

# Tassal is ignoring the will of the people

A DEMOCRATIC society suggests people are able to express their views openly, honestly and without reservation. So it is rather disappointing when this occurs that broad judgments and unfair suppositions result.

As an opponent of coastal fish farming and a long-term ratepayer at Spring Beach, it is assumed that I am a greenie, a "shackie, against fish farming" and a "knocker who will never be happy" (*Mercury* June 9). I am not a greenie or

against fish farming, but am a shackie and a person who wants to protect our beautiful East Coast beaches and pristine waters. By going offshore, a positive compromise may be the result. Michael Kent stated the proposed Oakhampton fish farm is a "done deal" even though the pipeline is yet to be ratified and the onshore infrastructure approval is still subject to appeal.

Tassal is preparing to place pens in the water in the next fortnight even

though all infrastructure is yet to be approved and the minister has indicated that farming will not commence until further baseline study is completed and released to the public. But silly us, we always knew that 5800 petitions, 3000 protesters at Float Mofo and countless letters and articles opposing the fish farm was going to fall on deaf ears. So much for democracy.

**Jenny Breen**  
**Spring Beach**

*Mercury 2 August 2017*  
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