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Subject: Form Submission - TPC Review
Date: Wednesday, 13 May 2020 10:54:41 AM

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Your Submission to the TPC Review: Securing the ongoing preservation of the natural environment & the promotion of biodiversity requires recognition of its social, heritage and biological values. This can not be achieved if the natural environment is managed on the basis of short term economic values alone. As president of a Landcare group committed to promoting conservation values, I fully endorse the recommendations listed in the TPC submission.

The TPC must:

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.

Legislation should be changed to give the TPC the responsibility to develop, amend and approve Regional Land Use Strategies with public notice and hearings.

The TPC must retain its existing responsibility to assess projects of State significance e.g. major projects like Gunns Pulp Mill and Ralphps Bay, and to provide advice and recommendations to the Minister.

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.

The TPC's role in independently and transparently reviewing reserve management plans must be retained and legislation should be amended to clarify that the TPC may make recommendations for changes to reserve management plans.

The problems with State of the Environment (SoE) reporting identified by the TPC in 2013 (and reconfirmed in 2018) should be addressed and the TPC should continue to produce SoE reports each five years. These reports are vital for a range of reasons, including informing good planning.

Properly fund the TPC to allow it to carry out existing statutory roles, including the State of Environment Report and new State Policies.

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