



tasmanian conservation trust inc

[Letter published on 28 August 2010]

Letter to the editor
The Examiner

26 August 2010

Gunns' Pulp Mill

Has Gunns really changed its approach to the environment and the Tasmanian community? In recent months Gunns has:

- sought FSC certification of its forestry operations
- ended the use of 1080 poison
- dropped outstanding lawsuits against conservationists
- made the pulp mill 100% plantation based
- sold off 28,000 hectares of native forests

These are admirable moves and the TCT supports them. But why, in the face of enormous criticism, does Gunns continue to push for a pulp mill that uses an environmentally damaging chlorine based bleaching process in a completely unsuitable location.

Until Gunns make real changes to their pulp mill proposal, we can fairly question their motives for advances in other areas. None of these changes were forced on Gunns, so why make them? Are Gunns just buttering up some community groups to accept their horrendous pulp mill? If Gunns are truly concerned about sustainability wouldn't they be equally concerned for the health of Bass Strait and for native forests?

If Gunns is truly concerned about sustainability and corporate responsibility, they should be looking for alternatives to the Tamar Valley pulp mill.

Peter McGlone
Director
Tasmanian Conservation Trust
0406 380 545