

# 'Amending Tasmania's climate change legislation' submission

## Form Summary

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Submission: To whomever this may be addressed, The Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill 2021 represents a positive step in the right direction for the Tasmanian government's response to global warming. However, with a few tweaks it could be even stronger and Tasmania could be a global leader in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The major change should be that Tasmania should commit to net zero emissions FROM 2022 onwards, and any further goals to be achieved should be done without including the drawdown of carbon due to land and forest use change (LULUCF). This is eminently achievable in Tasmania because we have a rich supply of wind and hydroelectric sources of energy and existing infrastructure in place. LULUCF should not be considered in further goals because the science around the effect of land use change on atmospheric greenhouse gas levels is uncertain and we should aim to move forward without depending on its influence. A statutory body should also be created to assess the risks of climate change on the Tasmanian environment and economy, and examine how LULUCF can successfully sequester carbon and reduce the pace of global warming. This is important because limited knowledge is available on these effects and knowing this will increase certainty, resilience and the efficiency of any plan to tackle the effects of climate change. Finally, 5 yearly goals for emissions reduction should be mandated within the Climate Action Act so the Tasmanian government can stay responsive and adaptable to change, in both the local environment and globally. NO NEW OIL, GAS OR COAL infrastructure should be approved by the Tasmanian government from now onwards. To do so would be to spit in the face of the science and future generations, and I do not think anyone across politics seriously thinks this makes economic or scientific sense. This should be enshrined in the Act too. Thanks.

Consent to publish: Yes, I am happy for my submission to be published