



From the Office of the Mayor

27 May 2015

Our Ref: 8.76

To Whom it May Concern
Senate Environment and Communications References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir / Madam

KINGBOROUGH COUNCIL SUBMISSION - INQUIRY INTO THE FIN-FISH AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY IN TASMANIA

At its May 25 2015 meeting it was resolved by Kingborough Council to make a submission to the Senate Environment and Communications References Committee Inquiry into the Fin-fish Aquaculture Industry in Tasmania.

The submission is as follows.

- i. It appears that environmental impact monitoring and reporting of the salmon industry has improved significantly in the last 10 years. However the outcomes of this work are not adequately articulated in a manner that is readily available and understood by the community. Therefore there seems to be an ongoing perception that the industry is not sustainable and that a steady degradation of the waterways is occurring.
- ii. There is a perception that monitoring of the industry is undertaken by the industry / for the industry. Whilst Council acknowledges this is not the case there could be an opportunity to clearly delineate the environmental monitoring and reporting functions from the State Government regulator and industry to give the community confidence about the independent integrity of the science and monitoring that underpins the long term sustainability of the fin-fish industry.
- iii. The State Government regulator of the fin-fish industry does not adequately involve local government in critical decision making regarding lease site activities, intensifications, expansions and remediation. There is a perception that the approval process is pre-determined and that the concerns of local government regarding localised and long term impacts on its community are not important.

Kingborough would like to indicate that the salmon industry is of critical importance to the local economy and that it's long term presence in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and lower Huon Estuary is of great importance provided this occurs in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Yours sincerely

STEVE WASS
MAYOR

kingborough.tas.gov.au