



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (SEA DUMPING) ACT 1981

SEA DUMPING PERMIT No. SD2013/2442

for

**Gippsland Ports Committee of Management Incorporated,
ABN 98 943 634 870**

I, Debra Jayne Callister-Carter, a delegate of the Minister for the Environment, acting under Section 19 of the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981*, hereby grant a sea dumping permit to Gippsland Ports Committee of Management Incorporated, ABN 98 943 634 870, of Bairnsdale Victoria, to dump up to 7,500,000 cubic metres of seabed material, derived from maintenance dredging of the Bar, the Swing Basin, the Entrance channel, Reeves Channel and Cunninghame Arm at Lakes Entrance, Victoria using a Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge, commencing on the date of signature of this permit and extending for a period of up to ten years, subject to conditions which are specified in Appendices 1 and 2.

DATE.....15th.....day of.....October.....2013

Debra Jayne Callister-Carter
Delegate of the Minister

This permit comprises six (6) pages, including Appendices 1 and 2.

**CONDITIONS FOR DUMPING SEABED MATERIAL ANNUALLY,
DERIVED FROM MAINTENANCE DREDGING AT LAKES ENTRANCE,
VICTORIA.**

Definitions

In this permit:

“the Sea Dumping Act”	means the <i>Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981</i> ;
“Application”	means the Application for a permit under the <i>Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981</i> submitted by Gippsland Ports on 15 February 2013 and the additional information supplied on 24 May 2013;
“Cetaceans”	means all whales and dolphins identified as of significance under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> ;
“Department”	means the Department of the Environment: Queensland 3 and Sea Dumping Section, GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601 Telephone: 02 6274 1111 Email: seadumping@environment.gov.au or successor entities;
“Dumping activities”	means all activities associated with the dumping permitted under this permit, including: (i) the loading and carriage of dredged material for the purpose of dumping; (iii) the dumping of the material at the prescribed disposal site;
“EPBC 2011/5932”	means the reference number for this project under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> for dredging and dumping at Lakes Entrance;
“Environmental incident”	means any event which has the potential to, or does impact, on the environment;
“Environmental risk”	means any risk, additional to those risks previously identified in the permit application, which has the potential to, or does impact on the environment;
“Gippsland Ports”	means Gippsland Ports Committee of Management Incorporated, ABN 98 943 634 870
“GPS”	means Global Positioning System;

“the Minister”	means the Australian Government Minister who administers the <i>Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981</i> ;
“LTMMP”	Gippsland Lakes Ocean Access Long-term Monitoring and Management Plan - Maintenance Dredging with Ocean Disposal 2013-2023.
“Monitoring zone”	means the area within 300 metres of the vessel prior to starting and during any dumping run;
“Vessel”	means any vessel or vessels used for or in connection with the loading and/or dumping activities.

1. Except so far as the contrary intention appears, terms used in the conditions of this permit have the same meaning as such terms in the Sea Dumping Act.

Material to be dumped

2. **Gippsland Ports** must ensure that no more than 750,000 cubic metres per year of dredge spoil from dredging of the Bar, the Swing Basin, the Entrance channel, Reeves Channel and Cunninghame Arm, at Lakes Entrance, Victoria, as specified in the **Application**, is dumped at the disposal sites specified at Condition 3.

Disposal Site

3. Operators of the dumping vessel must dump within the disposal sites bound by the following coordinates:

Western Dredged Material Ground

37° 54.12' S and 147° 56.17616' E
 37° 54.3274' S and 147° 56.2776' E
 37° 53.72533' S and 147° 57.44375' E
 37° 53.92621' S and 147° 57.53540' E

Eastern Dredged Material Ground

37° 53.26315' S and 147° 59.43972' E
 37° 53.46463' S and 147° 59.53999' E
 37° 52.86686' S and 148° 00.70888' E
 37° 53.06770' S and 148° 00.80920' E

4. **Gippsland Ports** must ensure that each load of dredged material is dumped so that the dumped material is distributed evenly over an area located within the disposal site defined in Condition 3.
5. **Gippsland Ports** must establish by **GPS** that, prior to dumping; the dumping vessel is within the disposal site defined in Condition 3.

Gippsland Lakes Ocean Access Long-term Monitoring and Management Plan - Maintenance Dredging with Ocean Disposal 2013-2023 dated 9 September 2013 (LTMMP)

6. **Gippsland Ports** must develop and submit for the **Minister’s** approval a **LTMMP** for managing the impacts on the environment, from the dredging and dumping activities, relating to the Bar, the Swing Basin, the Entrance Channel, Reeves Channel and Cunninghame Arm as specified in the **Application**. Loading and dumping must not commence until the **LTMMP** is approved in writing by the **Minister**.

7. **Gippsland Ports** must implement the approved **LTMMP**.
8. **Gippsland Ports** may submit for the Minister's approval a revised version of the **LTMMP** specified under Condition 6. If the Minister approves such a revised **LTMMP**, that **LTMMP** must be implemented in place of the original **LTMMP** specified at Condition 6.
9. If the **Minster** believes that it is necessary or desirable for the better protection of the environment to do so, the **Minister** may request **Gippsland Ports** to make specified revisions to the **LTMMP** as specified in Condition 6 and submit the revised **LTMMP** for the **Minister's** approval. If the **Minister** approves a revised **LTMMP** pursuant to this condition, **Gippsland Ports** must implement that **LTMMP** instead of the original **LTMMP** specified at Condition 6.
10. The **LTMMP** must be made available (electronically) on **Gippsland Ports'** website within 30 days of the **LTMMP** being approved by the **Minister** as specified in Condition 6.

Mitigation Measures for Protection of Marine Species

11. **Gippsland Ports** must manage the **dumping activities** in accordance with the decision made under sections 75 and 77A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for **EPBC 2011/5932**.

Access for Observers

12. If requested by the **Department**, at least two nominees of the **Department** must be afforded access to witness, inspect, examine or audit any part of the operations, including any dumping or monitoring activity, the vessel or any other equipment, or any documented records, and must be provided with any necessary assistance in carrying out their duties.

Environmental Risk and Incidents

13. If, at any time during the course of the **dumping activities**, an **environmental incident** occurs or **environmental risk** is identified, all measures must be taken immediately by **Gippsland Ports** to mitigate the risk or the impact. The situation is to be reported in writing within 24 hours, to the **Department**, with details of the incident or risk, the measures taken, the success of those measures in addressing the incident or risk and any additional measures proposed to be taken.
14. **Gippsland Ports** must document any incidents involving the **dumping activities** that result in injury or death to any **cetaceans** or turtles. The time and nature of each incident and the species involved, if known, must be recorded.
15. **Gippsland Ports** must notify the Department, in writing, of any incidents documented in accordance with Condition 13. Reports must be submitted to the **Department** within 24 hours of the incident, or as requested by the **Department**.
16. **Gippsland Ports** must ensure that all persons engaged in the **dumping activities** under this permit, including the owner(s) and/or person(s) in charge of the vessel, comply with this permit and the requirements of the **Sea Dumping Act**.

Monitoring and reporting

17. **Gippsland Ports** must keep records comprising either weekly plotting sheets or a certified extract of the ship's log which detail:
 - a. the times and dates of when each dumping run is commenced and finished;

- b. the position (as determined by **GPS**) of the dumping vessel at the beginning and end of each dumping run, with the inclusion of the path of each dumping run; and
- c. the volume of dredge material (in-situ cubic metres) dumped and quantity in dry tonnes for the specified operational period and compare these quantities with the total amount permitted under the permit on a daily basis.

These records are to be retained by Gippsland Ports for verification and audit purposes.

- 18. A bathymetric survey of the spoil ground must be undertaken by **Gippsland Ports** within one month of the completion of all dumping activities authorised under this permit.
- 19. Within two (2) months of the bathymetric survey being undertaken, **Gippsland Ports** must provide a digital copy of the bathymetric survey to the Australian Hydrographic Office, Locked Bag 8801, Wollongong, NSW 2500.
- 20. **Gippsland Ports** must provide a report on the bathymetry to the **Department** within two (2) months of the bathymetric survey being undertaken. The report must include a chart showing the change in sea floor bathymetry as a result of dumping and include written commentary on the volumes of dumped material that appear to have been retained within the disposal site.
- 21. To facilitate annual reporting to the International Maritime Organization, **Gippsland Ports** must report to the **Department** by 31 January each year, including on the day of the expiry of the permit or completion of all dredging under this permit, information at Appendix 2 to this permit, or in a format as approved by the **Department** from time to time

Sea Dumping Permit - International Reporting Requirements - Appendix 2:

Please fill in this form and return it by **email only** to the Department of the Environment by 31 January each year. This information is required for Australia's International reporting obligations under the London Protocol. Email: seadumping@environment.gov.au

Permit Holder:	
Address:	
Submitted by:	
Phone:	
Email:	Date: (dd/mm/yyyy)

Sea Dumping Permit number:

Permit start date: (dd/mm/yyyy) **Permit end date:** (dd/mm/yyyy)

Approved dumping site/s:

Geographical position

Latitude	Longitude

Period to which this report applies:

Permit quantity:

Quantity dumped (cubic metres/number) in the preceding calendar year:

Description of material Please tick relevant box or boxes

Capital Dredged Material ☐, Maintenance Dredged Material ☐, Fish Waste ☐,

Vessels ☐, Platforms ☐, Sewage Sludge ☐, Organic Material of Natural Origin ☐,

Bulky Waste ☐, CO₂ ☐, Inert-Inorganic Geological Material ☐,

Comments: