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Subject: Form Submission - TPC Review
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Name: Nicole Harstead

Your Submission to the TPC Review: I am writing to make a submission to the review of the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

It is important that vital decisions about the State and its resources, which ultimately effect all Tasmanians are effectively monitored by an independent and strong body like the TPC. Governments cannot afford be seen to be influenced too heavily by big business. It also attracts the wrong sort of developers who think they can exploit Tasmanian resources and its people for quick profits. These profiteers are not the sort of companies we want investing in Tasmania. But rather those who are willing to go through due process. My recommendations are as follows:

THE TPC MUST MAINTAIN ITS FUNCTION OF ASSESSING PROJECTS OF STATE AND REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
RECOMMENDATIONS

- 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.
- 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.

1. THE TPC MUST RETAIN ITS FUNCTION OF REVIEWING NATIONAL PARK AND RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLANS
RECOMMENDATIONS

- 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.

2. STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING SHOULD REMAIN WITH THE TPC
RECOMMENDATIONS

- 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.

3. THE TPC MUST BE PROPERLY FUNDED
RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Yours sincerely
Nicole Harstead

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Street Address: [REDACTED]

Suburb: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

(Sent via [REDACTED])