

Submission

The Secretary,

Legislative Council Select Committee on the Tasmania Forests Agreement Bill 2012.

Parliament House Tasmania,

Hobart, Tasmania. 7004

January 18th 2013.

Dear Secretary,

Submission for the support of the Tasmania Forests Agreement.

There is value in the protection of our unique forests.

The protection of the forests in Tasmania, I believe, will bring many long term economic values back to the community from increased tourism to the protection they provide for carbon storage, to fresh water catchments, to their rich biodiversity.

With the protection of these forests, it will bring greater tourism to the region; tourism bodies are spending millions encouraging people from around the world to visit our natural environment. A good recent example reported in the media of Cinema ads played in China encouraging their people to travel here to see our unique unspoilt natural environment.

In a recent article in the Australian by the Hon Craig Emerson Minister for Trade. The weekend Australian November 10-11, 2012 titled "Tyranny of distance becomes power to proximity". He noted the value of our natural environment for the Asian tourist market. Quote "A second endowment is our natural attractions: reefs, rainforests, harbours, national parks and wilderness areas. Asia's middle classes are on the move well-heeled tourists looking for high quality experiences." Regardless of your political background what the Minister said the "Tyranny of distance becomes power to proximity", is very true and beneficial for Australia for trade and Tourism.

This is why it is also very important for Tasmania to maintain its clean green image for very good quality food and for its clean natural beauty as a place for the world to come and see.

By supporting the Forests agreement it will bring benefits to the local community and help make Tasmania one of the world's tourism icons. As when these forest areas become national parks and are then declared world heritage this will also bring with it international attention in the tourist markets.

I have travelled to Tasmania several times and always want to come back for the people living there are living in the best part of Australia.

Timothy J Bidder

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