

Media release

From the Office of the Environmental Monitor

Wednesday, 8 July, 2009

GOOD BAY TURBIDITY AND BEACH WATER QUALITY

Dredging's Environmental Monitor Mick Bourke today said Port Phillip Bay turbidity and beach water quality were below guideline levels last week.

"Turbidity remained below the dredging project's limits last week and results from EPA Victoria's Beach Monitoring Program showed good water quality at Bay beaches," Mr Bourke said.

"Around the Bay 36 beaches were tested for bacteria, heavy metals, organic chemicals and algae last week.

"The latest available results indicate that all beaches were within guideline levels for all parameters.

"As a general precaution, EPA Victoria advises people not to swim near stormwater drains, rivers, streams and other outlets into the Bay during and for at least 24 hours after rainfall," Mr Bourke said.

Weekly results on beach water quality are available from (www.oem.vic.gov.au and www.epa.vic.gov.au/water/beach_monitoring).

The Office of the Environmental Monitor provides an around the clock, independent and transparent view on the environmental performance of the Channel Deepening Project.

-ENDS-