**ATTACHMENT A**



**OFFICIAL MINISTERIAL OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

**Outcomes Report**

The provision of the information below is consistent with the *Guidelines for Official Ministerial Overseas Travel*. This report must be sent to the Premier within 40 working days of return, and published on the relevant department website within 60 working days of the Minister’s return. The published version of the report does not need to include the ’next steps / follow up’ section or the signature block*.*

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| **Name of Department / Agency** | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | | |
| **Departmental / Agency Contact** | Mr Mark Curry, Executive Director, Office for Suburban Development | | |
| **Telephone Number** | 9948 8590 | | |
| **TRAVEL DETAILS** | | | |
| **Minister’s Name** | The Hon Lily D’Ambrosio | | |
| **Portfolio/s** | Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development | | |
| **Did the Minister’s spouse accompany the Minister in an official capacity?**  **If Yes – please outline the role of the spouse in achieving the outcomes of the visit** | **YES** (official capacity)  **YES** (private capacity) | | **NO** |
| **Accompanying Ministerial staff** | Mr Christian Bombig, Senior Advisor | | |
| **Countries visited** | Bejing, Nanjing, Zhenjiang and Shenzhen | | |
| **Date of travel** | 24 /09 / 2017 | | |
| **Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)** | 7 | | |
| **Funding source (list Department/s or Agency)** | Minister’s Private Office and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | | |
| **EXPENSES**  *Include combined expenses for Minister, accompanying staff and spouse (if accompanying in an official capacity)* | |  | |
| **Air fares (including taxes and fees)** | | $17543.88 | |
| **Accommodation (including taxes and fees)** | | $4134.66 | |
| **Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)** | | $18028.97 | |
| **Travel cost for Minister and ministerial staff *(and spouse or de facto partner if applicable)*** | | $39707.51 | |
| **Are the above costs final and complete**?\* | | YES  NO | |

\*correct at the time of publication

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| **Purpose of travel**  I visited China from 24-30 September 2017 as part of a program of visits to China by Ministers of the Andrews Labour Government designed to further develop and foster governmental and business relationships between Victoria and China.  The broad purpose of the trip was to study emerging approaches to energy, environment, climate change and urban development in a number of major Chinese cities - Shenzhen, Nanjing, Zhenjiang and Beijing – with a view to applying relevant learnings to the Victorian context.  As part of the visit I was invited to attend the Zhenjiang International Low Carbon Expo to deliver a keynote address on behalf of the Victorian Government. Zhenjiang is in Jiangsu province, Victoria’s longest standing sister state, and a key province for China’s green development programs, clean-technology industries and low-carbon city projects. The Zhenjiang Low Carbon Expo is an international conference of Chinese government officials, clean-technology companies and international representatives that are leading the development of a global clean technology sector.  A more specific purpose of the trip was to engage with and encourage investment by Chinese companies in renewable energy projects in Victoria under the forthcoming reverse auction process designed to deliver increased capacity under the VRET scheme. |

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| **Benefits of travel to the State of Victoria**  In addition to valuable learnings on energy, environmental and urban development practices, the trip provided a critical opportunity for me to meet with and explain to a range of potential Chinese investors, Victoria’s approach to encouraging renewable energy projects to meet the VRET targets. As a result of this direct and personal approach I was able to stimulate significant interest in participation by major Chinese energy investment companies in the forthcoming reverse auction process in Victoria.  Another specific benefit of the trip included a better understanding of waste management and waste to energy practices and technologies with potential applicability to Victoria, including potential projects in the Dandenong area.  Sustainable Urban Development  My meetings with Shenzhen Development and Reform Commission (SZDRC) and the Science and Technology Innovation Commission of the Shenzhen Municipal Government provided an opportunity to learn about sustainable urban development and eco-city approaches in Shenzhen to help inform suburban development policy and programs related to managing urban growth in Victoria.  This understanding was further developed by a subsequent meeting with the Deputy Director General of the Jiangsu Housing, Urban and Rural Development Department during which we discussed suburban development challenges and policies to support development in Nanjing. A number of approaches and initiatives in Nanjing, including housing, transport and greening initiatives, had relevance to Melbourne and my Suburban Development portfolio agenda.  Jiangsu Housing, Urban & Rural Development Department is part of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) which provides housing and regulates the state construction activities in the People’s Republic of China. This meeting also built on relationships formed through participation by Jiangsu Housing and Urban-Rural Development Department in the Jiangsu-Victoria Executive Leadership Program in July 2017 and a meeting between the DELWP secretary and the Director General of the Department during the program.  Waste to Energy My visit to China Everbright International Ltd (CEI) at their Jiangnan Nanjing waste-to-energy plant provided an opportunity to discuss waste to energy, including CEI’s interests in investing in waste to energy in Victoria. CEI is considering investment in waste to energy facilities in the Greater Dandenong region in Victoria.  This visit was followed by a meeting with Jiaqiang Liu, Deputy General Manager China National Chemical Engineering Co. (CNCEC), a Beijing based state-owned enterprise and China’s largest chemical engineering group, and representatives of environmental tech intermediaries, Recovered Energy Australia and Eco-Waste Inc.  CNCEC, Recovered Energy Australia and Eco-Waste Inc. are proposing to work together on a potential waste to energy gasification facility in Dandenong South which may process municipal solid waste. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the project and enabled me to clarify the Victorian Government’s position on waste to energy to inform CNEC’s future investment decisions in Victoria.  Renewable Energy  My meetings with representatives of:   * Golden Concord Group Limited (GCL), an international integrated energy group specialising in clean and new energy; * State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC), the largest utility in the world; * State Power Investment Corporation, one of the top five power generation groups in China; * PowerChina, the largest Chinese SOE specialising in engineering and construction of large power infrastructure projects; and * Goldwind International, a wind turbine manufacturer headquartered in Beijing with a Melbourne office employing approximately 50 staff,   provided me with an opportunity to update them on the Victorian Renewable Energy Targets, the Centre for New Energy Technologies and the New Energy Technologies Sector Strategy.  SGCC is already a major investor in Victoria’s energy sector, being a large shareholder in AusNet Services, Jemena and United Energy. SGCC and SP Group (Singapore Government backed) also jointly hold a controlling interest in much of Victoria's transmission and distribution networks (electricity and gas).  I was able to explore SGCC’s appetite to increase collaboration between our respective new energy technology sectors and further invest in the Victorian energy system. Specific areas of shared interest included increasing collaboration and knowledge sharing between the two jurisdictions regarding demand side management and mobilising capital into Victorian transmission network augmentations, particularly to address network constraints to unlock renewable energy resources (for example in Western Victoria).  Renewable Energy Investment Roundtable  Towards the end of the visit I hosted a high profile roundtable event with a range of key stakeholders/investors identified by the Renewable Energy Division and the Victorian Government Business Office in Beijing, including a number with whom I had already met. The purpose of the roundtable was to promote investment opportunities in renewable energy in Victoria to meet the VRET targets, including through the forthcoming reverse auction. The event was well attended and well received and resulted in a number of requests for follow up information, meetings, etc.  I expect that my visit to China, culminating in the roundtable event, will produce significant and tangible benefits for Victoria in terms of improved relationships and actual investment in Victoria’s renewable energy capacity. |