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Request for Review as per Part 14 of the Water Management Act, of of Dam Works Permit - 2021010041

1 message

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Fri, Jul 30, 2021 at 10:06 AM

To: guy.barnett@parliament.tas.gov.au

Cc: "Shackcloth, Bill" <bill.shackcloth@dpipwe.tas.gov.au>

To Minister for Primary Industries and Water Guy Barnett

Dear Mr Barnett

We wish to request a review into the decision to grant a Dam Works Permit - 2021010041 located at Seymour.

"After rain and particularly following prolonged dry periods, the sulfuric acid in ASS is released into the surrounding environment. As the acid moves through the soil profile it may 'mobilise' or cause the release of heavy metals and other toxins from the soil, which eventually flow into surrounding waterways. At worst toxic 'slugs' of metal-rich acid runoff can move downstream and flow into estuaries, reducing oxygen levels in the water, significantly decreasing water quality, killing fish and damaging sensitive ecosystems."

We challenge the lack of investigation into the Acid Sulfate Soils (AAS) risks to the estuary. The Atlas of Australian Acid Sulfate Soil clearly maps the eastern part of the dam site as 6-70% chance of ASS occurrence. This risk has been brushed away by the consultant engineer's desk top analysis stating "there is no mapped medium active or high acid sulfate risk" on the dam site. Neither the "Tasmanian Acid Sulfate Soil Management Guidelines" or the "Atlas of Australian Acid Sulfate Soils" shows a 'mapped Medium risk" as described by the consultant. The only "medium" value applies to "Inland ASS" and is a probability of occurrence and not a risk!

The 3 mapped areas from north to south within the dam site are classified as Bu(p3), Bh(p3) and Bi(p3). All three AASS classifications are listed as "No necessary analytical data is available". In this case how can a desktop analysis come to the above conclusion?

A site analysis should be done to obtain analytical data to establish the truth of the vague 6-70% probability.

At risk is Templestowe Lagoon, an estuary combining salt and freshwater wetlands with their vital ecosystems. Templestowe Lagoon has a CFEV Estuaries – Integrated Conservation Value of: High.

The Sediment and Erosion Control Plan is still inadequate and not to the detail required by the "Guidelines for Developing a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan for Dam Works Sites".

The "Coastal Zone Impact Assessment" is missing in the application which addresses the following:

- (a) siting, design, construction and maintenance of dam works will be sensitive to the natural and aesthetic qualities of the coastal environment.
- (b) the proposal includes strategies to avoid or mitigate potential adverse environmental effects.
- (c) the need for a coastal location of the dam is demonstrated.
- (d) works will be undertaken generally in accordance with the Tasmanian Coastal Works Manual.

We think it is wrong that the onus should be on the community having to highlight the shortcomings of this application.

Yours sincerely

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Treasurer
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