

Victoria Government Gazette

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Subordinate Legislation Act 1962 NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT Royal Botanic Gardens Regulations 1993

A Regulatory Impact Statement has been prepared in relation to the Royal Botanic Gardens Regulations 1993.

The regulations are required to provide for the care, protection and management of the botanic gardens at South Yarra and Cranbourne and other lands managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens Board, including the Observatory Site, a Crown land reserve adjacent to the South Yarra gardens.

The objective of the proposed regulations is to provide for the effective management of the botanic gardens and managed land in order to—

- (a) conserve, protect and improve the botanic gardens and managed land and their collections of living plants;
- (b) provide for the use of the plants or plant specimens at the botanic gardens or managed land for scientific or reference purposes, consistent with accepted international practice;
- (c) increase public knowledge and awareness of plants and plant communities;
- (d) provide for the use of the botanic gardens for education, public enjoyment and tourism; and
- (e) ensure the health and safety of the public using these lands.

The Regulatory Impact Statement examined the use of voluntary codes of conduct as an alternative to the proposed regulations. The Regulatory Impact Statement showed that voluntary codes of conduct would not be effective in meeting the stated objective and that they would be less cost-effective than the proposed regulations, due to—

- (a) the increased resources which would be required to be allocated to public education services to ensure compliance with the code; and
- (b) the potential costs of losses to the plant collections or destruction of environmental or historical features, because of the inability to enforce such a code.

The Regulatory Impact Statement therefore concluded that the proposed regulations were the best means of achieving the stated objective.

Copy of the Regulatory Impact Statement and draft regulations can be obtained from Rob Cross, Herbarium Building, Royal Botanic Gardens, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, telephone 655 2329 or 655 2300.

Public comments on the Regulatory Impact Statement and draft regulations are invited and should be sent to Rob Cross at the above address by no later than 13 December 1993. All submissions will be treated as public documents.

> Dr PHILIP MOORS Director, Royal Botanic Gardens

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