



Chewton Bushlands Association Inc
(Reg. No: A 0056460X)
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PO Box 244
Chewton, Victoria 3451

15 July 2019

Luke Mortimer
Exploration manager
Kalamazoo Resources

Dear Luke

Thanks again for proposing and then attending the meeting with Chewton Bushlands residents last Friday 12 July. Our objective in holding this meeting was to better understand the intentions of Kalamazoo Resources now that the Exploration Licence EL6752 has been granted. We hope that likewise, you too gained an understanding of how the Exploration proposal sits within the community.

This letter follows-up on three undertakings made at the meeting.

1. Property-owner access refusal

We were heartened to get your unreserved assurance that if a landowner does not wish you to explore their property, Kalamazoo Resources will observe these wishes and not pursue any form of exploration or take further steps to secure an agreement to do so. Our understanding is that this undertaking would extend to any further development. We look forward to you confirming this in writing.

2. Single parcel relinquishment on preservation of environmental grounds

We also outlined our strong commitment to protect the environmental values of the area of land we refer to as the Bushlands (see attached map).

As discussed at the meeting and in our submissions to Earth Resources, Chewton Bushlands is a unique community and natural environment. After being largely cleared in the 1930s, the land has since been recovering. Though still considered fragile, this area is now recognised as an area of high biodiversity, hosting stands of Victoria's last remaining box-ironbark forest with hills mainly covered by dry heathy forest. This land now supports a number of plants and animals, a number of which are listed as vulnerable and endangered, and provides an irreplaceable wildlife corridor and core habitat. Protecting and promoting the sustainability of local flora and fauna has been a key purpose of the Chewton Bushlands Association since our incorporation.

In recognition of the rich biodiversity that is now thriving in the Bushlands the Mount Alexander Shire Council made a grant to the Chewton Bushlands Association in 2016 enabling us to document and publish *Native Plants and Animals of Chewton Bushlands*. Recognition of the significance of the natural



habitat is also reflected in the assessment of Trust for Nature. With an area of around 80 hectares now covered by covenants registered with them. There are also six properties registered with Land for Wildlife.

Additionally many Bushlands residents have invested hundreds of hours into public and private land conservation activities to protect and enhance the biodiversity of our community environs.

With our commitment to strenuously defend the environmental assets of this area, we contend that the best way to do that is by “single parcel” excision. Any mining exploration activity resulting from isolated single Bushlands property consent to explore, would threaten the contiguous wildlife corridors and the surrounding ecosystem.

The Chewton Bushlands Association therefore confirms our request at Friday’s meeting, that Kalamazoo Resources relinquish from the area of Exploration Lease EL6752 that parcel of land indicated in the attached map and referred to here as Chewton Bushlands. We ask you to please confirm the Board’s response to this request in the next few weeks.

3. Confirmation of access refusal status for leased land

As discussed at the meeting, this land is largely privately held. There are however two small public reserves and pockets of Crown land under landowner management.

At the meeting you indicated that, with the exception of public reserves, you expected that land managed by private occupiers would be treated in the same way as private land where owner/occupier access consent is refused. We ask you to please confirm this in writing.

We look forward to your response in the next two weeks to the above matters: property owner access refusal; single parcel relinquishment on preservation of environmental grounds; and, confirmation of access refusal status for leased land.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Carter
Secretary
Chewton Bushlands Association