

Mr Bryan Webster &
Mr Mark Korda
Korda Mentha Pty Ltd
24/333 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000



15 November 2013

Dear Mr Webster and Mr Korda

We write regarding the announcement made recently about Expressions of Interest being sought in remaining assets of Gunns Ltd (in administration) – which include those associated with the proposed pulp mill project – and to advise you, and any potential investor, that community opposition to the project remains as strong as ever. You your clients and any potential investor should be fully aware that the proposed pulp mill will never receive either community acceptance or a social licence. Irrespective of who may want to build it, the project will continue to be vehemently opposed on a range of well-established grounds, until it is accepted as invalid.

As you would be aware and can read in the attached dossier, the pulp mill project proved controversial from the beginning. It failed to be properly, independently and rigorously assessed due to Gunns' abandonment of the bilaterally accepted Tasmania's Resource Planning and Development process in 2007 – when the project information it provided was rejected as being 'critically non-compliant' on a number of environmental and public health and safety levels. This led to its approval through the discredited fast-tracked Pulp Mill Assessment Act 2007 (PMAA). Given the involvement of Gunns' own lawyers in the drafting of the PMAA, the lack of public participation in the process and the project's failure to meet set guidelines there remains considerable and widespread disquiet about this legislation and the subsequent approvals and permits. Of particular concern is Section 11 of the PMAA, which gives people no right to claim compensation or redress should the mill impact negatively in any way on their health, wellbeing or livelihood.

An independent financial analysis of the project – that included potential economic negatives as well as possible benefits – has also never been undertaken. Gunns' glowing economic assessment was thoroughly dismissed in the independently produced report prepared by the Tasmanian Roundtable Sustainable Industries Project in August 2007.¹ Given the broader global economic developments since the project was assessed and this research was undertaken, the negatives associated with the project are anticipated to be magnified.

We urge Korda Mentha to fully brief any potential buyer of the current Tasmanian Conservation Trust legal challenge to the validity of the permits and of the community's unwavering opposition to the pulp mill. Opposition remains strong and united and we maintain resolve to prevent the realization of this project via any and all peaceful means at our disposal, including, legal challenge and civil disobedience. We do this in the interest of the health and safety of our communities, our environment and the broader Tasmanian economy on behalf of future generations. If you would like to contact the No Pulp Mill Alliance please email nopulpmillalliance@gmail.com.

Yours sincerely



¹ [http://lec.org.au/media/pdfs/TRSIPreport1\(Aug07\).pdf](http://lec.org.au/media/pdfs/TRSIPreport1(Aug07).pdf)