

Project of State Significance

Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium

Integrated Assessment Directions Hearing

Date and time: Tuesday 10 June, 10.00am

Location: Merino Room, The Old Woolstore 1 Macquarie Street, Hobart
and by Microsoft Teams

A directions hearing was held to clarify and resolve arrangements for the public hearings in relation to those representations made on the draft integrated assessment report for the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance (the Project) which are to be considered by way of a public hearing.

The Chair of the Panel of delegates for the Project (Panel Chair - Mr Paul Turner SC) convened the directions hearing, assisted by counsel assisting (Mr Andrew Walker). The Panel had invited those who submitted representations which are to be subject of the public hearing to participate in the directions hearing. There are 29 representations which have been consolidated (see list below). 14 of those representors attended the directions hearing (see list below). A number of other parties attended to observe.

The Panel Chair asked representors:

- to confirm whether they would attend the public hearings,
- whether further evidence – beyond that contained in the representation - would be relied upon, and
- whether any witnesses would be produced at the hearings.

All further written evidence to support representations subject to the hearings is to be provided to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (Commission) by 17 June 2025 and will be published on the Commission's website.

The Panel Chair confirmed that, at the hearings, representors would be invited to speak for a short time on their representations, questions may be asked of them, and final oral and/or written submissions may be made. Questioning may include questions from other parties with an opposing view, although repetitive questioning on issues already answered would not be permitted.

The Panel Chair noted that those representations with a limited scope of issues would be heard earlier in the hearing process, and more complex representations would be heard later. A hearing schedule will be prepared and circulated to the representors attending the directions hearing; and it will be published on the Commission's website.

Counsel for the Project Proponent (the Crown in Right of Tasmania) sought that the directions hearing be adjourned for a week, and that the hearing dates currently set be vacated. The reasons given were primarily due to the difficulties presented by the Government likely entering a caretaker period. The Panel Chair did not consider there was adequate reason given at this point to adjourn the directions hearing or to vacate the hearing dates, and therefore this request was denied. It was observed that the Project proponent was at liberty to make another application for adjournment of the public hearing and if it was minded to do so it should direct correspondence to the Commission with detailed reasons why an adjournment was sought.

Counsel for the Project Proponent confirmed their involvement in the public hearings would be confined to advocating for the draft Macquarie Point Planning Permit Bill 2025 and accompanying permit. Further evidence or witnesses would not be provided at the public hearings. Counsel for the Project Proponent stated that they would provide information on who would be speaking to permit condition matters. This information is to be provided to the Commission by 17 June 2025.

Counsel for Our Place Hobart stated that witnesses would be provided in support of their representation, in relation to planning matters and visualisations. It was also indicated that further evidence would be provided by an architect in relation to stadium design and cost overruns.

Counsel for Our Place Hobart asked that notices under section 14 of the *Tasmanian Planning Commission Act 1997* (to compel the attendance of witnesses) be issued by the Commission to have the authors of the proponent's economic reports (KPMG) and visual impact assessment report (SLR Consulting) attend at the hearing. The request was denied by the Panel Chair who observed claimed defects in those reports had been identified and that the Project Proponent was not intending to produce any witnesses at the hearing. The Chair indicated that the Commission had caused to be produced some visualisations of the stadium which will be made available.

The representative for the Hobart City Council indicated that it would not be producing any further evidence at the hearing nor any witnesses; and would seek to speak to the conditions attached to the draft permit which is the subject of draft legislation introduced by Government to Parliament. The representative for the Hobart City Council advised the Council would be considering a report relating to the draft legislation on Wednesday 11 June 2025.

The representative for the Tasmanian Conservation Trust indicated that it might seek to put on evidence about environmental matters with respect to issues raised by the Environment Protection Authority.

The representative of TasWater indicated that it would like a condition which expressed the amount of charges to be imposed, being a standard condition. The Chair suggested that TasWater liaise with the Project Proponent to see if such a condition would be satisfactory and what its terms should be; otherwise the issue could be canvassed at the hearing.

Representor Mr Jerry de Gryse indicated he would attend the hearings to speak to his personal representation, however raised the potential of a conflict of interest. The Panel Chair determined any conflicts of interest could be considered at the hearings.

The hearings will commence at 10am on Wednesday 25 June and continue Thursday 26, Friday 27 June and Monday 30 June; Tuesday 1, Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 July; and if necessary on Monday 7 July, Tuesday 8 July and Wednesday 9 July.

Representations subject of the public hearings

Representation number	Representor name/organisation	Attendance at directions hearing
221	Barry Neilsen	
231	Graeme Wells	In person
236	Tasmanian Heritage Council	
260	TasWater	MS Teams
273	Glebe Residents' Association	
279	Tourism Industry Council Tasmania (TICT)	
305	Ian Terry	
312	TFC AFL Limited	
313	Jamie Wood	
326	Stadiums Tasmania	
328	Cricket Australia and Cricket Tasmania	
334	Jeanette McDonald	
336	City of Hobart	In person
339	Bruce Levett	
355	Milan Prodanovic	
387	Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra	In person
424	Professional Historians' Association Vic/Tas, Australia, and NSW/ACT	MS Teams
454	Cuan Petheram	In person
448	National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Australia	In person
461	Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery	In person
463	Daphne Habibis	
469	Friends of Soldiers Memorial Avenue	
474	MinterEllison for Crown in Right of Tasmania	In person
659	Fitzgerald & Brown Lawyers Our Place - Hobart	In person
781	Business Event Tasmania	
832	Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc	In person
862	Federal Group	MS Teams
473	Kate Shield	In person
669	Jerry De Gryse	In person