



AUSTRALIAN  
CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION



ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA  
The Conservation Council



21st March 2013

To the Honorable Members of the Legislative Council

**RE: Tasmanian Forest Agreement Bill 2012**

As TFA signatories, we are writing to express our support for the sovereign risk and Forest Practices Authority amendments to be proposed by the Member for Murchison, and note that these amendments are supported by the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania in their letter to the Legislative Council dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013. We understand that the concerns previously expressed by FIAT regarding the reforms of Forestry Tasmania have now also been addressed.

If these and the State government's proposed amendments were accepted, the bill would remain consistent with the Tasmanian Forest Agreement, and we would remain in a position to advise on our support for the bill.

Should you have any issues you wish to discuss in respect to the legislation and amendments please feel free to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Lyndon Schneiders  
National Director  
The Wilderness Society Inc

Vica Bayley  
Tasmanian Campaign Manager  
The Wilderness Society (Tasmania) Inc

Phill Pullinger  
Director  
Environment Tasmania Inc

Don Henry  
Chief Executive Officer  
Australian Conservation Foundation



20<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Dear Legislative Councillor,

We are writing to you as ENGO signatories to the Tasmanian Forest Agreement. We note both the importance of marketplace security for the durability of the agreement, and the interest expressed in this issue during the Legislative Council Select Committee and in the Committee report.

In acknowledging the importance of this issue, as signatory ENGOs we would like to take the opportunity to express our strong support for this key aspect of durability.

As you are no doubt aware, ENGOs have communicated directly to buyers of Tasmanian wood products in the Australian and Japanese markets regarding the positive progress of the agreement. This is part of an ongoing program of market support that will be progressed in consultation with signatories and Tasmanian wood producers.

A further key aspect of marketplace security is Forest Stewardship Council certification for Tasmanian wood products. We note the recognition in the Select Committee report of the importance of FSC certification. We also recognise the proactive efforts of the Select Committee in seeking information regarding FSC.

As signatories to the TFA, our organisations are committed to actively supporting FSC certification for the Permanent Timber Production Zone Land as a matter of priority as intended under the agreement. In evidence provided to the Select Committee and attached in the Final Report, signatory ENGOs have been unequivocal in their stated commitment to support this achievement of FSC certification. We would like to take this opportunity to re-affirm this stated position.

In addition, we would like to re-iterate our strong commitment to the implementation of the Tasmanian Forest Agreement, including all economic, social, and environmental outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

Lyndon Schneiders  
National Director  
The Wilderness Society Inc

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