

# An end-run around the rules

ENVIRONMENT, Parks and and Heritage Minister Matthew Groom has proposed special legislation to bypass normal procedures in council for his friend and campaign donor the proponent of the cable car.

Asking for landowner consent from the Hobart City Council is part of any development process. Why doesn't the Mount Wellington cable car follow the same processes as everyone else?

What other council responsibilities will the Government target next? Are they intent on council amalgamations or council emasculation?

The reason people are increasingly coming to visit and live in Hobart is because of what is remarkable in our own backyard — a mountain in its almost natural state for all of us to enjoy.

**Ted Cutlan  
South Hobart**

## So many blessings

WHO'D be a Mt Wellington cable car developer?

Just which logo would you choose to have on the bottom of your gondolas? Would it be the Tasmanian Government logo, the Tasmanian Liberal Party logo, the Department of State Growth logo, or the taxpayer, sorry — Department of Treasury and Finance logo?

Decisions, decisions ...

**Stephen Jeffery  
Sandy Bay**

## Lessons not learned

THE release of draft legislation to facilitate a private cable car development on Mount Wellington is a deplorable inter-



**BELOVED:** For many Hobart locals, the mountain is a symbol of the city.

vention in due process.

It demonstrates the government has not learnt from the imbroglio of similar legislation for a pulp mill.

The proponent claimed to have agreement to use Cascade land to the surprise of head office CUB executives. Yet the Minister accords the project credibility with his intervention.

Imagine the response if next the Government decided an applicant for a hotel in St David's Park warranted facilitating legislation.

The draft legislation should receive condemnation and be withdrawn.

**Stephen Bennett  
South Hobart**

## Foisted on us

THE Hodgman Government is totally out of control. What right has this government to dictate to the people of Tasmania that "Thou shalt have a cable car, whether thou likest it or not"?

What right have they to draft legislation

waiving "landowner consent" for this pet project for one of their developer mates? As for calling for "public comment" on the cable car once the developer has purchased the acquired land and submitted his development application, forget it. Community comment, outrage, petitions, you name it, can be and usually are studiously ignored by the Hodgman Government.

When will Mr Hodgman learn that this Government can no longer ride roughshod over community concerns and simply forge ahead with these disastrous schemes?

**Chris Needham  
Blackmans Bay**

## Keep mountain clear

WITH traffic delay, city plans gone astray You'd think that someone had a clue! Give us ferries and trains, Some pollies with brains But no cable car on our mountain so blue.

**Alphene Evans  
Lindisfarne**