

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Our Ref: 039299

Mr Rhys Edwards
Secretary
Department of Premier and Cabinet

Dear Rhys

“Tasmania’s Place in the Asian Century” Issues Paper

Further to your letter received 24 August requesting that we invite stakeholders managed by DIER to submit feedback to DPAC in relation to questions raised in the above Issues Paper, I can confirm we forwarded a letter to our key stakeholders on 11 September 2012.

The Issues Paper was also circulated within the Agency for any further comment and analysis and feedback has been received from David Spence, General Manager of our Infrastructure Strategy Division, as follows:

Section 4.2 – Can Tasmania physically access Asian markets?

Tasmanian Ports and Freight Strategy Report, Michael Deegan, Infrastructure Australia 24 May 2012

DIER would take issue with two matters attributed to the Deegan Report.

1. There is no evidence to support a contention that a reduction in the number of ports from four to two may improve economies of scale. The current Tasports’ strategy supports a model of three specialist Northern ports, in essence operating as one Port with three terminals. Each port has its own functions that are supported by land transport arrangements and each serves an important economic function.
2. DIER would not support a short term need for access for B triples or super B doubles. There is no evident demand by industry for the introduction of these vehicles. Tasmania has in place an extensive higher productivity vehicle access network.

David Spence will contact Dr Wadsley and discuss further.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Russell on behalf of Norm McIlfratrick
SECRETARY

28 September 2012

cc: *Dr Alexis Wadley, DPAC*