



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

EC24-002410

Ms Claire Hynes
Acting Executive Commissioner
Tasmanian Planning Commission

Via email - tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Hynes

RE: MACQUARIE POINT MULTIPURPOSE STADIUM PROJECT OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the Department) thanks the Tasmanian Planning Commission for its notification of the commencement of an integrated assessment of the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance and consultation request, as indicated in your letter dated the 26th September 2024.

In accordance with the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993 (the Act)*, the Department provides the following response in relation to the Australian Antarctic Division's interests at Macquarie Point.

Section 21(1) Notice

The Australian Antarctic Division's maritime operations are conducted out of the Port of Hobart. As part of those operations, the Department has a berthing arrangement for RSV *Nuyina* at Wharf 6, and holds leases over other facilities in the Macquarie Wharf area with TasPorts, including a range of supporting portside infrastructure for logistics, storage and office space.

On Wednesday the 16th October 2024 Prime Minister Anthony Albanese joined the Premier to announce that the Australian Government will provide a \$188 million capital contribution to the Tasmanian Government from 2025-26 to construct a new 'fit-for-purpose' Macquarie Wharf 6 at the Port of Hobart and for its operational use by the Department over the next 30 years.

The Department notes the proximity of Macquarie Wharf 6 to key elements of the proposed Macquarie Point Precinct. The relationship between an operational wharf which supports the Australian Antarctic Division's logistics and maritime operations at the Port of Hobart, and the multipurpose stadium and adjacent residential development presents several potential issues. These have been summarised at **Attachment A**.

Section 22 Consultation

I note the Commission is seeking to consult with the Australian Antarctic Division to facilitate its assessment of the project. Given the Department's interests in the greater Macquarie Point site as noted above, the Australian Antarctic Division requests the opportunity to participate in the upcoming ***Section 22 Consultation*** phase of the assessment to ensure these interests are fully considered.

The appropriate contact for that purpose is:

Brett Chatwood | Director – Strategic Property
Australian Antarctic Division | Assets & Technology
Iutruwita, 203 Channel Highway, Kingston, Tasmania 7050
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
P: 03 6232 3239 | M: 0427 797 854 | E: brett.chatwood@aad.gov.au

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Considerations

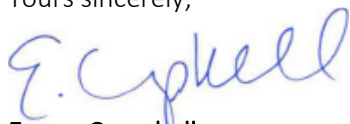
The Department is also responsible for implementation of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The EPBC Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places.

I note for the Commission's awareness that under the EPBC Act, actions that have, or are likely to have, a significant impact on nationally protected matters require approval from the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Water. All entities proposing to undertake any actions which have the potential to significantly impact such matters should undertake a self-assessment to determine whether such an action needs to be referred. Further information is available at [Self-assessment before making a referral under the EPBC Act - DCCEEW](#). If you have any further questions about the EPBC Act self-assessment process, please contact Jennifer Meehan (Jennifer.Meehan@dcceew.gov.au).

The Department looks forward to ongoing collaboration with the Tasmanian Planning Commission to ensure the interests of the department are fully considered in your assessment of the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project.

Future correspondence on this matter should be referred to myself, Head of Division at the Australian Antarctic Division (Emma.Campbell@aad.gov.au), please remove David Fredericks as your contact from the Department on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Campbell

Head of Division | Australian Antarctic Division
31 October 2024

Issues Identified by the Australian Antarctic Division

Issue	Details
Sequencing and clarity on the works described in the PoSS	The upgrades to Macquarie Wharf 6 and the creation of an adjacent portside area are dependent on works which are referred to in the PoSS A functional wharf requires the Northern Access Road, the relocation of the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the installation of new electrical infrastructure. We note the potential interactions between the precinct and the wharf as both are developed. Our interest is in relation to continued operation for the Australian Antarctic Program and supporting portside infrastructure. We also have an interest in the ongoing development of the Antarctic Facilities Zone. We welcome ongoing engagement in these issues as the work on the precinct develops.
Access to an operational Port/wharf	The AAD requires uninterrupted access to the wharf (especially during the Antarctic Season) both during construction and once the multipurpose stadium has been completed. This includes: • The need for access routes to the wharf (and the linkages from the wharf to the proposed Northern Access Road). • Ability to move large numbers of containers and pieces of equipment to and from the wharf throughout the year, during the period September to May there is very little contingency with schedule and timings. • The need for ongoing access to the wharf (including heavy vehicles and emergency vehicles) during construction and during events at the stadium and a desire to see this reflected in the traffic management plans (TMPs). • We note that the need for ongoing development of TMPs has been identified.

Proximity to an operational Port/Wharf	Maintenance and cargo activities on the wharf are a 24/7 operation. The wharf will be a source of light and noise which may impact new businesses and residents in adjacent areas. The proximity of the wharf to the multipurpose stadium, access roads and activated/mixed use zones needs to be considered so that operations on the wharf are not restricted. We note is the potential impact of noise and light from Wharf 6 on the proposed Residential Development and Public Foreshore Zone adjacent to Wharf 6.
Potential increase in biosecurity risks during construction and after completion.	We note that the stadium and precinct may create additional biosecurity hazards (such as rodents and insects) which could impact the management of cargo to Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic stations. We have identified the need for monitoring and, if required, ongoing management if the works/precinct create an increased biosecurity concern.
Possible refuelling activities being undertaken at Macquarie Wharfs	As part of the announcement on the upgrade of Macquarie Wharf 6, the Premier has committed to deliver appropriate refuelling infrastructure for the Nuyina and other vessels coming into Hobart. Activities in the Macquarie Point Precinct should be consistent with the refuelling solution delivered by the Tasmanian Government.