

To Members of the Tasmanian Parliament,

Tasmanians are already feeling the impacts of climate change and we share a responsibility to protect our communities, environment, lives and livelihoods.

This summer, we have already had severe heatwaves, an algal bloom, as well as two devastating bushfires in Dolphin Sands and near St Helens destroying thousands of hectares of coastal vegetation and claiming 19 homes. Stronger action is the only option.

This year's review of Lutruwita/Tasmania's Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008 is a rare opportunity for climate leadership to respond to this urgent reality. It is a chance for Tasmania to take meaningful action and prepare for what is coming.

The Climate Change Act is failing to meet the community's need for a safer future, a transparent system and protection of this island that we love. Our emissions aren't falling. We need to prepare but there's no real plan and no climate authority to offer impartial advice.

Our net zero status hides a sad truth: Despite decades of the Act being in force, total emissions from Tasmania's transport, agriculture, waste, electricity generation and heavy industry haven't significantly budged in more than thirty years and will continue to flatline under the current Act. It is time to Fix the Act.

We call on the Tasmanian Parliament to strengthen the Climate Change Act to tangibly reduce our climate pollution and build a more resilient Lutruwita/Tasmania, prepared for current and escalating climate impacts.

We are calling, at a minimum, for three vital and urgent priorities for amendments to the Act:

1. **a legislated absolute emission reduction target and a process for getting there** including clear sector-by-sector targets, a process to shift from petrol, diesel, gas and all other greenhouse gases to clean energy, with emissions and sequestration reported separately. We can't have aspirations without setting a target.
2. **an independent climate body, with Palawa representation.** A properly resourced body that incorporates First Nations' knowledge and rigorous science to provide impartial, community and expert advice and track progress transparently.
3. **a legislated, whole-of-state climate adaptation plan.** Tasmania needs a stronger and more coordinated approach to adapting to a very different future.

We need an effective adaptation plan that protects our lives and livelihoods from climate impacts, provides investment certainty, and helps us to find creative ways of looking after each other. We can minimise further impacts by cutting climate pollution and create the direction and certainty we need with legislated targets. An independent body can make sure we get both.

We call on the Tasmanian Parliament to legislate, at a minimum, these three reforms for a stronger commitment to climate action.

Tasmania is unique and we are fortunate to call it home. That brings a responsibility to care for it and for each other as the climate changes.

The time to act is now.

Signed



