## Third independent review of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008



l wish for my submission to be anonymous:	No
Name and/or Organisation:	Catherine Nicholson
Email:	

he Climate Change Act & State Government response to climate change	
To what extent should climate change considerations (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions, climate change impacts, climate resilience) influence policies and decisions by State government agencies and government business enterprises?	They should be a key part of all policy considerations and decisions
How important is it to you that the Tasmanian government systematically assess and disclose the main risks associated with projected climate change?	Very. The climate emergency is with us now and we absolutely need to factor in the risks associated with it especially in relation to the increased risks of more frequent natural disasters - bushfire in particular.
How might the Act provide you with confidence that successive State governments will continue to act to contain/reduce Tasmania's emissions and build climate resilience?	The Act should include obligations on all government sectors to establish targets to achieve net zero emissions and suggest actions to achieve that.
How might the Act drive further decarbonisation of the Tasmanian economy (e.g. via setting/legislating targets for sectors of the economy, potentially including interim targets)?	Set targets and include interim targets in 5 year increments with a requirement to report on progress.
If the Act were to espouse principles that would guide consideration of climate change by government, its agencies and business enterprises, what might they be?	Principles should be based around reduction first of all and then principles round mitigation and adaption.



Global Climate Action & Tasmania	
Within the context of global agreements to action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, what do you consider to be the main roles of the Tasmanian government and how effective do you believe the government has been?	The government should set targets for its own enterprises and for industry sectors, should lead by example eg changing its own fleet to e vehicles and should provide grants and incentives to encourage industry and the community to head towards zero emissions. I believe the Tas government is doing a pretty good job overall except in its forestry sector where logging of old growth forest is continuing when I believe their value in terms of their biodiversity, tourism and carbon store is much greater than logging them.
What would Tasmania be like in 10 years' time if it was a national or international leader in climate change responses?	I believe it could more honestly live up to its marketing phrase of 'being clean and green' and could develop and leverage its international profile and market its knowledge and expertise in developing a green economy to the world. It will have developed niche high value nature based tourism and industries showcasing agricultural and hospitality focused industries, powered by renewable energy and will be giving genuine support to the many small and medium scale businesses that together employ the majority of Tasmanians. It will be well on the way to developing a circular economy where waste is turned back into useful products and waste disposal becomes more about composting organic waste, producing biofuel, recycling and reusing materials. It will not be encouraging mass tourism like huge cruise ships which consume energy and produce huge amounts of waste and increase air pollution.



Emissions Targets	
What would you consider to be an appropriate long-term greenhouse gas emissions or emissions reduction target for Tasmania (in terms of date and level of emissions or emissions reduction)?	We already have such a huge advantage over so many other places that we should be optimistic and strive for zero emissions by 2030. We need to be aiming for this date not 2050 which will overshoot the staying under 2 degree target, well and truely, going on the current trajectory.
What (if any) value do you think targets for specific sectors of the economy would offer, including for the sector itself? If you agree with the concept of sectoral emissions targets, which sectors should have emissions targets? Why?	Targets help because they help focus the goals and actions and everybody can gain a better understanding of where an organisation is heading and the steps needed to achieve the target. Yes sectoral targets should be set in the areas that contribute the biggest emissions and so will have the greatest impact on reducing emissions.
What key factors should influence Government decisions to set State, sectoral and/or interim targets?	Global and national moves will be an influence as well as Federal government funding for projects that help move towards the targets but the government should mostly decide on the basis of what is good for Tasmania and I have no doubt that there are far more positives than negatives in moving towards a zero emissions economy.

Low Carbon & Economy & Society	
What do you consider to be the main risks and opportunities for Tasmania as it continues to transition towards a low/zero carbon economy and society? What risks and opportunities may arise if Tasmania transitions more slowly/more rapidly?	Some emissions intensive industries will suffer initially and people working in those industries need to be given both financial and social support to transition into jobs based on renewable energy powered industries. The change is both incredibly necessary and very urgent so delaying action or doing it slowly will do more harm than good. Clear statements about the actions needed, the science and data supporting those actions and ongoing and sustained community conversations around them will help. Climate action has been a political football for far too long and its incredibly damaging to Australia's future. Tassie has some of the best climate scientists in the world and they should be given more support to explain the climate science and the urgent need for action.
What do you consider to be the main roles for State government in supporting Tasmania's low/zero carbon transition?	Lead by example and provide seed money to assist industries and the wider community to take steps to move towards zero emissions eg State wide evehicle charging stations, ensuring the technology that allows car batteries to act as battery storage for the house is available at reasonable cost, assisting metro to move to a fleet of buses, funding much better public transport instead of building more roads.



Climate Resilience & Adaptation	
What do you consider to be the main roles for State government in supporting Tasmanian communities, infrastructure, economic activities and environments in becoming more resilient to projected climate change?	Comprehensive emergency management and risk assessment strategies and good funding for all of the emergency services. Supporting local councils when they try to limit development in areas vulnerable to coastal inundation or severe bushfire risk via their planning schemes zoning or overlays Ensuring property insurance remains reasonably priced so people can afford to have it. Ensuring our native forests are protected as intact carbon stores and refuges for our diminishing biodiversity and also refuges for our mental health, not clear felled.

Is there anything else you would like to add?	No. I'm done!
Grant permission for your submission to be published	I give permission for my/my organisation's submission to be published on the TCCO Website, and consent to TCCO and Jacobs to retain any personal information for the purposes of the duration of this independent review process for the purposes reasonably connected with analysis for the independent review.