



# *Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council* *Aboriginal Corporation*

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Executive Commissioner  
Resource Planning and Development Commission  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
144 Macquarie Street  
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Sir/Madam

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council wish to make a submission to the draft Integrated Impact Statement concerning the Proposed Bleached Kraft Pulp Mill at Long Reach, Northern Tasmania.

We submit the following;

The Archaeological report does not cover all of the issues raised by this organisation. The report states that only 1.5 % of the area was covered in the survey with a total of 18 sites recorded, we require a 100% percent survey of the total area to ensure that Aboriginal values are protected.

The report itself only looks at the physical remains of Aboriginal Heritage, but there is no recognition of other Aboriginal Heritage values, such as vegetation and animal values. No consideration has been given to Aboriginal stories or spiritual association with the location of the proposed mill

Under Section 7.10.11 (3) of the guideline created by your office, it states "Consultations with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, the Office of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal Heritage Office, as well as with Aboriginal Communities, should occur prior to any surveys of potential sites to establish regulatory requirements for heritage values, places and landscapes". These guidelines were not followed by Gunns. They approached us only after the report and discussion with the Aboriginal Heritage Office had occurred.

If the guidelines had been followed by Gunns, the issue of the lack of coverage during the survey would not have occurred, as we would have required a more comprehensive assessment than the one undertaken.

At the only meeting we had with Gunns, Gunns stated that they would have to consult with the Flinders Island Community, Cape Barren Community and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, as they have a strong interest in the Pulp Mill issue.

The Minister for Aboriginal Heritage, Paula Wriedt, has an arrangement with this organisation that requires our input into Permit Applications made under section 14 of the ARA 1975. If the Gunns Pulp mill becomes a project of state significance, we and the Aboriginal community will have no input into the appropriateness of permits issues for destruction of our Heritage. Our Policy is not to support permits to destroy our heritage.

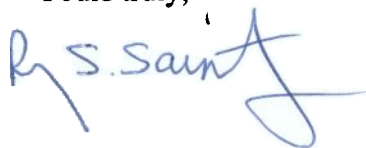
Indications are at least one area has the potential to contain subsurface material this is the area of TASI 9896.

Investigating the area after the Proposed Gunns Pulp Mill is agreed to will mean that anything found can only be further impacted or destroyed and can never be protected to the fullest extent. This organisation does not support this type of process.

The impact of the harvesting of the wood chips for the mill is a serious issue for us as well, as no assessments have been undertaken in regard to the impact of this to Aboriginal Heritage. Currently we know that Forest harvesting has and will continue to damage and destroy Aboriginal Heritage across the state.

In conclusion we do not support the pulp mill because of the above issues.

Yours truly,



Rocky Sainty  
Chairperson  
5/8/06