

### Road Infra-structure

Can our roads support the additional heavy vehicle movements of the Unconventional Gas Mining industry?

How will it effect the roads and the residents safety?



#### GLENELG SHIRE COUNCIL'S FEARS ABOUT NEXT 10 YEARS PORTLAND OBSERVER 18/9/2015

## ROBINS IN Fear highways will collapse under increasing traffic

**IILL MELDRUM** 

THE Glenelg Shire Council fears mior roads leading to the Port of ortland will collapse in the next 10 ars because of blue gum plantation

ire mayor Robert Halliday said the was fast approaching when the cost epairing a road was more than its

have been pushing this issue hard six State Government ministers. ing Premier Daniel Andrews, we visited Portland since the new nent was elected," he said.

ow them the growing woodchip stacks at the port, along with bers of trucks coming into the h woodchip and mineral sands e it first hand ... then we tell

representations from trucking companies about the roads.

"They want to see the roads fixed because their maintenance bills are rapidly increasing," he said.

Cr Halliday said a meeting of mayors and some councillors from the Glenelg, Southern Grampians, and several south-east South Australian councils at Coonawarra on Wednesday night agreed to "rejuvenate" the Green Triangle Region Freight Action Plan.

Cr Halliday said the South Australian councils were extremely concerned about the condition of roads because it was impacting on produce from their area such as timber and dairy into south-west

The freight action plan was released in 2009 with input from the Victorian and South Australian government

regulatory reforms for the trucking industry.

Glenelg Shire economic development and tourism manager Neil Burgess told Timber Towns Victoria representatives in Portland recently that all four transport corridors in the shire - the Portland-Nelson Rd, the Henty Hwy from Condah to Heywood, and the Princes Hwy from Dartmoor to Heywood, and Heywood to Portland - were expected to each carry more than 15 million tonnes of timber products in the 10 years to 2024.

Those roads are all the responsibility of the Victorian Government and VicRoads. He referred to the Portland-Nelson Rd. saying between 2009 and 2014 it carried an estimated 4.4 million tonnes.

"The 2015-2019 expectations between 10 million and 15 million

fails," he said.

Mr Burgess said if the Portland No Rd did fail, the traffic would have directed along the Princes Hwy was already struggling and breaking under the current loads.

VicRoads spokesperson yesterday it had delivered a numi road improvement projects identithe freight action plan.

"We are continuing to improvements including 14.4 kile on the Portland-Nelson Road, 1. the Princes Highway west of H and approximately two kilome pavement reconstruction on the at Mumbannar," the spokesperso

The spokesperson said that at la Timber Towns tour, VicRoad a valuable incidbt int.

# How many trucks and vehicles travelled to and from this Gasfield during its exploration and construction?

Is Unconventional Gas Mining viable on our roads?



# Residential and Business development must follow specific Planning Procedures and Protocols







Mining Industry must have asked?



Is there appropriate infra-structure to support it?



How will the Industry impact on existing Industry?



How will the industry impact on communities?

The Unconventional Gas Industry requires hundreds if not thousands of heavy and light vehicle movements?

Our roads have been under stress for years and they face further stress with existing Industry. There is no quick fix.





"It is a question of when, not if our roads fail." says Neil Burgess Glenelg Shire Economic Development and Tourism Manager.

#### How can the Victorian Government add a Gas Industry to our failing roads?



There is not adequate road infra-structure!

What consideration is being given to my safety, all residents safety, the safety of our children on school buses, our visitors and tourists safety?



on roads Ryan nith joined Member for uth West Coast Denis pthine on Tuesday for a tour ome of the district roads

continued upgrades to

on country roads that those freight





Major roads reduced to 60km/h

Fear highways will collapse under increasing traffic ILL MELDRUM representations from trucking companies regulatory reforms for the trucking fails "he said



Roads an election issue for Reekie















Glenelg Shire Economic Development and Tourism Manager Neil Burgess says that the Victorian Government and Vic Roads are responsible for the 4 Transport Corridors in the Shire.

- 1 Portland to Nelson Road
- 2 Henty Highway from Condah to Heywood
- > 3 Princes Highway Heywood to Dartmoor
- 4 Portland to Heywood
- 5 Portland to Casterton



## 12 Rough Surface signs on 68km of road























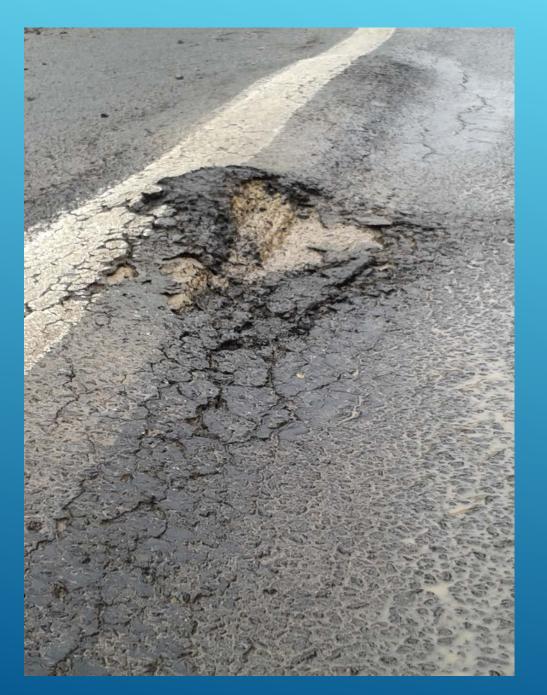








Princes Highway Heywood to Mount Gambier















How can the Victorian Government consider adding a Gas Industry that undeniably requires a sound Road Infra-structure to our failing road system?











## Road repairs at Bolwarra hang on election promise

BEN FRASER

MORE road funding promises have been made by the State Government.

More than half of the funds will go towards the treacherous Macarthur-Myamyn Road while and bole-ridden parts of the Princes Highway in

transport operators, milk tankers, timber truc drivers, school bus drivers and others who us these roads each day.

"This extra funding builds on the \$18 million

### Temporary fix for highway potholes

THE latest outbreak of potholes along the Princes and Henty highways is set to be temporarily fixed this week, according to VicRoads.

The holes, near the turnoff to Warrnambool and the approaches to Bolwarra, have left motorists dodging and weaving to avoid front end damage.

VicRoads has blamed the recent extended period of wet and cold weather for the sudden spate of holes in the bitumen.

"Potholes form because roads crack under the weight and volumes of traffic, causing rain to seep through the cracks and into the underlying gravel. Continued traffic then causes the seal to lift, more water seeps through the cracks and the pothole gets larger," VicRoads Regional Director William Tieppo said.

VicRoads and the Glenelg Shire inspected the Princes lighway near Portland earlier this week and have heduled temporary repairs to be undertaken this week, ne of the worst holes had been filled by yesterday orning.

Over the winter months, maintenance crews temporarily potholes on roads such as the Princes Highway by using halt, however some repairs require the use of different erials. A more permanent fix will be scheduled during mer when weather conditions are warmer and the road y." VicRoads said.

Roads said it encourages people to notify the agency



#### **Unconventional Gas Mines + Existing Industries = Unsustainable**

In addition the use of limited-supply road-base material [limestone, gravel] required by this industry for all-season track access on farms/forests in this region would divert it from usage on our major public road infrastructure, with consequent supply and added cost issues.

\$2million for key timber road

THE Federal Government has now approved a grant of \$2.5 million to upgrade one of Glenelg Shire's most important timber industry roads.

Assistant Infrastructure and Regional Development Minister Jamie Briggs signed off on the investment for the Condah-Hotspur Upper Road in August.

Mayor Cr Robert Halliday said Council had been battling for many years to have the dangerous road repaired.

Cr Halliday said the key transport corridor, north of Heywood, had been struggling under the weight of around 24,000 annual truck movements and increasing numbers of school buses.

"This road is a key route for timber trucks transporting timber from the plantations in south west Victoria and into South Australia to the Myamyn Mill and it's just not been able to cope with the traffic pressure," he said.

hit's incredibly dangerous, not only for the truck drivers, but lso for the people who live in he region and need to access condah-Hotspur Upper Road exularly."

he \$2.5 million Federal



14km

NO

YES

Residents

Safety & Wellbeing

Existing Industries

Long Term Security

Unconventional Mining

Adequate Road Infra-structure