

GAA/FIN 118

David Hildred

████████████████████
████████████████████
████████████████████
29 November 2019

Mr Stuart Wright
Inquiry Secretary
Parliament House, HOBART 7000
finfish@parliament.tas.gov.au

Submission to Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A -Sub-Committee - Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania Inquiry

Dear Mr Wright

I have been visiting Tasmania for nearly two decades and have now become an Australian citizen. I recently moved to the Tasman peninsula for my retirement. I have a property at Roaring Beach and one in Koonya.

It is very saddening to see that the uncontrolled expansion of the fish farm industry is destroying what is so valuable about our island.

This is due to short term greed, and further a lack of respect for the environment, by the fish farm companies. An environment that made Tasmania such a special place to visit.

It is not being done to create jobs here in the community, as they state, as these are few compared to tourism, and getting less as automation takes over.

Had I known the way the Peninsula was to be altered by this industry I would seriously have reconsidered my moving to this part of Australia.

I am sure that if this expansion continues unchecked and uncontrolled other visitors and potential residents will also decide to go elsewhere.

We do not need an industry destroying the beauty we have that brings much needed tourism and consequently work and money to Tasmania.

We would be much better served to embrace a sustainable tourism industry that brings a viable long term economy to local Tasmanians rather than destroy our environment as is happening at the moment with the fish farm debacle.

Personally I don't need to have the noise and light pollution that I now experience, or to see the ugliness of their pens, I don't want the degradation of the marine environment that limits my enjoyment of the waters that surround us. I don't want to be pushed off the road by heavy goods vehicles rushing down what were once quiet council roads.

These roads are being damaged by this traffic. From answers to questions I raised to the council it is clear my rates pay for repairs of this increased deterioration.

David Hildred

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
29 November 2019

The companies are secretive and unapproachable and unresponsive.

There is no respect by them of our community in their fixation in making a huge profit for shareholders many of whom aren't even Tasmanian.

Our community is being damaged by there presence.

Enough is enough.

No new fish farms and better control of what is already there.

I endorse the following recommendations by the Tasmanian Conservation Trust 1. Complete independent water quality and environmental studies, before any environmental licences are issued (not an “adaptive management” approach)., 2. Environmental licences must set a hard cap on biomass and dissolved nitrogen and other pollutants emitted into our waterways from pens, hatcheries and other infrastructure., 3. Require all licences and licence amendments (marine and land based) to be referred to the EPA board so that the community can have a say., 4. Commission an independent review of the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel, focusing on its membership, governance and ties to industry., 5. Improve transparency and enforcement by prosecuting fish escapes, fish kills, marine debris and seal and cetacean interactions., 6. Mandate public reporting for disease outbreaks and other bio-security incidents., 7. Amend the Marine Farming Planning Act to require valuation and protection of social, recreational and visual amenity; and consideration of noise impacts on surrounding residents.

Thank you for reviewing my submission

Yours Sincerely

David Hildred