



The extractive industry - vital for Australia

Each year, the extractive industry supports Australia's construction needs by extracting about 180 million tonnes of stone, limestone, gravel and sand from about 2,200 quarries across Australia. The industry is modern and sophisticated and operates to the highest environmental standards. Each Australian requires 7 tonnes per annum of quarry material to support the building of roads, houses and other infrastructure to service their needs.

POLICY PRIORITIES FOR AUSTRALIA'S EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY - FOUR POINT PLAN

4 KEY PRINCIPLES	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
1. CLEAR & TIMELY PLANNING PROCESSES	Timely, predictable and transparent decision-making in planning and development Proportionate, risk based and long-term conditions on planning approvals Robust process for state-interest checks through statutory planning processes to ensure state interests are properly taken into account.
2. LONG TERM RESOURCE PROTECTION FROM INCOMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT	Long term protection of extractive resources to prevent incompatible development close to reserves Realistic and practical vegetation management requirements.
3. SENSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	Proportionate and risk based environmental conditions on planning approvals and environmental conditions, that are not retrospective When dealing with compliance related issues, the focus should be on poor environmental performers, not operators who are "doing the right thing" Consistency and clarity between different levels of government Simplified environmental offset requirements that are proportionate, flexible and provide certainty, and take into account rehabilitation on quarry sites for offset calculations Regulatory framework and approval conditions which take into account distinct elements of quarrying (compared with other industries, such as mining).
4. STRATEGIC & ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNING PROCESSES	A holistic approach within State Governments focused on construction materials, which coordinates the development and implementation of government strategies impacting on construction materials and ensures a clear link between infrastructure strategies and long-term access to extractive materials.