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Subject: Form Submission - TPC Review
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Your Submission to the TPC Review: As a scientist (PhD Geography and Environmental Studies UTAS), writer and lover of Tasmania's natural beauty I writemy submission to the Review of the Tasmanian Planning Commission. As an critical body, the TPC must have the capacity to perform its current functions independently of government, functions which should be expanded. The TPC should be given the power to make and amend the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

The TPC's governance should be free from Ministerial influence, and no changes should be made that undermine the public perception of the independent operation of the TPC.

Retain its existing role to review and hold hearings on representations, and report to the Minister on draft State Policies and amendments.

Retain its existing role to report to the Minister for Planning regarding Draft Tasmanian Planning Polices and to amend any planning scheme to be consistent with a those policies.

Restore its role as the body responsible for making planning scheme controls and amendments by making the TPC the decision-maker for State Planning Provisions and removing Ministerial oversight for Local Provisions Schedules. This would provide the TPC with an important role in influencing planning policy.

The TPC must retain its existing responsibility to assess projects of State significance e.g. major projects like Gunns Pulp Mill and Ralphs Bay, and to provide advice and recommendations to the Minister. As a resident of South Arm, I watched with concern the fight to save Ralph's Bay. Community consultation must always be the priority in decision-making.

The role of the TPC in assessing and approving projects of State and regional significance through existing processes should not be undermined e.g. through the draft Major Projects Bill. Properly fund the TPC to allow it to carry out existing statutory roles, including the State of Environment Report and new State Policies, and in order to carry out all of its responsibilities.

THE TPC MUST RETAIN ITS FUNCTION OF REVIEWING NATIONAL PARK AND

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