

In Tasmania, as with all other Australian states, the handing over of environmental responsibilities to the state government will be devastating to our wilderness areas and endangered species. The Tasmanian state government supports short term economic developments such as mining. Mining provides economic boosts to our economy for several years, but permanently degrades areas that could otherwise provide long term jobs in tourism, as well as fragmenting habitat for endangered species. For example, mining activities in the mineral-rich Tarkine Rainforest will increase the ability for Tasmanian Devils with the devil facial tumour disease (DFTD) to migrate into the wilderness area and infect the last stronghold of DFTD-free populations. Open-cut mining is supported by Tasmania's state government, and is an example of why the federal government must retain its responsibilities for our environment.

Regards,
Jason Graham