine and Coastal Project officer with the Victorian National Parks Association.

"The State Government has again shown that it is completely out of touch with the community and continues their poor record on the environment by deciding to bury Bastion Point under a massive breakwater and bitumen road."

Contact details for interviews –

Leo op den Brouw, M: 0428 535 192
www.savebastionpoint.org