## Deputy Premier Treasurer Minister for Infrastructure

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Mr M Grainger Chair TT-Line Company Pty Ltd PO Box 168E FAST DEVONPORT TAS 7310

Dear Mr Grainger

We are writing to you in relation to TT-Line Pty Ltd's vessel replacement project and the construction of associated berthing infrastructure at Devonport Port. We also note the email correspondence of 12 June 2024 from TT-Line's Chief Executive Officer to the Secretary of the Department of State Growth.

As Shareholding Ministers of the TT-Line, on behalf of the people of Tasmania, we emphasise once again that the timely completion and arrival of the new TT-Line vessels in Tasmania; the availability of suitable infrastructure for the new vessels at the Port of Devonport prior to the arrival of the new vessels; and the timely completion of the permanent port infrastructure for the new vessels is of the highest strategic importance for the Government and Tasmania.

It has been made clear by the Government that we are very disappointed in the recent advice from the TT-Line that, even with the delays in the delivery of the vessels, the berthing infrastructure at Devonport for which the TT-Line has had clear responsibility, will not be ready in time for the arrival of the new vessels. We also note that the decision to rescind the existing Preferred Tenderer status was made unilaterally by TT-Line during the recent Caretaker period, without notifying or briefing the Government, and that this decision has caused further delay due to the need to undertake a further procurement process. Any further delay in the operation of TT-Line's new vessels due to a failure to have completed port infrastructure, is rightly seen as a matter of great concern by the Tasmanian tourism industry, freight operators and the broader Tasmanian community.

In these circumstances and taking into account the significant discussions that have occurred in recent weeks between ourselves, the Department of State Growth, Tasports and TT-Line, we consider it appropriate that our requirements as TT-Line's shareholders are made very clear to the TT-Line Board. To this end, in accordance with the TT-Line's Articles of Association, the attached Direction has been signed by us as shareholders. The Direction seeks to ensure that the public interest and the State's broader economic and social objectives are addressed within the commercial objectives and practices of the Company. The Direction has a strong focus on the timely completion of Berth 3 and other associated infrastructure; the importance of TT-Line working proactively and collaboratively with Tasports; and the provision of immediate and full advice to us as shareholders through the Department of State Growth.

We expect the TT-Line Board to treat the matters detailed within the Direction with the upmost importance.

In relation to the matters raised in the CEO's email, we have been advised the current leasing arrangements between TT-Line and Tasports provide for the continuation of TT-Line's use of Berth 1, in the interim, for the new vessels on their arrival in Tasmania.

For the information of the Board, we can also advise that, as shareholders of Tasports, we have also provided a Direction to that Company in relation to its role in the completion of the necessary Devonport port infrastructure and the importance of it working proactively and collaboratively with TT-Line.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michael Tenguson MP

Deputy Premier Treasurer Hon Eric Abetz MP Minister for Transport

17/6/2024

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