

GAA/FIN 168

Patsy Harmsen

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29 November 2019

Mr Stuart Wright
Inquiry Secretary
Parliament House, HOBART 7000
finfish@parliament.tas.gov.au

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

Dear Mr Wright

Dear Legislative Council inquiry into the Salmon Industry,

My name is Patsy Harmsen and I am the Convenor of the Tinderbox West Coast Care Group (started in 2000). We have been observing finfish farming in the area for decades and we have attended numerous meetings and submitted numerous queries about salmon industry effects in our local area. In our submission to the inquiry about the Salmon Industry we would like to raise some issues that we see as significant to our region. We would like to recommend that better community consultation be undertaken. We feel that our questions and concerns have not been appropriately addressed over the years by the industry, and by local and state government. We have ongoing concerns with noise pollution by fishfarm boats in the area. We have concerns about environmental pollution and the effects of fishfarming on the surrounding environment. We feel that we are not being listened to and we think that fish farms seem to have free reign on the local environment. The State Government seems to be giving them the green light to do whatever they want to do. We would like to see independent scrutiny of this industry without the input of the state government or the EPA. We think the current growth of the industry is unsustainable and regulation of the industry by state bodies is unviable. We would like stronger recognition as a community organisation. We would like to see the salmon farming industry doing less harm, not more.

Sincerely

Thank you for reviewing my submission

Yours Sincerely

Patsy Harmsen