

**From:** Christopher Cowles [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 10 February 2023 10:25 PM  
**To:** PAC  
**Subject:** No AFL Stadium on Macquarie Point  
**Attachments:** Guggenheim Museum Bilbao.JPG

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposal by the Australian Football League (AFL) that a new covered stadium must be built in this state as a condition for Tasmania to have its own team in the national competition. This is an outrageous proposed but the AFL may have thought it could stop the inclusion of a Tasmanian team because the government would find the proposal too expensive. No other state has been required to do this. Tasmanians should not have to pay for a new roofed stadium to have a Tasmanian team.

I further object to the proposal by our State Government that, if this proposal is accepted, the stadium should be built at Macquarie Point. Tasmanians have not been consulted about using the Macquarie Point site for a stadium and I strongly object to public funding going towards this proposal.

The many government documents published on the following Website [https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/Transport\\_and\\_Infrastructure/major\\_stadiums/Tasmanias\\_new\\_Arts,\\_Entertainment\\_and\\_Sports\\_Precinct,\\_Macquarie\\_Point,\\_Hobart](https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/Transport_and_Infrastructure/major_stadiums/Tasmanias_new_Arts,_Entertainment_and_Sports_Precinct,_Macquarie_Point,_Hobart) sets out to justify the merits of this proposed project, however the whole case is based on a flawed concept.

Macquarie Point must be the most significant waterfront development sites in Australia. Its panoramic view of the River Derwent and Mount Wellington/Kunanyi is outstanding and to build an inward looking stadium defies logic. The presently projected cost of \$750–800 million dollars warrants an iconic world significant outward looking building.

I have been fortunate enough to visit the Frank Gehry–designed Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao (see the attached photograph). The development of this gallery sparked a revitalization of this former industrial city and this has made it one of the most interesting and livable urban areas in Spain.

I find it difficult to see how another stadium can be justified as priority for our state as our state already has two AFL standard stadiums—what will be the future for the Blundstone Arena and the University of Tasmania Stadium if a new roofed stadium is built?

If another stadium has to be built then a more suitable site must be found.

Yours faithfully,

Christopher Cowles.



