



tasmanian conservation trust inc

20 September 2011

Statement regarding TCT's Federal Court challenge to Tamar Valley pulp mill

'The TCT has withdrawn its Federal Court challenge to the Australian Government's approvals (made in March 2011) of the Tamar Valley pulp mill.

'After making our application to the court in June of this year, it became clear that Gunns were intending to join with the Australian Government in defending the approvals (as is their right) and it was our view that Gunns would not agree to a restriction on the costs we may need to pay if we lost.

'This is very disappointing because Tony Burke had agreed to a reasonable restriction on our potential costs and we thought we had very good reasons to be challenging the approvals.

'Gunns' opposition to a restricted costs order presented a financial risk that the TCT was unwilling to take.

'Losing a federal court case and paying hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs would prevent us being able to take legal action in regard to Gunns' state permits and it could financially ruin us.

'We are still considering whether to challenge the state permits for the Tamar Valley pulp mill and hope to make a decision over the next two weeks.'

Peter McGlone
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