

I write to make a submission to the review of the Tasmanian Planning Commission. The TPC is an essential part of our democratic processes as it enables individuals and community organisations to have input into planning decisions in Tasmania.

I therefore recommend that the TPC

- continues to operate independently of government and ministerial influence
- retain its role to review, hold hearings and report to the Minister on planning policies and on planning schemes and amendments
- retain its role in assessing and approving projects of state and regional significance
- retain its role to review, hold hearings and report on representations on national park, reserve, World Heritage Area and Wellington Park management plans and amendments
- be adequately funded to prepare Tasmanian State of the Environment reports every 5 years, and to make recommendations on future actions.