

Andrew Dillon,
CEO,
Australian Football League,
140 Harbour Esplanade,
Docklands,
VIC, 3008.

By email: general@afl.com.au

9th June 2025

Dear Mr Dillon,

We, the undersigned elected representatives of Tasmania, representing each level of governance, wish to meet with you to discuss the proposed Macquarie Point stadium and renegotiation of the Tasmanian Government/AFL agreement.

Tasmanians are proud of our long history as a foundational AFL state. We have produced some of the greatest players in the game's storied history. We have earned the right to an AFL team. We know that for the AFL to be truly considered a national competition, it must include Tasmania.

Yet the AFL has insisted on Tasmania building a stadium at Macquarie Point as a precondition for our team. That stadium proposal remains overwhelmingly opposed by the Tasmanian community, and this opposition is only growing.

Tasmania already has stadiums where AFL has long-been played at the highest level. One is already in the middle of a \$130 million upgrade.

In March, the Tasmanian Planning Commission's independent expert panel assessing the stadium proposal at the direction of Parliament, published a damning interim report. The report found a long list of critical issues and that over ten years, stadium construction and operation can be expected to add almost \$2 billion to Tasmania's already unsustainable debt burden.

The Tasmanian Government reacted by questioning the integrity of the independent assessors, making it clear that the cost of the stadium was no longer capped, and that overruns would be covered by borrowings.

Faced with this scenario, the government, rather than seek to renegotiate the contract with the AFL, has now announced its intention to abandon its own statutory planning process and instead ram stadium approval through the Tasmanian parliament, a further affront to the Tasmanian people.

The recent Tasmanian budget has detailed a seriously deteriorating financial position, to be addressed by funding cuts, job freezes and a potential fire sale of public assets.

This has precipitated Premier Jeremy Rockliff losing the confidence of Tasmania's House of Assembly.

Tasmanians want and deserve a team but cannot afford this additional stadium.

We wish to meet with you to discuss the stadium condition in the licence agreement as a matter of the utmost importance to our state. A number of the undersigned have outstanding meeting requests with you and so this reiterates the importance of this opportunity.

A delegation of the undersigned stand ready to travel to Melbourne at a mutually convenient time to discuss this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Rosemary Armitage MLC
Independent Member for Launceston

Senator Jacqui Lambie
JLN Senator for Tasmania

Tabatha Badger MP
Greens Member for Lyons

Senator Nick McKim
Greens Senator for Tasmania

Vica Bayley MP
Greens Member for Clark

Hon Cassy O'Connor MLC
Greens Member for Hobart

Miriam Beswick MP
Independent Member for Braddon

Rebekah Pentland MP
Independent Member for Bass

Helen Burnet MP
Greens Member for Clark

Mayor Anna Reynolds
Lord Mayor of Hobart

Hon Mike Gaffney MLC
Independent Member for Mersey

Cecily Rosol MP
Greens Member for Bass

Craig Garland MP
Independent Member for Braddon

Senator Tammy Tyrrell
Independent Senator for Tasmania

Mayor Sue Hickey
Mayor of Glenorchy (in my personal capacity)

Hon Meg Webb MLC
Independent Member for Nelson

Andrew Jenner MP
JLN Member for Lyons

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Member for Clark (Federal)

Kristie Johnson MP
Independent Member for Clark

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson
Greens Senator for Tasmania

Dr Rosalie Woodruff MP
Greens Leader and Member for Franklin