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Dear Tasmanian Planning Commissioners,

**Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc submission
Draft Planning Criteria for Major Infrastructure Development Order 2020**

Background Remarks

PMAT supports renewable energy initiatives but considers that:

- a State Policy on Energy is urgently needed to guide all major infrastructure projects
- renewable energy should largely be used close to its source and not transported on an industrial scale
- high voltage lines developed by UPC, Tas Networks and others, facilitating the transmission of renewables to Victoria will have wide implications for many areas of NW Tasmania
- robust discussion about the need for Marinus is urgently required, given the potential impact on state finances, possible energy bill increases for consumers and the broader environmental/planning effects
- rigorous planning criteria are required for this proposal



Planning Requirements & Criteria

In the view of many PMAT groups, some of these planning requirements and criteria should include:

1. Demonstration of a thorough cost-benefit analysis by the proponents. This includes the real costs borne by Tasmania and specific local communities affected by this proposal, the project's total carbon footprint, and any environmental damage. Benefits must also be assessed independently to show where electricity and profits may end up.
2. An Environmental Impact Statement to thoroughly investigate impacts on biodiversity generally, and any flora/fauna listed under EPBC Act and Threatened Species Act 1995.
3. Visual Impact Statements as major infrastructure will impact tourism in Tasmania.
4. Bushfire risks must be quantified, and thorough management plans made with input from community and TFS.
5. Any prior assessments and approvals which constitute part of this TPC assessment should be made public.
6. Compliance with permit conditions, if a permit is granted, must be monitored.
7. Timely and effective community consultation about points (3) & (4) should be mandated with affected communities, these communities being identified at (1).

Transitioning to renewable energy is an important step, and Australia needs to be a world leader. However, criteria to ensure good governance, transparency around compliance, effective community consultation and the least possible negative social and environmental consequences are critical.



Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Harrison

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania, State President



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