

STATE POLICIES AND PROJECTS ACT 1993

Section 20

Ministerial Direction to the Resource Planning and Development Commission to Undertake an Integrated Assessment

I, Paul Lennon, MHA, Premier and Minister administering Part 3 of the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* ("the Act"), acting pursuant to section 20 of the Act, hereby direct the Resource Planning and Development Commission ("the Commission") to undertake an integrated assessment of the proposal by Gunns Limited (ACN 009 478 148) for the development and operation of a bleached kraft pulp mill in northern Tasmania ("the Project"), declared by the Administrator to be a project of State significance by an order made pursuant to section 18(2) of the Act on 22 November 2004.

The Commission is required to comply with the following requirements in relation to this integrated assessment, subject to the terms of the Act -

1. The integrated assessment is to address the environmental, social, economic and community issues relevant to the Project.
2. The integrated assessment is to include consideration of environmental, social, economic and community impacts during the construction phase of the Project.
3. In considering issues relating to the supply of timber resources for the Project, the Commission must give effect to the Regional Forest Agreement made between Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia on 8 November 1997.
4. The integrated assessment must address the extent to which the Project will comply with the Tasmanian Government's "Environmental Guidelines for Any New Bleached Eucalypt Kraft Pulp Mill in Tasmania", published in 2004, and any conditions that should be imposed under section 26 of the Act having regard to those Guidelines.
5. To the extent that this is consistent with the obligations of the Commission under the Act and Tasmanian law, the Commission must endeavour to ensure that :
 - (a) it complies with the bilateral agreement between Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia under section 45 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) in conducting the integrated assessment; and

- (b) the assessment report addresses the matters which the Minister administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) must take into account when considering under section 136 of that Act whether to approve the Project or an action associated with the Project.
6. The Commission must undertake the integrated assessment in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles set out in section 74 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.
7. The Commission is to submit its report to me under section 26(1) of the Act within 4 months of the draft integrated assessment report being placed on public exhibition under section 22(a), or by such later date as I may direct in writing.



Paul Lennon

**Premier and Minister administering
Part 3 of the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993***

26 November 2004