

FACT SHEET

State Policies and Projects (Amendment) Bill 2023

The State Policies and Projects (Amendment) Bill 2023 (the Bill) introduces modifications to the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* (SPP Act) in relation to approving or refusing projects of State significance at Macquarie Point in Hobart.

The amendments have been prepared to enable an additional opportunity for both Houses of Parliament to approve or refuse any project of State significance. This applies to all projects proposed by the Crown, including a government agency, or an entity within the meaning of the *Financial Management Act 2016*. It also provides the Parliament with the option of including a requirement in a declaration order for project to be returned to Parliament for consideration before the final approval order takes effect.

Currently, Parliament can approve or reject a final approval order for a project of State significance where that order is not in accordance with the recommendations in the assessment report from the Tasmanian Planning Commission. Currently, Parliament is not afforded this right if the final approval order is consistent with the Commission's recommendations.

The draft Bill provides an additional opportunity for a final order relating to a project of State significance to be approved by both Houses of Parliament before the order becomes effective.

The Bill includes the following amendments to the SPP Act:

- Allows for the making of an order, that declares a project to be a project of State significance, to include a provision requiring that a final order on that project of State significance has no effect until it has been approved by both Houses of Parliament. All final orders for projects proposed by the Crown, including a government agency, or an entity within the meaning of the *Financial Management Act 2016* must be approved by Parliament before it has effect.
- Enables a final order, that is in accordance with recommendations of the Tasmanian Planning Commission's report, to be approved by both Houses of Parliament before it takes effect, where the declaration order specifies that Parliament is to have this final consideration.