

# THE INCONVENIENT TRUTH

Facts the Greens don't  
want Tasmanians to know about  
the Bell Bay Pulp Mill



# THE BELL BAY PULP MILL

Our world-class pulp mill project has received the overwhelming approval of the Tasmanian Parliament, with the project supported by both the Labor and Liberal parties and the majority of independent members of the Legislative Council.

It has also been approved by the Commonwealth Government through the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources.

The approval by both levels of government represents a strong vote of confidence in the project and the employment, economic, social and environmental benefits it will bring to Tasmania. The Tasmanian Parliament's decision was underpinned by the independent Sweco Pic and ITS Global reports that confirmed Gunns Limited's world's best practice approach to the development of the \$1.7 billion project. Importantly, the consultants clearly determined and recommended that the pulp mill should be built in Tasmania.

The independent assessment by the two consultants confirmed that Gunns will be using world's best technology and practice in developing the mill and that the project will bring unprecedented benefits to Tasmania. The findings and the support of the Tasmanian Parliament clearly dispel the predictions of dire consequences made by the project opponents.

The Commonwealth Minister's approval followed a lengthy assessment by an expert panel assembled by the Commonwealth's Chief Scientist, Dr Jim Peacock. In his comments, Dr Peacock said: "...operating in compliance with the stringent conditions applied, there is a very strong possibility that pulp mill will operate with an environmentally neutral footprint."

It is unfortunate that critics of the pulp mill proposal have used misinformation, false claims and scare tactics in their attempts to destroy the project. The facts have now been assessed by independent, highly experienced and reputable consultants and government experts, and this assessment confirms the approach that Gunns is taking.

This pulp mill is probably the most scrutinised project in Tasmania's history. All the public input to the RPDC and the Commonwealth has been taken into account and our company is now more determined than ever to bring this project to fruition. Through this development, we are determined to establish new benchmarks in environmental, social and economic excellence for pulp mill technology.


This publication provides more of the detail about some of the key issues surrounding our pulp mill project.



**John Gay**  
Executive Chairman



**A child's marble - equivalent  
to the total amount of  
dioxins released over the  
life of the mill.**



**One grain of rice - equivalent  
to the total amount of dioxins  
released from the pulp mill  
in a year.**



**The pulp mill will provide an extra \$1 billion in government taxes that can be used for essential community services.**



**Dioxins in the pulp mill effluent  
will be at least 10 times lower  
than the concentration in  
this glass of drinking water.**



**The pulp mill will produce green  
energy that can replace  
coal-fired thermal electricity.**



**The pulp mill will provide new  
employment opportunities for  
this many Tasmanians.**



**No old growth timber will  
be used and in just five years,  
80 percent of the mill's  
timber supply will come from  
plantations.**



**The pulp mill will be located  
in the Bell Bay major industrial  
zone, next to existing heavy  
industries.**



**29 MPs say yes to the pulp  
mill, 8 are opposed.  
Democracy at work!**



**The pulp mill will provide an  
extra \$1 billion in government  
taxes that can be used for  
essential community services.**



**The pulp mill will produce more than enough surplus green electricity to supply the needs of a city the size of Launceston.**



**Gunns owns more than  
45 percent of the vineyards  
in the Tamar Valley.**

**The company will not do  
anything to damage its own  
business and this industry.**

## **Inconvenient facts** the Greens will not discuss

- The pulp mill will divert and value-add woodchips that are currently exported.
- **NO** old growth forests will be used to supply the mill.
- The project will create 3500 new jobs in construction and a further 1600 new permanent jobs for the life of the mill.
- It will provide government with an extra \$1 billion in revenue to fund health, education, police and other community services.
- Dioxin levels in the effluent will be at least ten times lower than American drinking water guidelines.
- The nation's Chief Scientist has described the mill impact **as likely to be environmentally neutral**.
- The mill will be greenhouse positive resulting in a reduction of more than 1.1 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere each year.
- The mill will produce surplus green energy, supplied into the national electricity grid, replacing other electricity predominantly derived from coal and gas.
- The project has been overwhelmingly supported by the Tasmanian Parliament and approved by the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and his Department.

After four years of investigation, study, examination and consultation, it is now time to move on and develop this sustainable project to provide the great benefits for Tasmania.

Say **NO** to the Green lies and **support** democracy, lawful business and Tasmanian progress.

Tasmania's Parliament has provided a resounding vote of support for the Bell Bay Pulp Mill and has been approved by the Commonwealth Minister for Environment and Water Resources. The world-class project now has State and Commonwealth approval.

The pulp mill will be the best of its type in the world and meet the most stringent environmental guidelines.

This confidence is backed by the findings of the independent Sweco Pic report, the findings of the Commonwealth's Chief Scientist and Gunns' commitment to meet tough emission conditions through the mill operating permits.

Tasmania can protect its environment and have the jobs, economic and social benefits to be provided by the pulp mill.

The project provides an unprecedented opportunity to grow the Tasmanian economy in a sustainable way, to benefit all Tasmanians.

