

## NOTICE OF MOTION

Final amended motion as passed by the Tasmanian House of Assembly on Wednesday 13 November 2013

Mr Nick *McKim* – *Tasmanian Greens Leader* - to move—

That the House:—

(1) Notes:—

- (a) with deep concern the plight of Tasmanian Greenpeace activist, Colin Russell who has been held in a Russian prison since mid September, 2013 and has been deprived of family contact since that time;
- (b) that Mr Russell, 59, is one of 28 international activists and two journalists who were crew on the Arctic Sunrise, were originally detained in Murmansk by Russian investigators on alleged piracy allegations;
- (c) that after being detained for two months, these activists are reported to have been moved from Murmansk to prison facilities in St Petersburg;
- (d) that despite these charges now being reduced to hooliganism, which carries sentences of up to 15 years, the piracy allegations have yet to be formally withdrawn; and
- (e) this case has damaged Russia's image internationally, with the Netherlands lodging a legal case with the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea seeking to free all those under arrest.

(2) Expresses its deep and sincere sympathy to Mr Russell's family, friends and colleagues who are understandably very concerned about Mr Russell's health and well-being during this prolonged period of incarceration.

(3) While not necessarily supporting the actions of Mr Russell, requests the Speaker to formally write on behalf of the House and the Tasmanian community to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Julie Bishop MP, expressing the concern of the House of Assembly about Mr Russell's situation, and urging her intervention to secure the timely release of Mr Russell and his return to Tasmania and his family.

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Amended motion passed with tripartite support:

Tasmanian Greens Party – 5  
Tasmanian Labor Party – 10  
Tasmanian Liberal Party - 10