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12th April 2023

To the Climate Change Office,
Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

RE: Draft Climate Change Action Plan Submission from Huon Valley Council

I am writing to you on behalf of the Huon Valley Council to make a submission to your Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25 (CCAP) currently open for public consultation.

Huon Valley Council (HVC) is pleased that this strategy has been prepared and that the Tasmanian Government is taking action in the climate change space.

We are supportive of the plan's vision and goals, especially relating to public and active transport, organic waste, data, and a strengthened policy framework. HVC believes it would be beneficial to also have targets for energy and resource efficiency as well as evaluating the carbon offsetting model as a long-term solution to climate change. We would urge that all goals be considered at a community level with behavior change as a key mechanism, alongside high level and industry action.

HVC considers the three priority areas identified to be appropriate and is particularly supportive of the focus on adaptation and resilience. It is our hope that local governments will be consulted and collaborated with in efforts to improve adaptive capacity and resilience at a community level. A focus on governance and regulation would be a good inclusion to the priority areas and greatly assist in achieving the identified goals.

Information and knowledge needs to be accessible and available in a plain English version, so that it can be used by professionals and everyday community members alike. HVC would appreciate the inclusion of health and wellbeing, as well as other socioeconomic variables, in climate change datasets.

The sector emission reduction and resilience plans (ERRPs) included under transition and innovation will play a major role in determining the success of the CCAP. These plans should be specific, outline further data requirements at an industry level, and be co-designed with relevant stakeholders. In particular, it would be appropriate for local governments to be given input to the Transport, Waste, Agriculture and LULUCF plans. Additionally, as local governments are responsible for municipal waste across the State, we will play a key role in achieving organic waste targets and should be given the appropriate resourcing to play this role well.



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The adaptation and resilience component of the CCAP will be highly relevant for local governments and should promote standardised approaches. Projects involving natural disaster preparedness and industry transition, as well as climate literacy and health and wellbeing should be considered under this priority area. HVC believes resourcing “boots on the ground” work in this area will be crucial for its success.

HVC recommends the inclusion of specific, measurable goals for the actions outlined throughout the strategy, as this will improve confidence, accountability, and help inform future climate action for Tasmania. The Huon Valley Council will be looking to the CCAP to inform our decisions relating to climate change and will look forward to playing our role in achieving the vision of a resilient, low-emissions Tasmania.

Yours sincerely,

SALLY DOYLE
MAYOR HUON VALLEY COUNCIL