

## **Tasmanian Public & Environmental Health Network (TPEHN)**

[http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Pollution Information Tasmania](http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Pollution+Information+Tasmania)

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In relation to **Forico's Forest Management Plan** and **High Conservation Value (HCV) Assessment and Management Plan** that accompanies Forico's application for FCS certification, as a stakeholder, I wish to submit the following:

1. Forico states that it has approximately 100,000HA of exotic Eucalypt nitens (E.nt) plantations.
2. To see that in perspective, Tasmania has a total of 253,600HA under eucalypt plantations in Tasmania, of which some 88% of the eucalypt plantations in Tasmania are E.nt.
3. Our recently peer reviewed and published paper<sup>1</sup> clearly shows that E.nt produces toxicants (previously un-characterised), which are present in river water and carried downstream.
4. To my knowledge, no other toxicity evaluation and identification (TIE) has been undertaken on the toxicants produced by the E.nt.
5. The conclusions in our paper detail the work required to assess the risk to ecosystem health and water catchments (drinking and ground waters included). Until this work has been fully undertaken, it is my respectful submission that no further E.nt should be planted and the current plantations should not be harvested.
6. In addition, safe disposal of these trees may need to be assessed.
7. The safety of drinking, stock and irrigation water needs to be thoroughly investigated and evaluated in light of this work
8. In summary, support cannot be given to Forico for FSC certification standards until these issues have been dealt with satisfactorily.
9. Finally and as a resident of Tasmania, I am concerned as to the legal liability that may arise for my State Government and its already stretched coffers if DPIPWE, through the FSC process, approves Forico's application despite have been put on notice that E.nt has such presumably unintended but clearly disastrous consequences.

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<sup>1</sup> Bleaney A, Hickey C W, Stewart M, Scammell M & Senjen R, 2014, Preliminary investigations of toxicity in the Georges Bay catchment, Tasmania, Australia - *International Journal of Environmental Studies*: DOI:10.1080/00207233.2014.988550