

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More like 'the Dictator Bill'

WHILE most Tasmanians are focused on COVID recovery and getting back to work, our government and the opposition are pushing through the Major Projects Bill that will completely change the democratic process for development approvals in Tasmania.

Currently development approvals go through local councils who understand and listen to the concerns of the community. This bill removes local councils from the process and thereby local voices.

Let's say two bankers from Sydney want to get approval so foreign companies can build 67 noisy white wind towers 240 metre tall in a pristine environment where Tasmanians live and enjoy the country aspect and serenity. Local community will have no meaningful say. Oh, and the bill states there will be no "appeals process". If some development approvals get slowed or stopped there is usually a very good reason for it.

The government will tell you they are streamlining the process. They are right. China can build a factory/power station faster than any other country in the world. It appears that Tasmanian politicians have seen a model they like and are working rapidly towards it. Tasmanians, if you are happy to do away with the democratic process. Let's all sit back and watch this bill get passed and say nothing.

Suzanne Klower, Launceston.