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Ms Cecily Rosol MP Member for Bass Tasmanian Greens

By email: cecily.rosol@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Rosol

Thank you for your Constituency Question seeking information in relation to the processes followed for a rezoning involving land at, and adjacent to, 135 Bell Bay Road, Bell Bay (subject land), which is currently before the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC).

The TPC operates independently of Government and as such there are aspects upon which it is not appropriate for me to comment. I can, however, respond with some matters of fact:

- Strategic alignment and supporting studies for this rezoning are a matter for George Town Council (Council) and the TPC as the planning authorities responsible. I am aware that there has been a significant focus on Bell Bay as Tasmania's largest and most prospective Industrial precinct by the Council and successive Liberal Governments particularly given its deep-water port with significant capacity. This has included working with stakeholders on land suitability and availability and providing financial support along with local industry to establish and build what is now known as the Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone.
- 2. The re-zoning process is managed and assessed by the TPC in accordance with the requirements of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act). This is a live matter before the TPC and I understand that at this time no final determination has been made regarding the subject land.
- 3. Publicly available representations to the TPC make it clear that Suncable plans to progress an application for a high voltage cable manufacturing facility outside of this rezoning process, using the major projects assessment pathway provided for in the Act. The Act prescribes the entire major projects process including notification, representations and assessment.

SunCable is yet to submit an application for activity on the subject land. Strategic alignment and supporting studies will be considered by the appropriate authority as part of the assessment process once an application has been submitted, irrespective of the outcome of the current assessment.

Thank you again for your Constituency Question.

Yours sincerely

Hon Felix Ellis MP

Minister for Housing and Planning

5/9/2024