



Tasmania

OFFICE of the PREMIER

Mr C Lang
Email address: info@chrislang.org

Dear Mr Lang

Thank you for your correspondence of 15 August 2007 to the Tasmanian Government regarding Gunns Limited's proposal for a pulp mill in northern Tasmania.

In April this year Parliament passed the *Pulp Mill Assessment Act 2007* to establish a rigorous and thorough assessment process for the pulp mill proposal. As part of this process the Minister for Planning is preparing a Pulp Mill Permit, which will include conditions that have been recommended to the Minister by statutory regulators after undertaking an assessment of the pulp mill. This assessment mirrors that which would normally occur for a project of this nature.

The proposal has also been assessed against Tasmania's *Recommended Emission Limit Guidelines for any Bleached Kraft Pulp Mill in Tasmania 2004* by independent expert SWECO PIC and a report on the net social and economic benefits for Tasmania has been prepared by ITS Global.

The Pulp Mill Permit, together with the reports from SWECO PIC and ITS Global, will be tabled in Parliament on 21 August 2007. All of the conditions and approvals required for the project will be publicly available at that time. The pulp mill will only be approved if the democratically elected Members of our Tasmanian Parliament vote to accept the Pulp Mill Permit.

Thank you again for your correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Leesong
Chief of Staff

16 August 2007