

Stakeholder Engagement Policy

VicForests is committed to engaging with our stakeholders who are interested in contributing to our sustainable forest management practices

Engagement objectives

VicForests stakeholder engagement activities are driven by a number of objectives:

- To be open and transparent regarding our operations
- To provide stakeholders with the opportunity to have input into our forest management practices
- To engage and communicate with and support neighbours and local communities who benefit or have a stake in VicForests' activities, jobs and community involvement
- To be responsive to stakeholder concerns and queries
- To improve community understanding of VicForests' management activities
- To provide support to regional communities where we operate
- To identify stakeholders who have an interest in contributing to sustainable forest management practices and to establish collaboration with them.

VicForests and the Victorian timber industry are part of the community in many regional areas and we recognize positive relationships with our stakeholders are important to our role as a responsible forest manager.

VicForests' engagement aims to enable people to be aware of information relevant to them and help to improve the public's understanding of VicForests and how we operate.

Timber harvesting remains a complex and emotive subject which generates passionate opinions. We are committed to ensuring any engagement with our stakeholders aligns with our organisational values: Safe, Sustainable, Professional, Customer Focused and Respectful.

VicForests has identified six key principles which underpin our approach to stakeholder engagement:

- We will engage in an positive, open and transparent manner
- We will treat all stakeholders with respect
- We will provide formal and informal avenues for the community to engage
- We will provide stakeholders with accurate and up to date information, presented in language which is accessible to the broader public
- We will consider all requests for information on their merits
- We will provide a safe working environment for our staff

VicForests expects the behaviour of staff to reflect these principles at all times when engaging with stakeholders.

