

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## THREAT TO LAKE MARGARET WOODSTAVE PIPELINE

West Coast Council recently approved the demolition of the wood stave pipeline at the Lake Margaret Power Station *subject to* the condition that Hydro Tasmania replace the existing structure with a wood stave pipeline.

"The heritage value of the Lake Margaret Power Station and the wood stave pipeline cannot be underestimated and should not be undervalued" Ms Forrest stated.

Hydro Tasmania appears set to appeal the demolition order through the Resource Planning and Development Commission (RPDC) process and if unsuccessful in this appeal process, proceed to an appeal through the Supreme Court.

"Hydro Tasmania should accept their own costings, as well as the recommendations of the Community Consultative Committee, appointed by Hydro Tasmania, and commit to the wood stave pipeline replacement" stated Ms Forrest.

"If Hydro Tasmania persist with this course of action, rate payers of the West Coast will be forced to pay twice under these two appeal processes, as all taxpayers will be forced to fund the cost of a Supreme Court challenge" Ms Forrest said.

"I call on the Minister for Energy, David Llewellyn to urgently intervene in this matter to show support, not only for this iconic and heritage valued asset, but also to the people of the West Coast, who should not be forced to fund this ill-conceived process or see this asset lost" Ms Forrest said.

"In times of increasing energy and water requirements, it is ridiculous to suggest that Lake Margaret Power Station should not be preserved, maintained and expanded to include the increasing tourism market" Ms Forrest said.

May 14<sup>th</sup> 2007

For further information contact 0419 879 524