



**Cr. David Edwards – Mayor**

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The Hon Jacinta Allan  
Minister for Transport Infrastructure  
Level 20, 1 Spring Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

13 February, 2020

Via email: [jacinta.allan@@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:jacinta.allan@@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

**Re: West Gate Tunnel Project and [REDACTED]**

As the Minister responsible for the Westgate Tunnel Project, I am writing to request a meeting with you to discuss Moorabool Shire Council's concerns about a proposal to receive, categorise and dispose of contaminated soil from the West Gate Tunnel Project at [REDACTED] near Bacchus Marsh.

The Council understands the importance of the Westgate Tunnel Project to the State and does not dispute the need to remove contaminated soil found during tunnelling works. However, Council does question the wisdom of allowing this soil to be transported to a site in proximity to market gardens and schools.

I understand that the proponents have not completed an Economic Impact Statement to determine how their proposal will impact our local economy. I fear that perception alone will do enormous damage to our region's reputation, particularly as a food bowl for Melbourne.

As you are aware, the Andrews Labor Government closed the Fiskville CFA training facility when PFAS was found there. At the time of the closure in 2015, the then Minister for Emergency Services described the Fiskville facility as a "dangerous site which can no longer operate safely".

Given this, it is difficult to imagine the people of Bacchus Marsh accepting it is a good idea to receive, categorise and dispose of PFAS contaminated soil so close to their town.

Council also has concerns about the large number of truck movements that will do significant damage to our local roads and the impact this could have on our heritage-listed Avenue of Honour.

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our concerns prior to any decision being made.

Yours sincerely,

**Cr David Edwards**  
Mayor

