## **Media Release**

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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## **VICTORIA'S SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPIONS RECOGNISED AT AWARDS**

A social enterprise manufacturing high-vis vests and scrubs from recycled materials, and a project delivering free home energy upgrades for low-income households, has been honoured at this year's Premier's Sustainability Awards.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos congratulated the 12 winners of the Awards – which recognises organisations, businesses and communities that are driving sustainable outcomes across Victoria.

The Premier's Recognition Award was presented to Assembled Threads for its work helping culturally and linguistically diverse women gain employment by manufacturing locally made, recycled-first uniforms for the construction and health sectors.

Geelong Sustainability received the Premier's Regional Recognition Award for delivering free home energy upgrades for low-income households that required support due to existing chronic health conditions.

Other projects recognised included a Bunyip community group which aims to power the entire town on renewable energy by 2030, and UPPAREL's textile recovery and recycling program which has diverted more than 450,000kg of textiles from landfill.

A Community Champion, recognising individuals and small organisations, and an Industry Leader, celebrating medium-large organisations, was announced in each of the six award categories from this year's 36 finalists.

To learn more about this year's finalists and winners, visit <u>sustainability.vic.gov.au/psa-2023-winners</u>.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos**

"The Premier's Sustainability Awards recognise Victorians that are dedicated to sustainability and who are working towards a thriving circular economy."

"This year's winners represent some of the best solutions for cutting out waste, boosting recycling and reusing our precious resources."

Media contact: Alex Woods 0422 572 228 | alex.woods@minstaff.vic.gov.au