

### Having a say

#### At a glance

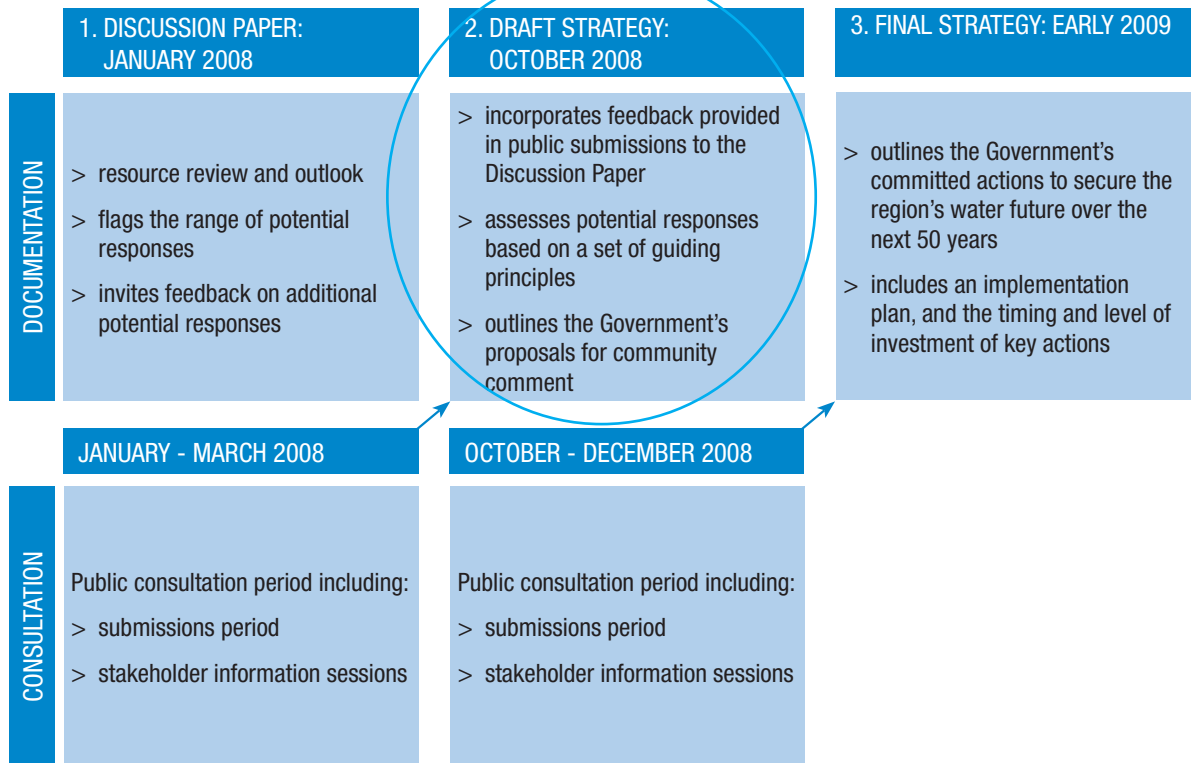
- > The Draft Strategy will assist regional communities to adjust to reduced water availability.
- > It is northern Victoria's response to future drought and the uncertainty of climate change.
- > The Draft Strategy's 57 proposals aim to secure water supplies for towns and industry, encourage economically viable and sustainable agriculture, and protect and improve the health of rivers, wetlands and aquifers.
- > Individuals, organisations and the community are invited to provide formal feedback through a submissions process.

#### The process so far

The three-stage development process began with the release of the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy – Discussion Paper in January 2008.

Public consultation over two months included an intensive program of regional briefings and presentations and 135 submissions were received.

#### The Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy process



See Chapter 1 for more information on the Strategy process.



## Making a submission

Submissions will be considered, along with feedback from forums and other stakeholder contributions, in developing the final Strategy due for release in early 2009.

Submission forms can found on [www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/programs/sws/northern](http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/programs/sws/northern) or call 136 186 for a form to be sent to you. Using a submission form is not compulsory, but it may help you shape your contribution. Information about making a submission can be found in Chapter 10 of the Draft Strategy.

Written submissions are due by **5pm on 12 December 2008**, and can be sent or emailed to:

Department of Sustainability and Environment

ATTENTION:

Sustainable Water Strategies branch  
Office of Water  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Email: [regional.sws@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:regional.sws@dse.vic.gov.au)  
(if emailing please supply address details)

## You need to know

- > The information you provide in your submission, or any other response, will be used by the Department of Sustainability and Environment only in the development of this Sustainable Water Strategy. However it may be disclosed to review panels and other relevant agencies as part of the overall consultation process.
- > All submissions will be treated as public documents and will also be published on the internet for public access.
- > All addresses, phone numbers and email details will be removed before submissions are published on the internet. Names will be retained on submissions. Formal requests for confidentiality will be honoured; however Freedom of Information access requirements will apply to submissions treated as confidential.
- > If you wish to access information in your submission once it is lodged with the Department, you may make a request by contacting the Administrative Support Officer of the Sustainable Water Strategies branch at the above address.

## Further information

Information on the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy is available from the Department of Sustainability and Environment's customer service centre on 136 186 or the website at [www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/programs/sws/northern](http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/programs/sws/northern). For more information about local water services and planning this site also has the contact details for your local water corporation or catchment management authority.

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