The new mineral industries regulations will provide for a more flexible approach to advertising of licence applications

What are the changes?

There will be two options for licensees to fulfil their advertising requirements

Applicants will be able to advertise using:
1. Advertisements placed in local and a statewide newspaper, as per the previous regulations; or
2. An alternative method that provides a suitable way to communicate with local landholders and communities.

These changes are being implemented under the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) (Mineral Industries) Regulations 2019.

New advertising guideline

The new guideline ‘Advertising Requirements: Guideline for Minerals Exploration, Prospecting, Retention and Mining Licence Applications’ introduces an alternate method for advertising a licence application when a local newspaper is not circulating. The alternate method is to erect roadside sign(s) with details of the application or notify all affected landowners and occupiers directly via letter with details of the application.

All applicants are now required to provide information to Earth Resources Regulation to enable details of the application to be published on the Earth Resources website. This information is the same as the information required for advertising.

Licensees can utilise the same method of advertising as they have in the past. However, with the release of the guideline, licensees now have the choice of using other methods of advertising when a local newspaper is not circulating.

When do the changes take place?

The changes apply to new licensing applications received on or after Thursday 30 April 2020.

For further information

earthresources.vic.gov.au/mineralregs

You can also subscribe to Earth Resources Regulation’s email newsletter by contacting ERRfeedback@ecodev.vic.gov.au.

This document is available in an accessible format at earthresources.vic.gov.au/mineralregs