

Please Quote: VRPC008101
(File No: PC032753)



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Ms April Watson
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Dear Ms Watson

**INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF [REDACTED]
(COURT REF: COR 2014 006579)**

I refer to your letter dated 23 June 2017, addressed to Mr John Merritt, VicRoads' Chief Executive, regarding the investigation into the death of [REDACTED] at the intersection of Appleton Dock Road and Anderson Road in West Melbourne. Your letter has been referred to me for response. I extend my own and VicRoads' condolences to the family of [REDACTED]

As you may be aware, Appleton Dock Road and Anderson Road are under the management of the Victorian Ports Corporation (formerly called Port of Melbourne Corporation), hence I am responding to the coroner's recommendation number 2, which recommends that the Victorian Ports Corporation and VicRoads review the area and consider appropriate remediation, including physical barriers to prevent future illegal vehicle movements along Appleton Dock Road.

In December 2014, VicRoads investigated the collision and recommended that the Port of Melbourne, who was the owner of the port at the time, undertake further assessment of the collision to identify treatments to improve safety. Following receipt of the Coroner's report, VicRoads contacted the Victorian Ports Corporation again and discussed how VicRoads could further assist their investigation.

On 1 August 2017, our office conducted a preliminary site inspection with a representative of the Victorian Ports Corporation to observe existing site conditions and driver behaviour in the area. On 20 August 2017, a VicRoads representative together with a consultant engaged by the Victorian Ports Corporation conducted an audit along Appleton Dock Road between Coode Road and Anderson Road. The findings of the audit recommended a number of safety improvements along Appleton Dock Road including signs, line marking and physical separation to prevent illegal vehicle movements. These recommendations are currently being considered by the Victorian Ports Corporation.

I have been advised that an implementation plan will be provided in Victorian Ports Corporation's response to the Coroner's recommendations. Should you wish to receive further update on the status of this matter, Ms Jodie Jinnette, Manager Asset Management at Victorian Ports Corporation (Tel: 9683 1505), is the appropriate contact.

Should the Coroner require any other information, Mr David Teague, Director Transport and Planning at VicRoads' Metropolitan North West Region (Tel: 9313 1270), would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



VINCE PUNARO
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

11/9/2017