

# Dirty end to clean, green, clever

I HAVE never felt so strongly about the environment as I do now. I live in Spring Beach and can see Okehampton Bay from home, and am not looking forward to seeing the fish farm moving into our view.

I'm so disappointed that both major state parties are supporting a company that has proved it has no conscience about the environment or sustainability. Also a company that feeds the salmon food made from the leftovers of the slaughtering of chickens. We recently travelled to Dover and Southport and saw the huge number of pens there and heard about the lack of fish in the waters. The Greens want to brand Tasmania clean, green and clever — not while Tassal continues its destruction.

**Kathryn Fama**  
Spring Beach

## Clean up your act

IF a land-based farmer leased Crown land and fouled it to the extent it wasn't fit to use, would you give them a new lease or tell them to clean up their current holding? Premier Will Hodgman, what is different from land and water? Tasmanians own the leases. They should be respected.

**Wayne Bell**  
South Hobart

## Jobs no compensation

IT amazes me how Glamorgan Spring Bay Mayor Michael Kent shouts out about creating possibly 30 jobs with his support of salmon farming on the East Coast. How many jobs were lost in our state with his never-ending push for seven-day trade when he was with Woolworths? I am sure it is in the thousands along with all the profits that now leave our state due to big

business growth. His credibility in acting genuinely for a community should be argued at all costs.

If I were Michael Kent, along with the then politicians who allowed seven-day trade, I would be ashamed of the legacy left to our children of no full-time jobs.

**Lorne Geeves**  
Howrah

## Save your surroundings

THE Mayor of Glamorgan Spring Bay has shown once more how out of touch he is. After a few unsuccessful tries at supporting his assumption that only a small number were opposed to the desecration of the pristine East Coast, he got down to his reason for supporting this abomination. "Jobs". How many jobs? Up to 25.

I doubt Tassal employs unskilled people to operate its salmon farms. So the workers will mostly come from outside the area. How many new jobs for Triabunna? Few, if any. Tassal plans to improve productivity and part of its recent borrowings are to install more automation within the industry. Increased productivity means cut jobs. So there will soon be a surplus of already trained applicants from other fish farms, looking for work in Triabunna.

How many jobs will be lost if the project goes ahead? Many shackies, like myself, will move elsewhere. Mussel farming will be on the nose, as will scallop farming in the now polluted, waters. The recreational boating industry will take a massive hit. New tourism opportunities will drift away with the noise and the smell. The Tasman Highway will become a nightmare to drive on and deter tourists coming to the East Coast. The fact is that Triabunna, like most small communities, has a higher unem-

ployment rate than larger towns. So what should the Triabunna unemployed do? Not destroy their environment for the hope of getting one of the 25 jobs just down the road. At worst, get in their cars and do what millions of Australians do every day. Travel the one hour to work and back, each day.

**Richard Davoren**  
Mt Rummy

## Port Arthur better choice

IF large scale fish farming is user-friendly to locals and visitors and does not harm the environment, then why are there no fish farms around Port Arthur?

It has a length of 3.7 nautical miles, is 1 nautical mile wide and faces due south towards the great Southern Ocean. The central channel varies from 33m down to 53m in depth. The eastern shore has a 10m depth within 100m of the cliffs along the southern two miles of coastline. Safety Cove would be a safe area for the shore-based infrastructure. A road already exists.

Surely it would be more economical to use this pristine area rather than the pristine Okehampton Bay area. Road access to both areas is similar in length. Port Arthur access has only one steep hill at Eaglehawk Neck whereas Triabunna has Bust Me Gall and Black Charlie's, not to mention Paradise Gorge. The cost of construction of the wharves would be cheaper at Port Arthur as Safety Cove is sheltered whereas Okehampton Bay is open to all southerly weather.

So could the Minister please explain why Okehampton Bay has been chosen over what is obviously a better site?

**John Horner**  
Bellerive