

Mrs MILLAR (Northern Victoria) — My adjournment matter is for the Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy, and it concerns the recognition of the Hanging Rock precinct as a heritage place on the Victorian Heritage Register in accordance with the nomination made by the Hanging Rock Action Group. I seek to draw the minister's attention to the fact that this nomination was gazetted by Heritage Victoria last Friday, 23 May, and that there is now a 60-day period until 22 July 2014 for the community to make submissions on this issue after which time it will be further considered by the Heritage Council of Victoria.

The gazetting of this nomination is totally separate from but now follows in the wake of a recent announcement by Minister Guy and the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Ryan Smith, of a \$1 million maintenance fund and planning provisions to protect the Hanging Rock precinct from commercial development. Despite this wonderful announcement, which has been lauded and celebrated by many thousands in the Macedon Ranges, a case still exists for this site — an iconic, unique and treasured place — to be separately recognised on the Victorian Heritage Register. It is noteworthy that the gazetting of this nomination only applies to the Hanging Rock precinct and does not apply to the adjoining block of council-owned land known locally as the eastern paddock but which the minister has confirmed will be protected under the state government's announcement on 16 May.

Hanging Rock is well known and valued by Minister Guy, who climbed the rock with me and my predecessor, Donna Petrovich, a former member for Northern Victoria Region, together with members of the Hanging Rock Action Group and other community members on 23 March. This was a very special day, and I think I speak for all those present when I say that we could see a change come over the minister as we climbed the famous rock. I have many great photos of that memorable day. As those who have visited the rock since the 1860s would know, climbing the rock is an ethereal and mesmerising experience. Like Joan Lindsay, who wrote *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, which was published in 1967 — the year of my birth — many have tried to describe and characterise this place, but it means something unique to each one of us.

Make no mistake that Mrs Petrovich has worked to protect Hanging Rock over a lengthy period, firstly as a councillor for the Hanging Rock ward during her time on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and then as a member of Parliament, including during the period when there was a possibility that a wind farm would be built in the Hanging Rock environs. Hanging Rock leaves its mark. As I have often noted, *res ipsa loquitur*, meaning the thing speaks for itself. It is evident that Hanging Rock is a place treasured by all Victorians. For these reasons, and given his deep understanding of this iconic place, I call on the minister to consider the due and proper inclusion of the Hanging Rock precinct on the Victorian Heritage Register.