

Hon Bryan Green MP

DEPUTY PREMIER

Level 10, Executive Building
15 Murray Street, Hobart, TAS 7000 Australia
Ph (03) 6233 6454 Fax (03) 6233 2272
Email bryan.green@dpac.tas.gov.au



Ms Angela McGowan
Secretary
Florentine Protection Society Inc
PO Box 8
SANDY BAY TAS 7006

31 MAR 2011

Dear Ms McGowan

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 March 2011 concerning the Tasmanian Forests Statement of Principles agreed by environment, union and forest industry groups.

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments have welcomed the Statement of Principles as an important first step towards reaching a landmark forest agreement. The goodwill being expressed by those involved in the negotiations is very encouraging and is a credit to both those involved directly and the wide range of other groups willing to constructively participate in the process.

On 11 March 2011, the Premier noted that the signatories to the Statement of Principles had just agreed to the terms of a moratorium to be implemented for the next six months. This is another important step towards a final agreement but there is obviously a lot of hard work still to do to for the signatories to broker an arrangement that both protects forests nominated by environment groups and ensures a sustainable Tasmanian forestry industry.

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments have supported the actions of Forestry Tasmania in the implementation of an initial moratorium on thirty nine forest coupes and I have formally requested Forestry Tasmania to continue to support the implementation of a moratorium wherever possible.

As you would be aware, it is a requirement of the Statement of Principles that the moratorium not cause a breach of any existing Forestry Tasmania contracts or contravene their statutory obligations. This was also made clear in the commitment to implement a moratorium by the former Premier and Minister Burke to which you refer.

I look forward to the continuing implementation the moratorium on the basis of agreed positions from the Statement of Principles signatories.

Yours sincerely

Bryan Green MP
Minister for Energy and Resources