
From: Hannah Sadler
Sent: Monday, 23 October 2023 3:22 PM
To: Policy
Subject: late submission Sustainability Strategy

Hello,

I am sorry I just realised that I am late for contributing my thoughts to the Tasmanian Positive Sustainability strategy.

A couple of quick things that I would like considered, sorry without having had a chance to read the documentation so I hope this is not off the mark!

Regarding waste and consumption, as a mum I try to reduce the amount of waste we produce as a family and try to limit the waste we create, the crappy plastic toys and the single use plastic items. I love the creativity and fun that my local government school creates but I am constantly confronted by the level of waste and plastic that is created in the school environment. Everything from glitter and plastic straws, tuck shop single use plastics and P&F Fundraisers which sell cheap plastic Fathers Day keyrings and pens. I would love to see a change in government policy that glitter and single use plastics were banned as educational resources. Also my local school does not even have recycling. We need every school to have a waste and energy reduction plan- perhaps an officer can be employed to go around and support schools in doing this. But glitter should definitely be banned.

Also, inline with the state Climate Change Act on how to improve climate action across Government Business, fossil fuel advertising and sponsorship should be banned across all government departments. Fossil Fuel companies are using their influence to delay the inevitable and essential transition to a cleaner economy.

Recently, I was inspired by Waratah Wynyard Council's leadership in banning fossil fuel sponsorship and signage for all Council events and property (May 2023). By updating their Sponsorship Signage Policy, in response to the concerns of residents, Waratah Wynyard Council has drawn a line in the sand. The Council's move was bold and brave as the first council in Tasmania to create such a ban, setting a precedent for other Councils around Australia to be inspired by.

There are many disturbing examples of fossil fuel companies buying community support in Tasmania. Ampol's school All-Rounder Award offers a significant cash prize presented in 2,000+ schools across Australia at the end of year awards for the schools best "All-Rounder", including at Hellyer College in Burnie, and several other Tasmanian schools. The Ampol name and logo is then positively associated with achievements and promoted throughout these school and Department of Education networks. In addition, our new Tasmanian professional basketball team, the Tasmanian JackJumpers, have the TasGas Jump Squad- a cheerleading squad that performs at all their home games, linking unhealthy fossil gas to our beloved sporting teams.

There is no debate that the extraction and burning of fossil fuels is the primary cause of our warming climate, not to mention incredibly harmful to the health and liveability of our communities. Although north-west Tasmania is lucky to have some of the cleanest air in the world, we are not immune to the health impacts of fossil fuels. It's not surprising that fumes from diesel and petrol vehicles are known to be carcinogenic, but we've been shocked by the recent research into the toxicity of

household gas appliances. Natural gas is a known asthma trigger and can contribute to the development of asthma, even when appliances are turned off! Other household gas appliances release toxins into our homes. The CEO of Asthma Australia Michelle Goldman encouraged the government to offer incentives for households to move to cleaner electric alternatives in their homes.

My other comment is around industry development and climate solutions and looking at the big picture. I am concerned that there is such a rapid change happening as we seek to capitalise on the transition to a low carbon economy that there are many ideas being generated- some with are great and others not so great. I hope that the Tasmanian Government has the best long term consideration of Tasmanians and future generations at aheart. Perhaps we need a Duty of Care Bill, similar to what may be introduced at the Federal level by David Pocock to ensure that future and Young Tasmanians must be considered in decision making.

Regarding the HIF eFuel proposal for Surrey Hills near Burnie-

During this period of rapid change in Tasmanian and global energy production and economic activity I feel uncomfortable about the HIF Tasmania eFuel proposal. Yes it is great that we have global interest in our region but I feel like there are many other opportunities which would be better suited to our region and economic future.

This fuel plant will make us a global exporter of petrol. The fuel has the same properties as conventional fossil fuels, and when burnt releases the carbon back into the atmosphere.

Pro's:

- Can be utilised by some engines which cannot readily use other renewable fuels
- Can be used as a transition fuel for existing vehicles until replacement
- Use waste material from local industry

Cons:

- We need to RAPIDLY decarbonise our state of Tasmania and the world
- This proposal will create a new fuel port and shipping route to export petrol across the world (ships powered by fossil fuels) while at the same time we are importing fossil fuels into Tasmania for our own transport (40% of global shipping is moving fossil fuels from one place to another). An existing fuel port would be better suited to this.
- Tasmania needs to rapidly decarbonise our own transport and industry, the renewable energy we create should be prioritized to do this- we are already seeing a challenge in supplying enough renewable energy to meet our transition requirements (e.g. Norke Skog was refused more electricity to remove its coal fire generator due to lack of available capacity).
- Do we have enough wood 'waste' to feed this plant- will there be an ongoing demand for Tasmanian wood product to fuel this plant if there is a change in forest industry in Tasmania?

We are in a period of rapid change and we really need industry and entrepreneurs coming up with these ideas for emissions reductions and it is great to see so many climate solutions coming to the fore. I just think we need to think big and make sure that the climate solutions are actually climate solutions, and also that new industry is the best for our community.

Thanks for your consideration and sorry for this quick dump.

Kind regards,

Hannah

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