

Media Release

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TCA Congratulate Legislative Council for Positive Pulp Mill Assessment Vote

Timber dependent communities throughout Tasmania welcome and congratulate the Legislative Council for voting to get the pulp mill assessment process back on track.

This all important vote followed robust debate spread over two sitting days, that brought forward several well considered and worth while amendments to the assessment bill.

The vote to pass the bill by the Legislative Council confirms the positive vote last week by the House of Assembly as being correct in getting the pulp mill assessment process back on track.

“It was a special moment to witness this all important vote by the Legislative Council to give the \$1.5 billion pulp mill the opportunity to be assessed against strict emission guidelines.” Mr **Barry Chipman**, State Manager of Timber Communities Australia said today.

The vote is a reflection of the open and transparent process that has delivered legislation that sets up a rigorous assessment process by an expert panel that will fully examine the Integrated Impact Statement (IIS), public submissions already made, and supplementary information provided.”

“This open and transparent process is bedded into the Legislation as the project can only proceed if it is recommended and then if both House’s of Parliament approves it to proceed.”

“This is a vast improvement in terms of democracy as the failed RPDC never ending process saw only the Minister having the final say.”

“It is now clear that the vast majority of our elected representatives from both Houses of Parliament have seen the pulp mill project as being too important to Tasmania’s future to not provide it an opportunity to be tested against our tough environmental standards.”

“Timber Communities Australia’s thanks the Legislative Council for its vote to get this all important projects assessment process back on track” Mr Chipman concluded.

For more information contact Barry Chipman 0417 013 336 or 62 604442