

The Institute of Foresters of Australia

ABN 48 083 197 586



4 November 2010

Premier of Tasmania
Mr. David Bartlett
GPO Box 123
HOBART TAS 7000
(e) premier@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr. Bartlett,

The Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) represents over 1,300 professional land managers across Australia, and over 200 in Tasmania. Our members are employed by statutory organisations, educational and scientific institutions, private businesses and public departments.

Our members are employed across a wide range of land management activities, including water and fire management, biodiversity and heritage protection, commercial and recreational activities, forest management and wood production, and policy and market development.

In September, the Tasmanian Division of the Institute of Foresters of Australia released a position statement on the then yet to be finalised industry/ENGO discussions. The IFA position remains sound and should be considered in any response by the Government.

A Tasmanian Forest Statement of Principles to Lead to an Agreement (the Principles) was signed on Thursday 14 October 2010 by representatives of the Tasmanian and National forest industry and Environmental Non-Government Organisations and presented to you on 20 October 2010.

I am confident you will agree that the signing of the Principles, while a significant milestone, is the first stage in a process.

As Australia's only representative professional forest management organisation, the IFA is committed to working with all parties to achieve an outcome that strengthens the communities support for forestry, builds a lasting resolution to differences, and supports ongoing forest based industries and communities in Tasmania.

Consequently, I seek your commitment that progressing these Principles will from now on fully involve representation from the IFA as involvement of professional representative organisations is standard practice for Governments when developing industry policy.

I take this opportunity to advise you that over the coming weeks, the IFA will be holding meetings with its members to develop an interim response to these Principles and I will advise you accordingly.

Consequently, it would provide a level of comfort to members if I could indicate your support for the participation of the IFA in future discussions, and a commitment to ensuring a full policy response will be developed only after robust and transparent scientific and factual assessment of the social, economic and environmental impacts and benefits associated with implementing the Principles.

I look forward to a positive and quick response.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Shoobridge', is centered on the page.

Richard Shoobridge
Chairman Tasmanian Division
Institute of Foresters of Australia
Ph: 0409 992 687