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From: James Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 8 January 2024 3:46 PM
To: TPC Enquiry
Subject: Submission re assessment of stadium proposal, Macquarie Point

Categories: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 8, 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

As you will no doubt discover, I have sent a separate document via the website for Our Place – Hobart. That is so because I thoroughly agree with that group’s submission and its careful wording, dated 20 December 2023.

I also added my own comments therein. However, I repeat most here below in this email, as I hope it is important that my added, albeit very general thoughts at this stage should be treated as a separate submission, as opposed to a “group objection” alone.

I am a retired Lecturer from the University of Tasmania who specialised in cultural landscape values.

This proposal by the Premier of Tasmania and the Liberal Party appears to be very much coloured, not by careful initial planning, but by standover tactics from the AFL as a condition of Tasmania gaining its own AFL team. It is a poor look for good governance in my home State.

The Melbourne AFL HQ people who instigated this were, and are, in no position to understand the real needs and priorities of Tasmania's people statewide. And, of course, in the sporting realm alone, there are many such which Tasmanians of all ages participate in which are poorly supported by the State, or perhaps not supported at all.

My own position, contrary to some car stickers seen around my home town of Hobart, is "Yes, Tas AFL team", "No, stadium".

Now, many of us see unedifying positions and statements by various Liberal Party members who have been scrambling to come up with reasons, in the absence of sound planning, as to why a new Hobart stadium will be an economic bonanza - but which may well end up costing Tasmanian taxpayers dearly over many years to come.

Amongst other considerations, I also have many criticisms of the stadium proposal relating to cultural heritage values of many different kinds around and beyond the proposed location, as well as visual landscape values and sense of place. In addition to a wide variety of shared views and affiliations by many Tasmanians, these types of values are also of enormous existing importance for Hobart and State tourism.

I would welcome any occasion to discuss these in detail if the opportunity arises.

Yours, Dr Jim Russell



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