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Subject: Form Submission - TPC Review
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Your Submission to the TPC Review: I write to make a submission to the review of the Tasmanian Planning Commission. It is of utmost importance to the Tasmanian community that our voices and expertise are heard and valued during the planning process. The current TPC system allows and thrives on this set up and I'm writing to ensure that it's independence is maintained, broadened to be more inclusive of community ideas and strengthened.

Below is a list of concerns and recommendations for the future of the TPC.

- The TPC must retain its capacity to perform its current functions independently of government.
- The TPC's power should be expanded to act independently of the government. 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.
- **THE TPC MUST MAINTAIN ITS FUNCTION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT** by retaining it's 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 Ralps 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 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.

Kind regards,
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