



MEDIA RELEASE

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Climate Change Strategy has major flaws

Tasmania's peak, representative conservation group has finalised its submission on the Tasmanian Government's Draft Climate Change Strategy. TCT Director Craig Woodfield says that whilst the strategy has much to recommend it, there is one glaring omission that risks making the whole exercise little more than a waste of time.

"The lack of a target to actually reduce greenhouse gas emissions is a significant omission from this strategy. It is almost as if the Tasmanian Government has ignored all the major international findings on the social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change."

Mr. Woodfield said that even though Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions were not high in a national context, they almost certainly were in an international context.

"Tasmania still has an obligation to reduce emissions to help combat climate change. To not do so is a massive act of duplicity, given the all-pervasive rhetoric about 'clean and green' Tasmania. We are obliged to act on this most important of all international issues."

The TCT's four recommendations for inclusion in a final Tasmanian Climate Change Strategy are:

1. The Tasmanian Government sets a minimum target of an 80% reduction in greenhouse emissions by 2050, with defined progress at key marker points along the way.
2. The Tasmanian Government develops a comprehensive and detailed carbon accounting database – just how much carbon is in the biosphere, how much is lost, how much is gained by each management action – reviewed annually, on both a statewide and individual business basis.
3. The Tasmanian Government immediately implements a total ban on landclearing.
4. The Tasmanian Government develops and implements a strategy to reduce travel in private motor vehicles and the transport of freight on roads.

Call Craig Woodfield on 6234 3552 or 0417 160 751 for additional comment