

28 March 2018  
Hon Daniel Andrews MP  
Premier  
Victorian Government  
1 Treasury Pl  
Melbourne 3002

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Cc Minister for Ports, Hon Luke Donnellan  
Cc Treasurer, Hon Tim Pallas

Dear Premier

Thanks for the response received from Rachel Cowling, Assistant Director Cabinet Office on 14/3/18, via email.

We understand that the Boating Safety and Facilities Program sits in the Ports Minister's domain, however strongly sense that an approach to yourself and the treasurer is in order, given the cross department utilisation of the funds referred to.

We remain hopeful of a meeting with you, however meanwhile, wanted to give you advance notice that we will be writing to you in the near future, seeking your government's position on these key things –

- Confirmation that your government does indeed collect in excess of \$27m per year from boat registrations and marine licences.
- Affirmation that there is a legislated requirement, based on consecutive marine related Acts of Parliament, and currently s312 of the Marine Safety Act 2010, that these funds should be utilised for recreational boating related purposes and in particular for facilities, infrastructure, aids to navigation, master-planning, and search & rescue.
- Recognition that your government currently allocates only \$3m - \$5m per year, of the \$27m per year as mandated for these recreational boating purposes.

Further to the above, we will be inviting you to outline your government's budget intent for 18/19 with regard to these funds, as well as to outline your strategic plans, assuming re-election in November, of what will be allocated for each year of that four year cycle from 19/20 to 22/23.

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The opposition will also be provided this same opportunity and in each case the responses will be circulated to our members and publicised to the wider boating community.

Within the boating industry and community, including the 400,000 licence holders and 1,000,000 participants, there is much agitation and frustration around the issue of this income not being allocated as required. This is especially significant with regard to the resulting detriment to boating experiences and lost participation, as well as the effect on industry and jobs.

We hope to hear from you.

Kind regards



Steve Walker  
CEO