

Corporate Plan 2026–2030

Department of Energy,
Environment and
Climate Action



Cover images
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Many of the photographs featured in this publication were provided by DEECA staff and showcase the people, places and work of our department. Individual contributors are acknowledged where applicable.

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria’s land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

DEECA is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria’s Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

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Message from the Secretary

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) works to support thriving, productive and sustainable communities, environments and industries throughout Victoria.

DEECA brings together Victoria’s energy and resources, climate action, environment, agriculture and water portfolios to support the systems, services and natural assets that Victorians rely on every day.

The Corporate Plan 2026–30 sets out how DEECA will deliver for Victorians, helping communities and regional economies thrive by maximising the connections between the environment, community, industry and Victoria’s economy.

People are at the heart of our work. Across DEECA, our staff bring expertise, dedication and a strong commitment to serving the Victorian community. Their efforts underpin reliable energy and water services, protect the natural environment, and build resilience to climate change. We take an integrated approach to land management to drive investment and productivity across the state, including through modern agricultural practices and sustainable extraction of resources.

Our work is underpinned by our public sector values of responsiveness, integrity, impartiality, accountability, respect, leadership and human rights.

Our approach is built on strong engagement with the communities that we serve, delivered in partnership with businesses, industries, Traditional Owners and First Nations people.

Embedding Pupangarli Marnmarnepu, our Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy, and supporting the Victorian Government’s commitment to Treaty are central to how we work. We will continue to strengthen our partnerships with Traditional Owners, advancing self-determination and ensuring the rights, interests and aspirations of First Peoples are reflected in the way we make decisions and deliver outcomes. These partnerships are fundamental to achieving enduring environmental, cultural, social and economic outcomes for Victoria.

Effective planning is essential to deliver on our commitments to the Victorian community. The priorities and outcomes presented in the DEECA Corporate Plan 2026–30 are focused on practical measures, clear expectations for delivery and the collaborative and responsive way we will work together to achieve them.

I look forward to working with staff, partners and stakeholders throughout the state as we deliver DEECA’s priorities and continue building a productive and sustainable Victoria for current and future generations.



Kate Houghton PSM

Secretary
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Our Ministers

DEECA supports the following 2 Ministers and 6 portfolios.



Jaclyn Symes MP

Minister for Energy and Resources
Minister for Environment
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



The Hon. Michaela Settle MP

Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Water



Department overview

'Thriving, productive and sustainable communities, environments and industries'

What we do

DEECA brings together Victoria's agriculture, climate action, energy and resources, environment and water portfolios to maximise connections between the environment, community, industry and economy.

To best serve Victorians, we strive to build a positive organisational culture founded on strong leadership, diversity, collaboration, innovation and developing our people. Our vision for diversity and inclusion is a workplace culture that embraces individual differences in all forms and fosters innovation.

We live our diversity and inclusion values when our people:

- connect effectively with our diverse customers and communities to understand their needs
- embrace different viewpoints
- have equal opportunity in the workplace
- support each other to feel they belong and know their unique contribution is valued
- leverage the experience and ideas of others.

Our mission

Our mission is to support thriving, productive and sustainable communities, environments and industries across Victoria by:

- listening, working alongside and partnering with the community in everything we do
- leveraging the connectivity between our portfolios to respond to the impacts of climate change and protecting our natural environment in a productive, collaborative and coordinated way
- maximising opportunities for attracting investment, creating and maintaining jobs, and developing regional economies by supporting sustainable industries.

Our people

At DEECA, we foster a supportive and dynamic workplace through continuous investment in staff learning and development. Valuing diverse perspectives and teamwork, we nurture an inclusive culture with shared goals. Employee wellbeing and safety are our top priorities, supported by various services ensuring a healthy workplace.

[DEECA organisational chart](#)

Who we work with

We prioritise strong engagement with our stakeholders and partners as they support DEECA in the delivery of our outcomes. Our key stakeholder groups are:

- Traditional Owner groups (Partners)
- First Peoples
- Victorian businesses and industries
- Community groups and Committees of Management
- Victorian councils
- Water corporations
- Catchment management authorities
- Victorian Government departments and agencies
- Commonwealth Government
- Statutory and Ministerial advisory bodies
- Peak bodies and academia
- International Governments and investors
- Local and global Non-government organisations
- Emergency services
- Wildlife and conservation organisations.

Our resources

DEECA employs approximately 5,700 staff in more than 80 locations across the state.

We are a key manager of Victoria's public estate, managing total assets worth more than \$9.9 billion and play a key role in the stewardship of approximately 8.1 million hectares of public land.

Our diverse asset portfolio includes roads and tracks, office buildings, depots, recreational facilities, crossings, firefighting fleet, road maintenance equipment and mobile plant equipment.



5,700
staff



80
locations



\$9.9bn
assets

Our groups

We deliver our work through our 8 core business groups.

Agriculture Victoria

Agriculture Victoria partners with farmers, industries, communities, governments and research organisations to grow, modernise, protect and promote Victoria's agriculture, food and fibre sectors. Agriculture Victoria forms part of an extensive local, national and international system to protect animal welfare and biosecurity, deliver policy, programs and research to understand agricultural challenges like climate change, manage critical industry transitions such as forestry, and enable economic productivity through innovative farming systems, skills and technologies. The group also leads the development and maintenance of policy and regulatory frameworks for domestic animal management.

Bushfire and Forest Services

The Bushfire and Forest Services group manages 3.2 million hectares of state forests, including delivery and maintenance of recreation assets, tourism services and forest health activities. The group also leads DEECA's works across the state in preparing for and responding to bushfire and other emergencies, working alongside emergency services under the Victorian Government's 'all communities, all emergencies' operating framework. Underpinned by DEECA's commitment to work in partnership with Traditional Owners, the group collaborates across government and DEECA to deliver key policies and outcomes in support of communities and businesses that use state forests. The group also undertakes regulatory functions for wildlife, biodiversity, public land use and fire prevention. It leads development and advice on forest, fire and emergency management policy, science, strategy and legislation, and delivers safe and fit-for-purpose capability solutions including statewide assets, equipment, technology and learning.

Corporate Services

The Corporate Services group enables DEECA to deliver positive outcomes for the community by acting with integrity, fostering trusted partnerships and striving for exemplary business services.

The group aims to be acknowledged as a trusted adviser, facilitator and system steward through collaboration and partnership, that solves problems by leveraging contemporary technology and best practice and develops our inclusive, high-performing workforce.

The group comprises teams delivering services across finance and infrastructure, information services, legal and legislation, people and culture, strategic communications, and strategy and performance including procurement.

Energy

The Energy group supports current and future energy projects, programs and reforms, as Victoria's electricity and gas systems undergo a major transition, and the state pursues its targets for renewable energy, energy storage and offshore wind. The group advocates, leads and delivers strategic state-wide policies and programs, stimulates sector and workforce development, facilitates energy projects and technology deployment, and contributes to national initiatives and market reform. The group delivers this through strong partnerships and maintaining a focus on improving reliability and security of the energy system, reducing emissions, increasing energy affordability, enhancing safety, increasing jobs and economic development and enabling Aboriginal self-determination.



Regions, Environment, Climate Action and First Peoples

The Regions, Environment, Climate Action and First Peoples (RECAFP) group is the home of DEECA's expertise on climate action, the circular economy, environment protection and the management of natural and built assets on public land across Victoria. The RECAFP group provides advice to the Victorian Government on the policy settings, programs and initiatives which will further the implementation of DEECA's state-wide objectives in the environment and climate action portfolios.

Through the 6 DEECA regions, the RECAFP group provides integrated, place-based design and delivery of programs, projects, services, environmental assessments and approvals to meet environmental goals, enable economic growth and activate public land and major projects across the state. It is also responsible for leading DEECA's self-determination reform agenda, including coordinating engagement with Traditional Owners and First Peoples, building cultural capability, creating a culturally safe working environment, and improving employment opportunities for Aboriginal Victorians across the department.

Resources Victoria

Resources Victoria (RV) facilitates informed and responsible earth resources exploration, development, extraction and rehabilitation in Victoria. RV seeks to:

- increase investment in Victoria's earth resources, including new critical minerals
- build confidence in the performance of the earth resources sector in Victoria and its regulation
- secure the supply of quarry materials essential for new infrastructure and construction.

RV applies specialist scientific and technical expertise to understand Victoria's geology, create new opportunities for responsible investment and support the transition to a net-zero emissions economy and renewable energy objectives. Through the delivery of resources policy and legislative reform, RV enables responsible earth resources activities, from exploration through to rehabilitation.

RV facilitates earth resources projects in a timely and transparent way that safeguards public safety, human health, infrastructure and the environment. RV works across government to enable investment, while supporting industry with expert advice and clear and efficient approvals processes.

Solar Victoria

Solar Victoria's purpose is to empower Victorians to adopt cleaner, efficient and affordable energy solutions that reduce emissions, lower energy costs and accelerate Victoria's cleaner energy future. It does this through overseeing 2 of the most ambitious and transformative renewable energy and emissions reduction programs in Australia – Solar Homes and Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU). Solar Homes delivers rebate and loan programs for eligible households to install solar panels and energy efficient hot water systems. The VEU provides incentives for households and businesses to upgrade to energy efficient products and electric appliances and supports large energy users to move to energy efficient alternatives. Solar Victoria's programs are helping Victorians reduce their energy bills and accelerate clean energy uptake, while supporting local jobs and driving action on climate change.

Water and Catchments

The Water and Catchments group ensures Victoria has safe, sustainable, and productive water resources to meet current and future urban, rural, environmental and cultural needs and is responsible for the implementation of the government's strategic directions for management of the state's water and catchment resources. The group works in partnership with water corporations, catchment management authorities, government agencies, industry, community, and Traditional Owners to balance the economic, environmental, and social values of water. This work helps to deliver secure water supplies, greener and liveable cities and towns, as well as ensuring healthy waterways, catchments and Country.



Our operating environment

Strategic challenges and opportunities

Economic uncertainty and global disruption

Victoria continues to navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected global environment. Geopolitical tensions, changing trade and investment patterns, supply chain disruptions and cost of living pressures are influencing global and domestic economic conditions.

At the same time, growing global demand for critical minerals, renewable energy technologies, advanced manufacturing and sustainable food production presents significant opportunities for Victoria. Fostering economic resilience while adapting to changing global conditions will be critical to ensuring Victoria remains productive, competitive and well positioned to support long-term prosperity.

A changing climate

Victoria is experiencing the impacts of climate change and these impacts are projected to increase in the coming decades. Rising average temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, sea level rise, ecosystem disruption and more frequent and intense extreme weather events are placing increasing pressure on communities, industries and the natural environment. These climate-related pressures are contributing to overlapping and compounding challenges across the state, affecting public safety, water security, agricultural productivity and the condition of public land.

The consequences are extensive, affecting biodiversity, critical infrastructure, economic activity and cultural values. Climate change is also increasing the frequency and complexity of emergencies and recovery efforts, while placing greater pressure on natural systems that support Victoria's environmental, social and economic wellbeing. Addressing these challenges will require sustained action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while helping communities, industries and ecosystems prepare for climate impacts that are already occurring and expected to intensify.

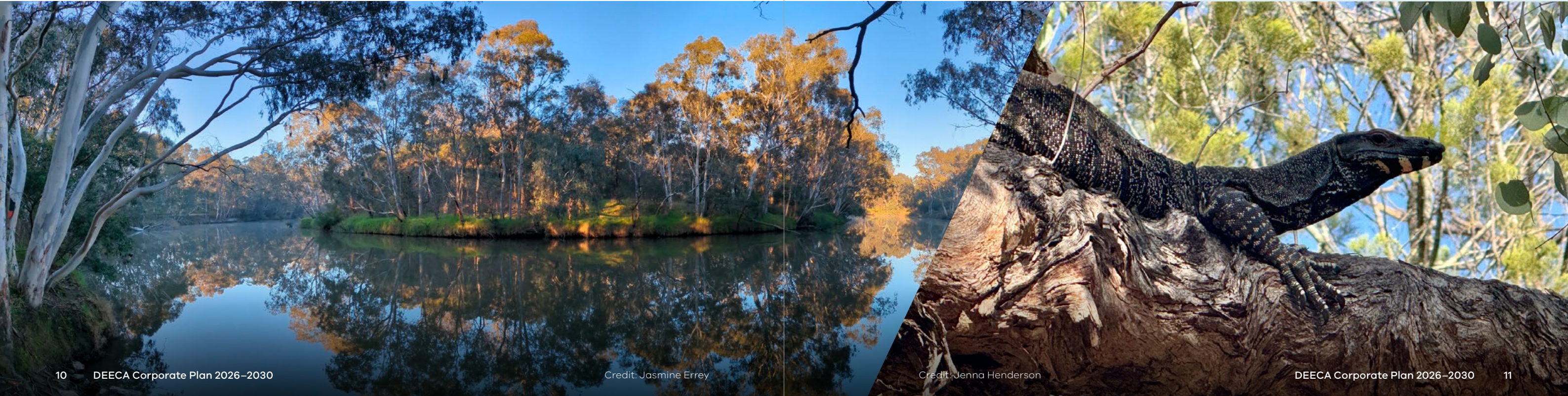
Delivering the energy transition

Victoria is undertaking a significant transformation of its energy system as it transitions to a low-emissions economy. The shift toward renewable energy generation and storage, alongside the electrification of homes, businesses, industry and transport, is essential to achieving emissions reduction goals while supporting reliable, secure and affordable energy services. This transition is occurring alongside rapid technological change, growing energy demand and the progressive retirement of ageing energy infrastructure.

Delivering this transformation requires substantial growth in generation, transmission and storage infrastructure, as well as access to construction materials, critical minerals and specialised skills. The scale and pace of change present both opportunities and challenges for communities, industries and consumers. Supporting Victoria's transition to a cleaner energy future while maintaining energy reliability, affordability and security will remain a significant challenge over the coming decade.

Competing land use and resource demands

Victoria faces increasing pressure on its land and natural resources as it supports housing, infrastructure development, renewable energy generation, agricultural production, critical minerals extraction and environmental outcomes. Victoria must continue to protect biodiversity, support productive industries and recognise the rights, interests and aspirations of First Peoples. Balancing these priorities will require integrated planning, informed decision-making and meaningful engagement to ensure land and resource use delivers long-term environmental, social and economic value for Victoria.



DEECA's role in supporting economic growth

DEECA enables a strong, sustainable and resilient economy

DEECA plays a critical role in supporting Victoria's economic prosperity by enabling investment, growing productive industries, building resilience and managing the natural assets that underpin long-term economic success. Through our responsibilities spanning agriculture, energy, resources, environment, water and emergency management, we help create the conditions for thriving communities, industries and regional economies.

The 2026-2030 Corporate Plan demonstrates how our work contributes to Victoria's economic growth through:

- supporting Victoria's agriculture, food and fibre sectors through innovation, biosecurity, productivity and market development
- enabling investment in renewable energy, critical minerals, water infrastructure and other industries that support the state's future growth
- facilitating housing, infrastructure and major project delivery through sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources, environmental stewardship and planning support
- supporting regional communities and industries to navigate the energy transition and create new opportunities for jobs and investment

- strengthening climate, water, energy and biosecurity resilience to protect communities, businesses and industries from future risks
- growing opportunities in the circular economy, resource recovery, nature-based tourism and visitor economy sectors
- sustainably managing Victoria's natural resources and public assets to support prosperity for current and future generations.

Healthy environments, resilient communities and productive industries are the foundation of Victoria's long-term prosperity.

'We foster growth in emerging and strategic industries including agriculture, critical minerals, and circular economy enterprises.'



Our outcomes

DEECA's outcomes guide efforts and monitors progress toward our long-term goals for Victoria. The identified indicators signify the necessary changes to achieve these objectives.



Cross-cutting themes

Our cross-cutting themes reflect areas of enduring importance that shape decision-making across all aspects of our work. Embedded across our outcomes, they help ensure our efforts are connected, coordinated and focused on Victoria's long-term prosperity, resilience and wellbeing.

Economic transition and growth

Supporting productive, globally competitive and sustainable food, fibre and forestry sectors through innovation, biosecurity, investment, market access and regional job creation.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Supporting Traditional Owner participation, partnerships and enterprise opportunities across agriculture, land management, forestry and food and fibre systems.

Integrated across all outcomes

Agriculture and Forestry



Our goal

Productive and sustainably used agricultural resources

Deliver services to the agriculture, food and fibre sectors to enhance productivity, connect the sector with international markets, create jobs, support growth and maintain effective biosecurity.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Supporting productive, globally competitive and sustainable food, fibre and forestry sectors through innovation, biosecurity, investment, market access and regional job creation.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Supporting Traditional Owner participation, partnerships and enterprise opportunities across agriculture, land management, forestry and food and fibre systems.



Outcome indicators

- Advance the strength and prosperity of the agriculture sector by enabling primary producers to grow sustainable agribusinesses
- Increase innovation to meet future production, climate, biosecurity, market access and workforce challenges within agriculture
- Expand and develop the economic potential of the agriculture sector while managing biosecurity, animal welfare and other risks, and minimising adverse impacts to the environment and public health
- Support a productive, sustainable and resilient forestry and fibre industry by leading investment to expand Victoria's plantation estate and supporting forestry businesses, workers and communities through the transition from commercial native timber harvesting



Success 2026-27

- 2,000,000 trees planted under the Gippsland Plantation Investment Program to ensure a long-term and sustainable plantation timber industry
- 90% of preparedness activities implemented, in line with agreed plans, to ensure response readiness for emergency animal and plant pest, disease and natural disaster incidents
- 50% ratio of external funds co-invested in agriculture research and development projects



Total budget

\$511.7 million



Key initiatives

Build a productive agriculture sector through the delivery of agribusiness priorities

This work will position DEECA as a key driver of Victoria's economic transition by unlocking growth and productivity in the agribusiness sector, delivering benefits across regional development, food security, innovation and sustainability. Informed by a Growing Victorian Agribusiness approach, the initiative will deliver economy-wide and community benefits, driving economic and performance uplift across agriculture industries and improving whole of government delivery against agribusiness priorities. Targeted actions across collaboration, data, planning and extension services will be supported by strategic and technical assistance in priority areas such as AgTech, agricultural planning advice and dairy infrastructure modernisation.

Deliver high impact, outcome-focused research and innovation to the agriculture sector

Agriculture Science Technology delivers world-class research and innovation to support the Victorian agricultural sector to produce high-quality food and fibre while addressing challenges including biosecurity threats, climate change, extreme weather events, natural disasters, rising costs, fluctuating prices, volatile global markets, workforce pressures, and competition for land and water resources. It leverages partnerships with industry, research organisations, government, Traditional Owners and communities, and uses facilities such as the Centre for AgriBioscience and regional SmartFarms to translate research into practical farm outcomes and commercial opportunities.

Strengthen agriculture sector preparedness, recovery and resilience including to address climate impacts and land use change

Strengthen the preparedness, resilience and recovery capacity of Victoria's agriculture sector by improving access to information and decision support, enabling adoption of adaptive practices, and supporting coordinated recovery and transition pathways in response to drought, natural disasters, climate impacts and land use change.

'Unlocking growth and productivity in the agribusiness sector'

Safeguard the future of Victorian agriculture

Deliver a dedicated preparedness program to optimise response, relief and recovery arrangements for a biosecurity emergency, including an Emergency Animal Disease outbreak or a new plant pest or disease incursion.

Deliver the Forestry Transition Program

The Forestry Transition Program supports workers, businesses and communities impacted by the closure of the native timber harvesting industry in state forests. The program supports industry transition and diversification while protecting jobs where possible. It provides assistance to workers, businesses and communities to transition to new activities, industries and employment opportunities and funds projects that create new jobs in transitioning communities.



Climate Action



Our goal

Net-zero emissions, climate-ready economy and community

Lead the whole of government delivery of Victoria's climate action, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to the impacts of a changing climate, and supporting the economic and social transition to a net-zero emissions and climate resilient future.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Supporting Victoria's transition to a net-zero, climate-resilient economy through innovation, investment, adaptation and emissions reduction that strengthen long-term prosperity.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Embedding Traditional Owner knowledge and First Peoples leadership in climate action, adaptation and resilience planning.



Outcome indicators

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with Victoria's legislated emissions reduction targets
- Strengthen community and government resilience to climate change hazards



Success 2026-27

- Delivery of Adaptation Action Plans 2026-2030 and Annual Greenhouse Gas report within statutory timeframes as required under the *Climate Action Act 2017*
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions consistent with Victoria's legislated emissions reduction targets (continuing to progress to a 2030 target of 45-50% reduction)



Total budget

\$19.4 million



Key initiatives

Victorian Government Climate Leadership

Uplift climate action considerations into the decisions and activities of government

DEECA will provide analysis and advice to ensure a coordinated and strategic approach that:

- embeds climate action considerations in government policy, budget, procurement and investment decisions
- ensures Victorian Government's climate-related risk disclosures reflect new international and Australian accounting standards
- partners with Victorian Traditional Owners to support Traditional Owner climate action aspirations

- supports Victorian participation in national and international climate action partnerships
- ensures Victorian communities' climate-related impacts and needs are reflected in climate action through partnerships with local government and community-focused organisations.



Credit: Clare Laine

Climate Resilient Victoria

Provide advice to the Victorian Government to deliver a world-leading strategic approach to building Victoria’s climate resilience.

To achieve this, DEECA will:

- deliver guidance and resources to support decision-makers across business, the community and government to use the best available climate science to improve research, risk assessments, investment decisions and planning for climate resilience
- lead the development and oversee implementation of adaptation actions across government, including delivery of new Adaptation Action Plans for 2027–31
- deliver cross-cutting policies and interventions to improve Victoria’s climate resilience
- develop guidance and tools, and provide advice and training, to support decision-makers to understand and manage climate risks in government operations, assets and service delivery.

'Helping Victoria meet its climate goals, reduce costs and maintain its position as a climate leader.'

Net-Zero emissions Victoria

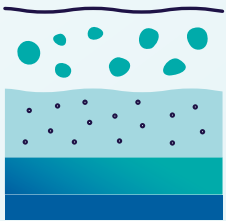
Provide advice to the Victorian Government to deliver a world-leading and cost-effective transition to net-zero emissions by 2045.

To achieve this, DEECA will:

- provide advice on cost-effective pathways to Victoria’s emissions reduction targets
- identify and support the development of emissions reduction policies across the Victorian Government
- provide evidence-based advice on the economic opportunities of growth, jobs and investment associated with achieving net-zero emissions by 2045
- monitor and report on Victoria’s greenhouse gas emissions.



Earth Resources



Our goal

Sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources

Develop and deliver policy, programs and regulation to enable investment and generate jobs through the sustainable development of the State's earth resources, including extractives, minerals and petroleum.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Enabling investment, jobs and the sustainable development of critical minerals, extractives and resources needed for housing, infrastructure and the energy transition.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Supporting resource development that recognises Traditional Owner rights, interests, cultural heritage and connections to Country.



Outcome indicators

- Increase investment in Victoria's earth resources, including new critical minerals
- Build confidence in the performance of the earth resources sector in Victoria and its regulation
- Secure the supply of quarry materials essential for new infrastructure and construction



Success 2026-27

- 277 Earth resources regulatory audits completed in line with the agreed compliance work program
- 95% of mineral license applications and work plans processed within regulatory timeframes
- 10 Geoscience reports and publications released to promote earth resource opportunities across the State
- 100% delivery of agreed milestones for major resources initiatives and priority projects



Total budget

\$47.9 million



Key initiatives

Victoria's Critical Minerals Roadmap

In 2026–27, Victoria is continuing to build a globally competitive critical minerals sector that supports secure and responsible supply chains, attracts investment, drives innovation and creates lasting opportunities for regional communities. Leveraging world-class geology, research and development capability, a skilled workforce and advanced manufacturing strengths, Victoria is positioning itself as a trusted supplier of ethically produced critical minerals and a destination for sustainable investment across the value chain. Working in partnership with Traditional Owners, industry, research institutions and regional communities, Victoria is focused on unlocking new development opportunities, strengthening supply chain capability, supporting downstream processing and value-adding, and fostering innovation that will underpin future industries and the clean energy transition.

Secure the supply of quarry materials

Victoria's quarry sector supplies essential construction materials for housing, schools, hospitals and transport infrastructure. Without reliable local supply to meet demand, construction costs are expected to rise, potentially leading to major project delays. To manage this risk, Resources Victoria will expand strategic reserves of quarry materials, support timely access to new resources, and guide the sector's transition to a modern duty-based regulatory framework.

Transition to new Duties Model

From 1 July 2027, Victoria's minerals and quarry industries will transition to a modern duty-based regulatory framework under the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*. The reforms will clarify statutory duties, strengthen risk-based compliance and streamline works approvals to better manage risk, mitigate harm and protect public safety, infrastructure and the environment. The new model will reduce unnecessary regulatory burden, improve transparency and certainty for industry, and support responsible investment and sustainable growth in the earth resources sector.

'Victoria is continuing to build a globally competitive critical minerals sector that supports secure and responsible supply chains, attracts investment, drives innovation and creates lasting opportunities for regional communities.'



Emergency Management



Our goal

Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies

Plan and deliver integrated bushfire management together with land and fire managers and with the community across public and private land and use world-leading science to manage fire and ecosystems.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Strengthening community, environmental and economic resilience by reducing the impact of bushfires and other emergencies on people, property and industry.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Applying Traditional Owner knowledge, land management practices and partnerships to strengthen preparedness, resilience and recovery.



Outcome indicators

- Reduce the risk of bushfires impacting communities, infrastructure and the environment
- Be prepared for bushfires and other emergencies
- Increase community understanding of potential risks and impacts of bushfires and other emergencies
- Strengthen the ability of communities, the environment, local economies and ecosystems to recover from bushfires and other emergencies



Success 2026-27

- Statewide bushfire risk is maintained at or below 70%
- 80% of bushfires contained at less than 5 hectares/ first attack to suppress fires before they become established, minimising impact
- All readiness and response plans completed by October 2026, prior to the upcoming fire season
- 14 Stakeholder and community forums on bushfire management and planned burning held



Total budget

\$445.7 million



Key initiatives

Safer Together Program Coordination

Safer Together is a flagship program through which the bushfire management sector works with communities to manage bushfire risk. The program seeks to improve how sector partners operate, communicate and engage with each other, stakeholders and communities to deliver the shared outcomes of Victoria's Bushfire Management Strategy.

Deliver the fuel management program, including planned burning, mechanical treatment and the construction and maintenance of strategic fuel breaks on public land

The fuel management program is a statewide 3 year rolling program that manages fuel in state forest, national parks and protected land to meet the Secretary's obligations under the *Forests Act 1958*. Forest Fire Management Victoria develops the expected fuel treatment work program in partnership with Traditional Owners, fire and land management agencies, and communities.

Deliver preparedness and readiness activities for bushfire and emergency response

DEECA will deliver preparedness and response activities to minimise the impacts of bushfires on the community by suppressing fires at first attack. The preparedness program focuses on actions needed before the fire season to ensure first response to fire and other emergencies is fast, determined, safe and thorough. The delivery of preparedness and readiness activities will ensure that firefighters are in the best possible situation to contain a large percentage of fires to under 5 hectares and at first attack at or above 80% target. This will limit risks to firefighters and potential community impacts, while reducing the significant costs, hardships and trauma associated with rebuilding and recovery.

'The first response to fire and other emergencies is fast, determined, safe and thorough.'

Deliver DEECA's strategic statewide roading maintenance program

This program, formerly part of the Reducing Bushfire Risk program, focuses on maintaining access and egress across the strategic fire access road network, which contributes to firefighter safety and builds contractor capability in the fire sector. This service includes roads from the Parks Victoria Public Road Network.

Emergency Recovery Coordination

This service delivers emergency recovery coordination and builds resilience through a one-DEECA recovery framework. The service also provides high quality, strategic evidence-based advice to support recovery preparedness, planning, delivery, investment, policy and capability building.



Energy



Our goal

Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services

Provide policy advice to government on how to deliver clean, reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services to Victorians and deliver a comprehensive suite of energy programs that improve energy efficiency, electrification, strengthen consumer protections and improve affordability.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Supporting Victoria's economic transition through renewable energy investment, industry development, workforce growth and reliable, affordable energy services.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Creating opportunities for First Peoples participation, partnerships and shared benefits from Victoria's energy transition.



Outcome indicators

- Increase energy affordability, consumer protections and access to energy services
- Improve the reliability, security and stability of the energy system
- Reduce emissions from Victoria's energy system
- Increase jobs and economic development within the renewable energy sector
- Enable Aboriginal self-determination in the energy transition
- Increase access to affordable renewable energy and energy efficient systems and products for Victorian households and businesses



Success 2026-27

- 55,854 Solar Homes Program rebates provided to Victorian households
- 4.4 million Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates surrendered under the Victorian Energy Upgrades program
- 2.5% of Solar Homes program installations audited for compliance with safety requirements
- 41 neighbourhood batteries installed, including batteries specifically for Traditional Owners and First Peoples communities
- 3,000 vulnerable Victorian energy consumers supported to navigate the energy market by the Energy Assistance Program
- 67,000 Victorian household appliances converted from gas to electricity through government electrification programs



Total budget

\$370.1 million



Key initiatives

Solar Homes rebate and loan programs for owner occupier and rental households

Deliver the Solar Homes solar photovoltaic rebate and loans program, and hot water rebates, to reduce the cost of renewable energy technology installation for Victorian households, boosting access to affordable and renewable energy.

Governance oversight and planning of the Victorian Energy Upgrades program and implementing strategic reforms for the future of the program

Deliver the Victorian Energy Upgrades program, including setting targets for 2028 to 2030 and implementing reforms from the Strategic Review, to help reduce household and business energy bills by providing incentives for energy-saving products.

Deliver the Offshore Wind Energy Program

The Offshore Wind Energy Program is establishing the foundations for a new offshore wind industry in Victoria and supporting the transition to a reliable, affordable and renewable energy system. It brings together policy, regulatory, investment, industry development and infrastructure initiatives to enable the delivery of at least 2 GW of offshore wind generation by 2032, increasing to 4 GW by 2035 and 9 GW by 2040. A key milestone for 2026 is the commencement of Australia's first offshore wind auction, helping to unlock investment and accelerate industry development.



Gas Supply Security

This service comprises actions to ensure security of gas supply to Victoria while the broader transformation away from gas is underway, promoting an orderly transition. This includes facilitation of investments in supply augmentations, changes to the National Gas Rules, and amendments to Victorian legislation and subordinate instruments where required.

Driving down gas bills for businesses and households – delivery of the Gas Substitution Roadmap

This project will detail the pathways to deliver net zero emissions associated with the supply of gas in Victoria and identify the policy and regulatory levers needed to facilitate a smooth, well-managed transition of the gas sector. The Gas Substitution Roadmap sets out a long-term vision for energy efficiency, electrification and renewable gases and is updated annually.

'Supporting the transition to a reliable, affordable and renewable energy system.'

Energy Affordability Services Program, including Victoria Energy Compare

Deliver critical energy affordability services to increase consumer awareness and engagement in the Victorian energy market, support market participants, and provide government agencies and regulators with consumer and energy market insights. Services include the Victorian Retailer Portal, Victorian Energy Data Portal, Victorian Energy Compare website and Household Energy Subscriber Service.

100 Neighbourhood Batteries

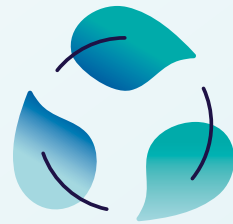
This initiative will implement 100 neighbourhood-scale batteries across Victoria, including in metropolitan and regional local government areas. The program will use a range of business models to maximise benefits for households and communities, including batteries for Traditional Owners and First Peoples communities.

Midday Power Saver

The Midday Power Saver initiative is designed to help households benefit from periods of high solar generation by providing access to electricity at no usage cost during a defined period in the middle of the day. It will support greater use of renewable energy, reduce pressure on the electricity system during peak periods and provide opportunities for consumers to lower energy costs. To achieve this, eligible electricity retailers will be required to offer a regulated Midday Power Saver tariff to prescribed residential customers.



Environment and Circular Economy



Our goal

Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment

Develop policies, programs and regulatory responses for environment protection, waste, resource recovery and recycling, ecosystem resilience, native vegetation management, and threatened species together with portfolio partners, local communities and external stakeholders.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Supporting sustainable resource use, biodiversity, recycling and circular economy innovation that delivers environmental outcomes while creating economic value and investment opportunities.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Advancing Caring for Country through Traditional Owner leadership in biodiversity conservation, environmental stewardship and natural resource management.



Outcome indicators

- Reduce the harmful effects of pollution and waste on human health and the environment by increasing circularity of resources
- Improve Victoria's native species populations and their habitat through targeted management
- Increase Victorians valuing nature
- Regulate public land use, biodiversity and fire prevention to support equitable and safe access to public land and natural resources, while protecting biodiversity and heritage values
- Restoring our native forests following the end of native timber harvesting, including regeneration works and seed collection programs
- Protect biodiversity values and enable economic priorities through planning and environmental assessment advice



Success 2026-27

- 400,000 environmental volunteer hours contributing to the health of Victoria's biodiversity
- 70% of weed and pest animal control targeted towards priority locations
- 70% of planning referrals relating to native vegetation processed within statutory timeframes
- Increase in municipal and industrial waste diverted from landfill (continuing progress towards 2030 target of 80%)



Credit: Jenna Henderson



Total budget

\$488.8 million



Key initiatives

Delivering Circular Economy Priorities

Provide evidence-informed analysis and advice to government and government agencies to support decisions that maintain Victoria's position as a national leader in circular economy reform and guide delivery of the government's 10-year circular economy policy and targets.

To achieve this, DEECA will:

- provide policy advice on circular economy risks, issues and opportunities
- deliver priority legislative and regulatory reforms, and investigate future reforms to further the circular economy, reduce risk and reduce regulatory burden
- influence national reforms to ensure they align with and enhance Victoria's transition to a circular economy

- support the Victorian Government to adopt circular economy practices and invest in circular economy activities
- embed waste management in Victoria's emergency management framework and support emergency response, relief and recovery efforts.

Environmental Resilience Programs

Supporting biodiversity and environmental resilience through the implementation of programs including BushBank and Protecting Biodiversity, Weeds and Pests on Public Land and Deer Control programs.

DEECA will deliver measurable biodiversity gains by targeting strategic, sustained on-ground action, strengthening Traditional Owner leadership, leveraging co-investment, and expanding habitat knowledge and protection.

Environmental Volunteering Programs

Empowering local communities to engage in environmental conservation, support biodiversity and foster community cohesion through education, stewardship and volunteer action.

DEECA will enable environmental volunteering through programs including Coastcare Victoria, Landcare, the Port Phillip Bay Fund and Wildlife Rehabilitator Support.

'Deliver measurable biodiversity gains by targeting strategic, sustained on-ground action'

Melbourne Strategic Assessment

The Melbourne Strategic Assessment Program (MSA Program) is one of Australia’s largest urban conservation and offset programs, securing more than 20,000 hectares of critical habitat for some of Melbourne’s most threatened plants, animals and ecosystems.

The MSA Program supports Melbourne’s growth by streamlining approvals in development areas where developers pay the Environment Mitigation Levy. The Levy funds conservation programs and initiatives that deliver long-term protection of endangered species and critical habitats, ensuring Victoria meets its obligations under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

In 2026-27, the MSA Program will focus on acquisition and land management of critical habitats, innovative habitat construction for the Growling Grass Frog, supporting Traditional Owners to deliver conservation outcomes, and progressing the statutory review of the Environment Mitigation Levy.

Technical planning and environmental assessment advice

Deliver advice, policy, guidance, regulatory services and operational improvements. These activities support the management of biodiversity impacts from infrastructure development and land use activity, essential to the state’s economic growth, through planning and environmental assessment and approval processes.

This includes both the statutory and non-statutory advice under planning and environmental legislation. It also includes DEECA’s referral authority function. The program supports the end-to-end integration of native vegetation regulation and advice, guidance, information and decision support tools for planning and impact assessment processes. It also provides place-based technical expertise aligned to whole of government priorities in housing, transport, major projects, energy, land and risk management.



Land Management



Our goal

Productive and effective land management

Deliver effective management and governance of Victoria's public land to protect its social, economic and environmental values and maximise its use by all Victorians together with Traditional Owners, statutory agencies, committees of management, local governments.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Maximising the social, environmental and economic value of public land through recreation, tourism, investment and sustainable land use.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Strengthening Traditional Owner leadership and partnerships in the planning, management and stewardship of Country.



Outcome indicators

- Increase the sustainable management of public land
- Increase self-determination of Traditional Owners in land management decision-making and practices
- Increase public value benefits from government land
- Protect and enhance Victoria's coastal areas
- Meet legal obligations to Traditional Owners (Treaty, Native Title and Settlement Agreements)
- Implement agreed responses to Yoorrook Justice Commission final recommendations and Closing the Gap reforms and targets
- Strengthen engagement and outcomes under the Statewide Caring for Country Partnership Forum



Success 2026-27

- 34 local parks, playgrounds and dog parks completed
- 75% of recreational facilities in state forests maintained to have a life expectancy greater than 5 years
- 70% Traditional Owner satisfaction with DEECA's progress in enabling self determination
- 10% DEECA Natural Resource Management procurement spend with Traditional Owner Groups with Natural Resource Agreements



Total budget

\$564.9 million



Key initiatives

Future Forests Program

The Future Forests Program manages and supports native forests, including work to restore and enhance native forests, promote biodiversity and maintain forest access roads following the transition out of native timber harvesting. The program supports the Great Outdoors Taskforce and future uses and management of state forests, aiming to ensure forests previously subject to the timber harvesting allocation order. It is critical that our investment in the future of these forests ensures they are climate-resilient, healthy, support tourism and recreation, and create environmentally sensitive economic and employment opportunities. The Future Forests framework provides a clear program for managing forests responsibly and sustainably.

Deliver the regulatory operations program including investigations, monitoring, strategic operations and enforcement

The Conservation Regulator leads and coordinates statewide regulatory service delivery across forests, parks and wildlife. Its staff conduct complex risk assessments, harm prevention campaigns, audits, inspections, investigations, intelligence functions and regulation of permissions with integrity and accountability. The biennial regulatory priorities help focus effort on the greatest environmental risks and matters most important to the Victorian community.



Credit: Lubna Meempatta

Forest Contractor Works Program

The Forest Contractor Works Program engages former VicForests harvest contractors to provide firefighting skills and resources as well as forest management services across key programs. This includes maintenance of DEECA's strategic fire road network, strategic fuel breaks, hazardous tree treatment, storm debris removal and planned burning preparation. Contractors will also undertake works for the Delatite Arm Reforestation project.

Commitments under the Government Response to the Great Outdoors Taskforce and Eminent Panel for Community Engagement

The Great Outdoors Taskforce and Eminent Panel for Community Engagement have completed assessments of Victorian state forests formerly available for native timber harvesting. The Government Response to these reports was released in October 2025. This program coordinates monitoring and project management for \$31.24 million in funded initiatives for forest management and recreation in Victoria's state forests. These include projects arising from the government response, as well as broader commitments to outdoor recreation and nature opportunities.

Strategic Assessment for planned bushfire management activities under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

DEECA is working with the Commonwealth Government to undertake a Strategic Assessment for planned bushfire management activities on public land under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. The strategic assessment will enable the Commonwealth Minister to endorse Victoria's approach to managing and protecting Matters of National Environmental Significance during planned bushfire management works on public land.

Suburban Parks Program

The Suburban Parks Program is creating, connecting, planning for and upgrading open space across metropolitan Melbourne.

The program, which was a 2018 election commitment, includes a wide range of funded initiatives:

- acquiring land to expand existing and create new parks
- managing former landfill sites to make them safe to become new public spaces
- upgrading existing walking and cycling paths, play equipment, planting trees and delivering other park infrastructure
- creating new pocket parks and off-leash dog parks in areas lacking open space
- creating and updating parkland plans to guide future investment.

Activate public land

Priority reform initiatives will streamline program delivery, coordinate technical and place-based advice, and support community and industry access, use and responsible land management.

Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park

Establishing the new 40-kilometre Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park under the *National Parks Act 1975*, on the Bass Coast from San Remo to Inverloch, will strengthen environmental protections for the coastline.

DEECA will continue to progress land acquisition and park establishment and support Parks Victoria to deliver track and trail infrastructure and improvements

Implement the Marine and Coastal Strategy

The *Marine and Coastal Strategy 2022* is a 5 year, whole of Victorian Government action plan to support implementation of the *Marine and Coastal Policy 2020*.

DEECA leads coordination, oversight and reporting on strategy implementation across a number of delivery partners, and is the lead or co-lead on multiple actions including:

- supporting Traditional Owners to determine how their rights and obligations are embedded into planning and management of the marine and coastal environment
- improving the condition and ecological connectivity of habitats and respect and care for our marine and coastal areas
- adapting to impacts of climate change
- supporting sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment
- implementing the Marine Spatial Planning Framework
- identifying resource needs for sustainable marine and coastal management



Water



Our goal

Safe, sustainable and productive water resources

Increase the security of supply and the efficient use of water in cities and towns and improve the environmental condition of waterways to ensure Victoria has safe and sustainable water resources to meet future urban, rural and environmental needs.



Cross-cutting themes

Economic transition and growth

Supporting water security, productive industries, thriving communities and sustainable economic growth through integrated water management.

Self-determination and First Peoples

Supporting Traditional Owner self-determined water projects, cultural water values and participation in water planning and decision-making.



Outcome indicators

- Increase security and resilience of Victoria's water systems
- Increase implementation of Traditional Owner determined priorities for water management
- Improve the environmental condition of Victoria's waterways and catchments
- Increase inclusion of social and community values in water management
- Increase efficiency of water use
- Improve water sector governance, systems integration and water emergency management



Success 2026-27

- 1,200 households or community housing assisted in the Community Rebate and Housing Retrofit Program
- 8,000 hectares of waterway vegetation works undertaken to improve the health and resilience of waterways
- 6 new flood studies funded to ensure communities understand flood risk and to inform investment in flood warning and mitigation measures



Credit: Darryl Whitaker



Total budget

\$302.9 million



Key initiatives

Water Security Oversight – Urban Water Security Planning

The Victorian water grid comprises natural and built infrastructure networks that produce and supply water across geographical boundaries. The grid oversight function informs policy decisions on how the water grid is used, ensures changes do not adversely affect entitlements, and identifies augmentation and usage options across the grid to support better water security decisions. It delivers strategic assessments, stress testing and options to extend the grid. This supports the annually updated Water Security Plan by providing the community with a forward view of water availability, demands, and risks to water security, while identifying and tracking implementation of feasible grid augmentation options to address future water supply shortfalls.

Increased Traditional Owner access to water and decision-making in water management

DEECA is working with Traditional Owners and the water sector to implement Water is Life: Traditional Owner Access to Water Roadmap (Water is Life). Water is Life outlines the government will take in partnership with the water sector, existing water users, and Traditional Owners to increase Traditional Owner access to water and participation in the management of water landscapes.

This program will invest in Traditional Owner water related priorities and supports grant governance for funded activities, including employment for Aboriginal Water Officers, the Aboriginal Water Officer Network and self-determined projects. It also supports the water sector to progress self-determination, coordinate responses to Yoorrook Justice Commission recommendations, prepare for Treaty and support Victoria's Closing the Gap water commitments.

Reducing the risks of floods in a changing climate

Preparing for, planning and responding to flood events is critical to reducing damage and protecting livelihoods. DEECA oversees investment in detailed flood studies for flood-prone communities, flood mitigation infrastructure designs and improved flood warning systems. Flood studies will provide maps and other data to help catchment management authorities and local government authorities to avoid future development of homes and businesses on land at risk of flooding.

DEECA will partner with the Bureau of Meteorology to implement new and improved flood warnings, support catchment management authorities to implement regional floodplain management strategies, and continue to improve the FloodZoom platform.

'Preparing, planning for and responding to flood events is key to reducing damage and protecting livelihoods.'

Maintaining the health, resilience and enjoyment of Victoria's waterways, catchments and Country

DEECA is delivering an integrated, long-term and sustained set of programs to protect and restore Victoria's regional waterways and catchments, which are severely degraded from more than 160 years of development and face escalating pressures. Major components are delivered by the 9 regional catchment management authorities, Melbourne Water, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and Traditional Owner partners.

Murray–Darling Basin strategy, programs and coordination

This service provides leadership, coordination and guidance to pursue Victoria's interests and negotiate outcomes for Victoria in delivering the Murray–Darling Basin Plan. It includes strategy for inter-jurisdictional meetings, oversight of Victoria's Basin obligations, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, advice to the Minister for Water and DEECA executive, and coordination of Victorian Government contribution payments to the Murray–Darling Basin Authority.



Financial, asset and workforce outlook

The 2026–27 Victorian State Budget and Department Performance Statement set out the department's outputs and funding. For the 2026–27 financial year, the department's output budget totals \$2.75 billion.

Workforce outlook

At DEECA, our aspiration is to have a workforce that reflects the communities that we serve. We recognise that our people are our greatest asset and that they are central to delivering our plan. Building our workforce capability and capacity will be key to achieving success. We will be a workplace that is inclusive, diverse and culturally safe and protects the physical and psychological safety of our people.

To achieve this aim, we will target, employ and retain the best people through various workforce programs. These programs will foster a culture where our employees are provided with opportunities to develop, are valued for their contribution, and can work flexibly and safely to deliver great value and services to Victorian communities and stakeholders.

Examples of our progress include implementing the DEECA Leadership Model, strengthening workforce capability through targeted learning and development initiatives, uplifting recruitment capability, and continuing to support psychologically healthy and safe workplaces. We aim to be an employer of choice, where people have a sense of belonging, feel valued, embrace flexibility, are safe and gain professional satisfaction in their role.

We will support our people to be diverse, inclusive and practise cultural safety through various complementary initiatives and programs including:

- Early career talent programs
- Diversity and Inclusion Framework
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- Gender Equality Action Plan
- LGBTIQA+ Action Plan
- Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Staff-led networks
- DEECA Leadership Development Program
- Aboriginal employment and cultural capability initiatives
- Workforce capability and talent development programs

Financial and Asset outlook

2026–27 Budget	(\$ million)
The department’s objectives and outputs	2026–27
Productive and sustainably used agricultural resources	
Agriculture	511.7
Net zero emissions, climate-ready economy and community	
Climate Action	19.4
Sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources	
Resources	47.9
Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies on people, property and the environment	
Fire and Emergency Management	445.7
Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services	
Energy	257.1
Solar Victoria	113.0
Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment	
Environment and Biodiversity	179.5
Statutory Activities and Environment Protection	162.8
Circular Economy	146.5
Productive and effective land management	
Management of Public Land and Forests	380.9
Parks Victoria	184.0
Safe and sustainable water resources	
Water and Catchments	302.9
Total	2,751.4

Output initiatives (\$ million)

The department's objectives and outputs	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Agriculture				
Enabling the processing of recreationally harvested wild venison	0.2	..	..	..
Investment in people in agriculture ^(a)	7.4	..	..	..
Managing the impacts of livestock predation – Victorian Fox Bounty	2.2	..	..	..
Safeguarding the future of Victoria's agriculture sector and supporting animal welfare	16.8	..	..	..
Circular Economy				
Detox Your Home	1.9	..	..	..
Climate Action				
Climate action awareness	..	..	..	..
Energy				
Agricultural sector electrification and emissions reduction	4.9	..	..	..
Data centres project team	1.6	1.6	..	..
Delivering on the Victorian commitment under the Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement ^(b)	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Energy Assistance Program	1.1	..	..	..
Energy efficiency in community housing	..	..	..	..
Establishing VicGrid	..	..	..	..
Food manufacturing sector electrification	..	..	..	..
Industry energy diversification	..	..	..	..
Marinus Link oversight	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Modernising and mainstreaming the Victorian Energy Upgrades Program	0.9	..	..	..
National Training Centre in New Energy Skills	..	..	..	..
State funding commitments to national energy market bodies	14.7	..	..	..
Environment and Biodiversity				
Better community facilities	1.7	..	..	..
Faster, fit for purpose environmental assessments and approvals for renewable energy and affordable housing	2.1	..	..	..
Fire and Emergency Management				
Bushfire prevention	..	..	..	..
Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management	19.6	..	..	..
Securing critical aviation fire services	34.2	35.8	37.5	39.3
Management of Public Land and Forests				
Activating healthy forests	9.9	..	..	..
Zoos Victoria Kids Go Free	15.5	..	..	..
Resources				
Developing Victoria's critical minerals industry	2.1	..	..	..
Solar Victoria				
Electrification training program	1.7	1.7	..	..
Solar Homes program – hot water rebates	28.1	..	..	..

Water and Catchments

Murray-Darling Basin Joint Programs	6.1	11.6	25.6	..
Restoring flows to the Mallee Floodplain ^(c)	23.7	..	..	..
Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project ^{(c)(d)}	0.9	0.9	..	..
Victorian Constraints Measures Program ^(c)	7.9	..	..	..
Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2 ^(c)	5.1	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	212.0	53.4	64.9	41.2

Notes:

(a) This does not include an estimate of Commonwealth Government co-funding for the Rural Financial Counselling Service component of this initiative.

(b) Funding is not reported at this time as commercial arrangements are still to be finalised.

(c) Funding provided by the Commonwealth Government via the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment.

(d) Funding contribution from Coliban Water is not included in this table.

Asset initiatives (\$ million)

The department's objectives and outputs	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Energy					
Establishing VicGrid	..	..	..	..	15.8
Fire and Emergency Management					
Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management	24.9	..	..	..	24.9
Management of Public Land and Forests					
Critical asset renewals within the Great Ocean Road coast and parks	7.9	..	..	..	7.9
Improving water quality in our alpine resorts	5.0	0.6	..	..	5.7
Water and Catchments					
Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project ^{(a)(b)}	39.1	34.1	..	..	118.3
Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2 ^(a)	14.0	..	..	..	87.9
Total asset initiatives	90.9	34.7	..	..	260.4

Notes:

(a) Funding provided by the Commonwealth Government via the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment.

(b) Funding contribution from Coliban Water is not included in this table.

Approved use of accumulated State Administration Unit (SAU) surplus

The Resource Management Framework sets out the order of funding for approved asset investments. DEECA follows this order and if required, funds will be drawn down from accumulated SAU funding, after seeking approval from the Treasurer as required under S33 of the *Financial Management Act 1994*. Within DEECA, Digital Strategy 2026-27 (Corporate Services) and Wildlife Licensing System replacement (Bushfire and Forest Services) initiatives have accessed these SAU funds to deliver additional services and infrastructure, details of which will be reported in the Annual Financial Report.

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