

GAA/FIN 111

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Mr Stuart Wright
Inquiry Secretary
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Submission to Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A -Sub-Committee - Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania Inquiry

Dear Mr Wright

I have a deep connection with Tasmania's waterways. I am distressed that once again this Government is allowing one industry to sit above all others (including recreational ones) and treat our oceans, seas and rivers like an industrial waste grounds for the benefit of a few fat cats. Yes there are jobs created but there are far more sustainable industries that could be developed where these jobs could be created. The salmon industry had the potential to be a world leader in sustainability and environmental standards and create a niche, high end product but the greedy owners and politicians chose to go down the usual path of plundering of our natural assets in the hope this industry becomes the 'next big thing' to solve all our economic issues. Shameful.

I endorse the following recommendations by the Tasmanian Conservation Trust 1. Complete independent water quality and environmental studies, before any environmental licences are issued (not an "adaptive management" approach)., 2. Environmental licences must set a hard cap on biomass and dissolved nitrogen and other pollutants emitted into our waterways from pens, hatcheries and other infrastructure., 3. Require all licences and licence amendments (marine and land based) to be referred to the EPA board so that the community can have a say., 4. Commission an independent review of the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel, focusing on its membership, governance and ties to industry., 5. Improve transparency and enforcement by prosecuting fish escapes, fish kills, marine debris and seal and cetacean interactions., 6. Mandate public reporting for disease outbreaks and other bio-security incidents., 7. Amend the Marine Farming Planning Act to require valuation and protection of social, recreational and visual amenity; and consideration of noise impacts on surrounding residents.

Thank you for reviewing my submission

Yours Sincerely
Jenny Archer