

From: [Susanne Carter](#)
To: [House of Assembly - GAA](#)
Subject: Submission The Inquiry into AI Data Centres in Tasmania
Date: Saturday, 29 August 2026 6:54:20 PM

29 August 2026

assemblygaa@parliament.tas.gov.au

My submission to template (3) Parliamentary Oversight is that parliamentary oversight is very important to the well-being of the economy of Tasmania as foreign, highly volatile, high tech, rapid rollout businesses riding a wave of American economic expansion is high risk to a stable tourism and agricultural economy such as Tasmania. (It's a bit like gambling on the roulette table; unless you have a well developed formula it will fail). Without Parliamentary Oversight project adoption does not have the transparency the public desires (it doesn't meet the pub test).

Further, in requiring a local government to exercise its discretion in relation to a narrow band of planning legislation without parliamentary scrutiny, The Tasmanian Premier and certain of his Ministers (including those with financial interests in the renewable energy required by these highly volatile foreign entities) has exposed the local government and the community at large to avoidable harm akin to playing Russian Roulette by government revolver.

The Firmus Technologies situation in Tasmania is a textbook illustration of how micro-level grassroots actions can trigger macro-level financial bottlenecks for giant corporations like NVIDIA. Here is how the local delays at Long Reach (the former Gunns Pulp Mill site which also fell over due to financial non-viability) has impacted the global financial loop:

The Local Bottleneck

The Protests & Delays:

Firmus' planned massive AI factories across Tasmania (Long Reach/Bell Bay, St Leonards, and Wesley Vale) requiring huge amounts of the state's power and water.

Local Tasmanian residents and councils submitted formal objections to the Development Applications (DAs) over environmental and resource concerns.

The Result:

George Town Council and other local bodies had no choice but to delay the approval process to review hundreds of community submissions. Construction could not proceed as fully expected, meaning the data centres cannot open on time.

The Financial Impact on NVIDIA

The "Credit-Support" Trap:

Under their AI Compute Partnership, NVIDIA didn't just sell chips to Firmus; they actively provided "credit support" and financial backing to help them secure infrastructure. In return, NVIDIA was counting on a share of future cloud revenue once those Tasmanian

factories went live.

No Factory = No Cash:

Because the Long Reach DA is stalled, Firmus cannot plug in the tens of thousands of next-generation NVIDIA GPUs (like the GB300s) they intended to deploy there.

Expensive Delays:

Delays are highly expensive in business. Because those GPUs are sitting idle or unpurchased, NVIDIA is not getting its upfront product revenue or its ongoing revenue-share.

The Macro Fallout

This exact type of friction—where real-world power grids, local councils, and water constraints delay data centre builds—is causing immense stress on NVIDIA's new financial model. In fact, due to intense regulatory scrutiny and the sheer volatility of these partnerships, reports indicate that NVIDIA has recently had to freeze or severely rethink these credit-support and revenue-sharing deals.

When local community objections stall a project in Tasmania, it directly disrupts the multi-billion-dollar global cash-flow projections that Wall Street is using to value the entire AI boom.

Up front publication of community benefit, pre approval impact statements together with a full parliamentary scrutiny should have been the primary objective of the Premier and it is this type of direction which needs to be given to his ministers.

Susanne Carter

