

20 September 2019

Aboriginal Heritage Act Review
GPO Box 44
Hobart TAS 7001

Dear Sir/Madam

I am afraid I only have a short time available to make a very quick submission on this matter. My background is in environmental and urban planning, including planning history and heritage. I have recently been undertaking research into the history and heritage of an area on the East Coast, ranging from its indigenous history and heritage, through to first contact and armed conflict, and the subsequent use of most of the land for agriculture and grazing activities.

In looking around for the policy and regulatory mechanisms to protect this rich heritage, I have become concerned that overall, the current planning and heritage system (including LUPA Act 1993, HCHA Act 1995 and AH Act 1975) do not seem to provide protection for indigenous heritage that is *as good as* the protection for non-indigenous heritage – largely because of the failure to establish links between the indigenous heritage protection and land use planning systems. I believe this is a matter of some concern - and is contributing to a loss for the whole of the community.

In brief, I would urge you to consider:

- Potential opportunities and the need for protection of indigenous heritage at the local plan level ie. local provisions schedules;
- Potential opportunities and the need for protection of indigenous heritage at the strategic planning level (eg. planning policies);
- Appropriate mechanisms for ensuring recognition and protection of indigenous cultural landscapes;
- Issues associated with recognising and protecting cultural landscapes with both indigenous and non-indigenous significance – and that tell us stories of indigenous and non-indigenous history and heritage, and coexistence, conflict and change over time.

I look forward to the opportunity to hear others' views, and hopefully to contribute further at a later times.

Yours sincerely

Peggy James