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MEDIA RELEASE



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PUBLIC INVITATION TO TURNBULL CRITIC TO VISIT TASMANIA

Timber Communities Australia extends a public invited to Mr Geoffrey Cousins to visit and meet with Tasmanian timber dependent families.

Tasmanian timber families are only to willing to share with Mr Cousins their pride in being part of Tasmania's sustainable forest and timber industries and provide him with the opportunity to see both sides of the picture.

"Mr Cousins admitted on local talk back radio this morning that he had not meet with timber dependent communities and we what to help him over come this failing" Barry Chipman Tasmanian State Manager Timber Communities Australia said today

"So far he has only heard outrageous claims, and we are very willing to assist him in seeing for him self just where the proposed pulp mill will be and how well our forests are managed".

Mr Cousins Insurance Company sponsors the WWF Climate Change program, and this will be an opportunity to learn how Tasmanian forests are removing greenhouse gasses and that the proposed pulp mill will reduce greenhouse gasses.

"If Mr Cousins is prepared to meet with both sides, we are convinced he will be a supporter not a critic of the proposed pulp mill"

As a businessman he should know how important it is for Australia to reduce its deficit in trade of timber products.

"The Bell Bay Pulp Mill has the potential to reduce this balance of trade deficit by \$400 to \$450 million each year (20 to 25%)."

TCA would endeavour to assist him to visit Five Mile Bluff the site of the ocean outfall, as we wonder if he is aware that the Federal Department of Environment and Water "has not identified any likely significant impacts on the marine environment in Commonwealth waters from the proposed pulp mill." [Recommendations Report Paragraph 36]

TCA also wonders if he is aware of how ECF pulp mills and for example wineries, co-exist in harmony in other parts of the world including France, Portugal and British Columbia, in fact right around the world with no adverse impacts."

"We hope Mr Cousins will accept our invitation before he further puts at risk the social and economic well being of timber dependent families throughout Tasmania." Mr Chipman concluded.

For more information Barry Chipman 03 62 604442 or 0417 013336