



## tasmanian conservation trust inc

Letter to the editor  
The Examiner

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### **Time for conservation groups to demonstrate their commitment to stopping the pulp mill**

The TCT supports the Huon Valley Environment Centre's withdrawal from the Forests Statement of Principles (FSoP) discussions, because of the state government's failure to deliver a true logging moratorium.

The TCT did not endorse the FSoP in October 2010 for a range of reasons, including that it ignored the need for conservation of biodiversity rich forests on private land and it did not exclude the Gunns Tamar Valley pulp mill proposal. One positive in the FSoP was that it promised the protection of many High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) in wilderness areas, however this hope is looking uncertain.

With Bill Kelty confirming that forests can be only be protected by conservation groups accepting the Tamar Valley pulp mill, a new deal is desperately needed.

The TCT opposes a 'forests for the pulp mill' deal and urges the conservation groups which negotiated the FSoP to seek an amendment to state that Gunns Tamar Valley pulp mill is not supported. These groups should also start to campaign against the pulp mill and not just say they do not like it.

All conservation groups should follow the HVEC's lead and call on the state government to make a meaningful commitment to protect all HCVFs.

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