

10 March 2023

Review of the Aboriginal Lands Act
Community Partnerships and Priorities Division
Department of Premier and Cabinet
Hobart 7000 TAS

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The Tasmania Forest Products Association (TFPA) welcomes the opportunity to provide our views to the additional consultation paper on the *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995* (the Act).

The TFPA is the peak body for forestry in Tasmania that undertakes policy development, lobbying and advocacy for members interests. TFPA represents all elements of the value chain from the sustainable harvesting of plantations and multiple use natural forest resource including forest establishment and management, harvesting, processing of timber resources and manufacture of pulp, paper and bioproducts.

Our understanding of the amendments of the Act is that they do not include privately owned land for declaration as Aboriginal land, unless first gifted to the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT) or purchased by or on behalf of ALCT.

The TFPA supports in-principle the proposal under section 5 of the additional consultation paper to create transparent processes and clearly specified criteria, both to propose land for return and to assess its suitability.

We ask that further consultation is undertaken with all interested parties when developing the criteria to support future evaluation of land nominated for return.

We look forward to continuing to participate in the ongoing consultation to the *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995*.

Yours sincerely,



Nick Steel
Chief Executive Officer