Local Government Association Tasmania

Our Ref: HS | MP

8 October 2024

Sarah Russell
Director
Climate Change Office
Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
Department of State Growth

Via email: climatechange@recfit.tas.gov.au

Dear Sarah,

Draft Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plans – Energy; Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU); Agriculture; Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the four recently released Draft Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plans - Energy; Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU); Agriculture; Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF). This submission has been prepared by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on behalf of Tasmanian local government in collaboration with our members; all 29 councils.

LGAT is incorporated under the *Local Government Act 1993* and is the representative body and advocate for local government in Tasmania. Where a council has made a direct submission to this process, any omission of specific comments made by that council in this submission should not be viewed as lack of support by the LGAT for that specific issue.

We sought comment from our members but had a limited response. We believe that this is likely an indication of the volume of material to be reviewed with the release of four draft plans in a short period of time. We recommend that for future engagements, the release of draft material is better staggered to enable stakeholders sufficient time to fully review and respond.

We acknowledge and welcome the State Government's commitment to developing five-yearly sector-based Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plans (ERRPs). They can be a useful tool to support a practical and balanced approach for key sectors to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change.

Comments on ERRPs

Energy

The Draft Energy ERRP includes a focus on de-risking the transition to a low emissions economy. This section is heavily focussed on de-risking the transition for energy providers and business, without consideration of the risks of transition to communities and local governments. The rapid construction of renewable energy generation infrastructure will severely impact council services, local infrastructure, housing availability and local communities. It is critical that communities and councils are supported to both manage and benefit from these projects, through a range of measures, including, but not limited to appropriate community benefit and rating schemes.

Agriculture and Land-use, Land-use Change and Forestry

The draft Agriculture ERRP and the draft LULUCF ERRP both include actions that are of key importance to emissions reduction and resilience. These are:

- Continue to work with the State Planning Office to ensure Tasmania's Planning Policies, regional land use strategies and regulations consider the role of land use planning in emissions reduction and resilience.
- Collaborate with key partners across state, national and local government and the private sector to increase emergency preparedness, response and recovery.
- Work with planning authorities to build resilience to extreme weather events in relevant components of the planning scheme, such as siting of new developments and settlements, urban consolidation and protection of vulnerable assets.

These actions should receive priority funding and be implemented in partnership with local governments.

Please contact Ben Morris if you have any questions or would like further information, at ben.morris@lgat.tas.gov.au or 6146 3740.

Yours sincerely



Dion Lester
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER