



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, August 09, 2011

Timber Communities Australia (TCA) today called upon the Tasmanian and Federal governments to clarify a number of key elements of the Inter Governmental Agreement on Tasmanian Forests signed between the two governments over last weekend.

TCA's Board considered the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) at a special meeting last night.

"TCA has participated in this process in good faith over the past 18 months", TCA Chairman Trevor Richardson said today, "TCA is disappointed that in the final hours before signing the agreement a number of significant departures from the Statement of Principles, the Kelty Agreement and the draft IGA document seem to have occurred."

"Given this development and breach of good faith the governments should not be surprised at the initial responses of our membership and some of the signatories" Mr. Richardson said.

"TCA's Board is now seeking clarification from the governments on a number of key issues and will review its ongoing involvement in this process depending on the detail of those matters" Mr. Richardson concluded.

TCA CEO Jim Adams continued, "TCA is hopeful that the clarifications provided will allow us to reassure our membership on the key issues such as certainty, peace, durability and support of the Bell Bay pulpmill which have been pivotal to our participation in this process to date and appear to have been overlooked or indeed even undermined by the IGA".

"We have requested a briefing from the governments and subject to the clarifications provided TCA will consult with its membership and decide if it intends to participate further in this process or not". Mr. Adams concluded.

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