



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2019

(SECOND SESSION OF THE FORTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 35

WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2019

- 1 The House met at Ten o'clock a.m.
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE. - The Speaker made a statement acknowledging the traditional people of the land.
- 3 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION. – The Speaker read Prayers.
- 4 QUESTIONS SEEKING INFORMATION. – In accordance with Standing Order No. 43, Questions without notice commenced.
- 5 MEMBER SUSPENDED. – In accordance with Standing Order 149, the Speaker directed the Honourable Member for Braddon, Dr *Broad*, to withdraw from the House for the remainder of Question Time owing to repeated interjections.
- 6 QUESTIONS SEEKING INFORMATION. – Questions without notice continued.
- 7 MEMBER SUSPENDED. – In accordance with Standing Order 149, the Speaker directed the Honourable Member for Clark, Ms *O'Connor*, to withdraw from the House for the remainder of Question Time owing to repeated interjections.
- 8 QUESTIONS SEEKING INFORMATION. – Questions without notice continued and concluded.
- 9 PETITION. - Mr *O'Byrne* presented a Petition from approximately 286 residents of the community of Huonville, requesting that the House call on the Government to reduce the speed limit on the Huon Highway around the entrance of Sacred Heart Catholic School, 4690 Huon Highway, Geeveston from 80 km per hour to 40 km per hour. (HA8/2019)

Which Petition was read and received.

- 10 PAPERS. – The Minister for Primary Industries and Water laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-

Land Acquisition Act 1993: Section 18:

- (i) Notice of Acquisition dated 21 May 2019, land situate in the Municipal Area of Clarence, Lot 2 on Plan of Survey P176498 registered in the names of Tony Dzelalija, Sandra Daniela Brkic and Mark Brkic for road purposes;
- (ii) Notice of Acquisition dated 21 May 2019, land situate in the Municipal Area of Clarence, Lot 3 on Plan of Survey P176498 registered in the name of Gibsons Ltd for road purposes.

11 PAPERS. – The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-

Strategic Infrastructure Corridors (Strategic and Recreational Use) Act 2016:

- (a) Strategic Infrastructure Corridors (Strategic and Recreational Use) (North East Corridor From Lilydale Falls to Tonganah) Notice 2019 (Statutory Rules 2019, No.).
- (b) Strategic Infrastructure Corridors (Strategic and Recreational Use) (North East Corridor From Turners Marsh to Lilydale) Notice 2019 (Statutory Rules 2019, No.)

12 PAPERS. – The Clerk of the House laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-

Parliamentary (Disclosure of Interests) Act 1996: Register of Interests for Members of the House of Assembly 2018-19.

13 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: TASTAFE - Ms *O'Byrne* in accordance with Standing Orders, moved - That the House take note of the following matter:

TasTafe.

And the Question being proposed;

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

14 BILL NO. 38. - The Order of the Day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on Tuesday, 15 October 2019 - That the Place Names Bill 2019 be now read the Second time;

And the Question being again proposed;
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

And Ms *Ogilvie* was addressing the Chair.

15 SUSPENSION OF SITTING. - At One o'clock the Speaker left the Chair.
At half-past Two o'clock the Speaker resumed the Chair.

16 BAN ON THERMAL COAL MINES. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Acknowledges thermal coal combustion is a key driver of increasing greenhouse gas emissions and rising global temperatures.
- (2) Recognises the impact just 1.1 degrees of warming is having on Tasmania, including extreme floods, East Coast drought and marine heatwave, increased dry lightning storms and destructive bushfires, coastal erosion, biosecurity threats and ecosystem stress.
- (3) Accepts the scientific consensus that burning fossil fuels – such as coal – must end in order to limit warming and prevent climate breakdown.
- (4) Agrees it is in Tasmania's best interest to be a climate positive, clean energy island.
- (5) Notes Tasmania's natural, clean energy powered brand would be damaged by any new coal mines, and this brand damage would flow on to the agricultural and tourism sectors of the economy.
- (6) Commits to a prohibition on new thermal coal mines in Tasmania. (Dr *Woodruff*)

A debate arose thereupon.

17 PAPERS. – Dr *Woodruff*, *by leave*, laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-

Open Letter to Members of the Parliament of Tasmania from a group of signatories.

18 BAN ON THERMAL COAL MINES. – And the Question being again proposed;

The House resumed the Debate.

An Amendment was proposed by the Minister for Resources by leaving out all words after “House” and inserting instead:

- (1) Does not support mining developments on productive agricultural land where it is not in the State’s best interests.
- (2) Continues to support the existing coal mining operations in Tasmania, which employ more than 200 people directly and indirectly and supports the local Fingal Valley and Railton communities.
- (3) Notes the Government has neither granted, nor has been asked to grant, any coal mining leases in in the Southern Midlands.
- (4) Notes the rigorous statutory assessment process set out under the Mineral Resources Development Act 1995 which is a legal requirement before either exploration or mining can proceed.

And the Question being proposed – That the Amendment be agreed to;

A debate arose thereupon.

An alternative Amendment was proposed by Mr *O’Byrne* to the original motion as follows:

Amendment 1

In Clause (3) after ‘climate breakdown’, by inserting ‘while ensuring a just transition for workers and communities’.

Amendment 2

In Clause (4) after ‘clean energy island’, by inserting ‘with investments in wind energy and clean fuels like green hydrogen’.

Amendment 3

Leave out clauses (5) and (6) and insert instead the following:

- (5) Acknowledges existing coal mines in Tasmania have supported regional jobs for decades and still supply material to Goliath Cement at Railton and Norske Skog at Boyer.
- (6) Commits to invest in new renewable energy technology including Hydrogen to create jobs in Tasmania and grow our economy.
- (7) Agrees that no new coal mines should be permitted in productive agricultural land in Tasmania.

And the Question being proposed – That the Amendment be agreed to;

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 9

Dr Broad
Ms Butler
Ms Houston
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms Ogilvie
Ms Standen
Ms White
Ms Dow (Teller)

NOES 13

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Courtney
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Mr Hodgman
Mr Jaensch
Ms O'Connor
Mr Rockliff
Mr Shelton
Mr Tucker
Dr Woodruff
Mrs Rylah (Teller)

PAIRS

Ms Haddad

Mrs Petrusma

So it passed in the Negative.

And the Question being put – That the Amendment proposed by the Minister for Resources be agreed to;

The House divided.

AYES 21

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Dr Broad
Ms Butler
Ms Courtney
Ms Dow
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Ms Haddad
Mr Hodgman
Ms Houston
Mr Jaensch
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Rockliff
Mr Shelton
Ms Standen
Mr Tucker
Ms White
Mrs Rylah (Teller)

NOES 2

Ms O'Connor
Dr Woodruff (Teller)

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

The House divided.

AYES 21

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Dr Broad
Ms Butler
Ms Courtney
Ms Dow
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Ms Haddad
Mr Hodgman
Ms Houston
Mr Jaensch
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Rockliff
Mr Shelton
Ms Standen
Mr Tucker
Ms White
Mrs Rylah (Teller)

NOES 2

Ms O'Connor
Dr Woodruff (Teller)

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Resolved, That the House:—

- (1) Does not support mining developments on productive agricultural land where it is not in the State's best interests.
- (2) Continues to support the existing coal mining operations in Tasmania, which employ more than 200 people directly and indirectly and supports the local Fingal Valley and Railton communities.
- (3) Notes the Government has neither granted, nor has been asked to grant, any coal mining leases in in the Southern Midlands.
- (4) Notes the rigorous statutory assessment process set out under the Mineral Resources Development Act 1995 which is a legal requirement before either exploration or mining can proceed.

19 LOCATION OF NORTHERN PRISON. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Notes the concern of Westbury residents about the decision of the Hodgman Liberal Government to build a new maximum security prison on their doorstep.
- (2) Laments the secrecy and lack of consultation with the community prior to the announcement.
- (3) Calls on the Hodgman Liberal Government to detail how much it has paid a public relations firm to outsource the consultation process.

- (4) Further calls on the Hodgman Liberal Government to reveal the other nine shortlisted sites to fully inform debate about the best location for the northern prison. (Ms *Haddad*)

A debate arose thereupon.

An Amendment was proposed by the Attorney-General by leaving out all words after “That the House” and inserting instead:

- “(1) Notes the Government’s announcement on 30 September 2019 of a preferred site nearby to the Valley Central industrial precinct at Westbury for the new \$270 million Northern Regional Prison and the important community consultation that began on that day.
- (2) Notes the enormous economic benefits and jobs this vital project will provide to Westbury and Northern and North West Tasmania.
- (3) Notes the importance of the Government’s consultation program with local residents, businesses, the Meander Valley Council and other key stakeholders to ensure community feedback can be taken into consideration and help inform future decisions about the project.”

And the Question being proposed – That the Amendment be agreed to;

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 12

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Courtney
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Ms Hickey
Mr Hodgman
Mr Jaensch
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Shelton
Mr Tucker
Mr Rockliff (Teller)

Ms Petrusma

NOES 10

Dr Broad
Ms Haddad
Ms Houston
Mr O’Byrne
Ms O’Byrne
Ms O’Connor
Ms Standen
Ms White
Dr Woodruff
Ms Butler (Teller)

PAIRS

Ms Dow

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

The House divided.

AYES 12

NOES 10

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Courtney
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Ms Hickey
Mr Hodgman
Mr Jaensch
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Shelton
Mr Tucker
Mr Rockliff (Teller)

Dr Broad
Ms Haddad
Ms Houston
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms O'Connor
Ms Standen
Ms White
Dr Woodruff
Ms Butler (Teller)

PAIRS

Ms Petrusma

Ms Dow

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Resolved, That the House:—

- (1) Notes the Government's announcement on 30 September 2019 of a preferred site nearby to the Valley Central industrial precinct at Westbury for the new \$270 million Northern Regional Prison and the important community consultation that began on that day.
- (2) Notes the enormous economic benefits and jobs this vital project will provide to Westbury and Northern and North West Tasmania.
- (3) Notes the importance of the Government's consultation program with local residents, businesses, the Meander Valley Council and other key stakeholders to ensure community feedback can be taken into consideration and help inform future decisions about the project.

20 ECONOMIC GROWTH. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Acknowledges that the Hodgman majority Liberal Government has a long-term plan to keep our economy strong, carefully manage the Budget, help create jobs, and invest even more in essential services.
- (2) Notes that, at the State election in March 2018, Tasmanians saw the progress that had been made in delivering our plan, across our State, in four years under a majority Liberal Government, and they supported it again.
- (3) Recognises that a vital part of the plan was to first and foremost, restore business confidence and strengthen our economy.
- (4) Further notes that Tasmania's businesses are now measured as the most confident in the nation, that Tasmania has the best business conditions in the nation and that Tasmanian small businesses are the powerhouse of our economy.
- (5) Further acknowledges the Shadow Treasurer, Hon. *David O'Byrne* MP's public admission this week that, after five and a half years in Opposition, Labor still has no vision or plan.
- (6) Endorses the Hodgman majority Liberal Government's plan to continue to grow the economy and help create jobs, by supporting Tasmanian businesses and unlocking investment opportunities in Tasmania. (*Mrs Rylah*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And Ms *O'Byrne* was addressing the Chair.

21 ADJOURNMENT. - The time being Six o'clock, the Speaker proposed - That the House do now adjourn and called for issues to be raised;

The House adjourned at Thirty-three minutes past Six o'clock.

SHANE DONNELLY, *Clerk of the House.*

MEMBERS. - All present during the day except Mrs *Petrusma*.