



tasmanian conservation trust inc

Referral Business Entry Point, EIA Policy Section (EPBC Act)
Approvals and Wildlife Division
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601

Email: epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au
Fax: 02 6274 1789

4 February 2010

**Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board/Water management and use/ Sassafras
Wesley Vale Water District/TAS/Water Pipeline
Reference Number: 2010/5327**

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust is concerned that two EPBC listed species (*Litoria raniformis* green and gold frog (vulnerable) and *Engaeus granulatus* central north burrowing crayfish (endangered) are likely to be impacted by the construction of proposed Sassafras Wesley Vale Water Pipeline and the proponent has failed to provide evidence to substantiate claims these impacts can be avoided.

Section 3, pages 7 and 8 of the 'Referral of Proposed Act Form' states in relation to both species they:

May be impacted upon by the pipeline construction (some habitat may be impacted upon, but the species is known to recolonise areas post-soil and vegetation disturbance) and post-commissioning impacts to be controlled by property and landscape level planning measures.

Section 4, page 5, of the 'Referral of Proposed Act Form' states that:

Measures have been developed and integrated into a 'Construction Environmental Management Plan' to ensure that impacts to listed species are avoided.

The proponent has failed to provide the 'Construction Environmental Management Plan' with their referral documents and we can not find any description of the proposed avoidance measures nor evidence supporting them.

These species appear to be the only matters of national significance which are potentially impacted by the pipeline and their claims should be substantiated. Given the species' biology it is likely that avoidance strategies can be developed and successfully implemented, but it is vital we have a chance to review the strategy and comment on it. We believe the Australian Government should insist on the proponent providing this evidence and releasing it for the public to comment.

Floor 2, 191 Liverpool Street, Hobart TAS 7000 Australia

[p \(03\) 6234 3552](tel:(03)62343552) [f \(03\) 6231 2491](tel:(03)62312491) [e tct6@bigpond.com](mailto:tct6@bigpond.com) ABN 63091237520

The TCT therefore request that the Australian Government insist on the proponent withdrawing this proposal and resubmitting it with a comprehensive and justified avoidance strategy for the green and gold frog and central north burrowing crayfish.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter McGlone', written in a cursive style.

Peter McGlone
Director