



tasmanian conservation trust inc

Tasmanian Planning Commission
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Draft Integrated Assessment Report – Lauderdale Quay Development Proposal

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust supports the recommendations made in the 'Draft Integrated Assessment Report – Lauderdale Quay Development Proposal' (Draft Report). The TCT believes the recommendations incorporate the most significant arguments put forward by the opponents of the proposal and provide a compelling case for the proposal not to proceed.

Apart from incorporating the additional recommendation suggested below, the TCT urges the Tasmanian Planning Commission to prepare a final report to the Tasmanian Premier which includes, unaltered, all of the recommendations from the draft report. **Furthermore, the Commission should recommend in its final report that the Lauderdale Quay Development Proposal should not proceed.**

The Draft Report recommendation 3.7 in relation to the spotted handfish is not comprehensive and we suggest an additional recommendation for inclusion in the Commission's final report. The draft report correctly identifies the potential for spotted handfish to be located much closer to the proposed development site than currently known, and be susceptible to sedimentation, and the potential for the proposed development to exacerbate the threat to the spotted handfish from the Northern Pacific seastar. However, the draft report does not identify the failure of the proponent to do any hydro-dynamic or coastal process studies specifically assessing the potential for development to impact the known spotted handfish populations through re-suspension of heavy metals, pollution from storm water and sewage and habitat loss or modification from siltation.

Without these additional assessments in relation to the spotted handfish, the TCT believes it would be impossible to argue the spotted handfish had been appropriately assessed or that the recommended mitigation and off-set measures were appropriate or sufficient. We therefore conclude that, unless the Commission requires additional studies and reviews the mitigation and off-set measures in light of the findings, the development assessment would not comply

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with the *An agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Tasmania Relating to Environment Impact Assessment (Bilateral Agreement)*.

Our full arguments and recommendations can be found in our 'Proposed Lauderdale Quay Development Draft Impact Assessment Statement: elaboration on previous arguments in relation to the endangered spotted handfish' and our letter to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, Hon. Peter Garrett (attached).

Note: the 14 July 2009 elaboration document included several errors and these were corrected in a subsequent version provided to the RPDC (dated 16 July 2009) and presented in-person at the public hearings on same date (both versions are attached).

Yours sincerely,

Peter McGlone
Director

Attachments:

- 'Proposed Lauderdale Quay Development Draft Impact Assessment Statement: elaboration on previous arguments in relation to the endangered spotted handfish' 14 July 2009.
- 'Proposed Lauderdale Quay Development Draft Impact Assessment Statement: elaboration on previous arguments in relation to the endangered spotted handfish', 16 July 2009.
- Letter to The Hon Peter Garrett AM, MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, 'Impact of the Proposed Lauderdale Quay Development on spotted handfish', 29 August 2009.