From: Lisa Litjens
To: Tasmanian Salmon Study Secretariat
Subject: Fwd: Submission tothe study
Date: Friday, 3 July 2026 11:49:19 AM

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From: **Lisa Litjens** [redacted]
Date: Fri, Jul 3, 2026 at 10:43 AM
Subject: Submission tothe study
To: <salmonstudy@tas.gov.au>

My name is Lisa Litjens, 10-year resident of Cygnet.

The salmon industry has grown into a multi-headed monster, growing exponentially and with the inevitable (and predicted) side-effects of dealing 'at scale' with a foodstuff: loss of quality, ruination of environment, undue influence over government and environmental protection agencies, disregard of public opinion.
Tourism has been badly affected, the island's reputation as a clean, green state has been all-but lost; locally-owned businesses have been closed owing to pollution. All of these horrible consequences were foreseen but ignored or brushed aside by 'spin', soft diplomacy, state capture and downright lies from salmon's foreign owners and weakened government agencies. Added to this, the cosy relationship between senior staff within government and those of the industry led increasingly to staff transferring from one to the other (the latest iteration being Whittington, head of Salmon Tasmania but previously head of Premier and Cabinet department!
That the current , nationally-broadcast ABCTV satire "Ground up" features an oily, over-confident representative from the Salmon industry pestering to be allowed to sponsor the Devils, shows the accepted view of the public that Salmon's power and influence is everywhere and confident of its position. The inclusion of a hungry,homeless man refusine to 'that shit' testifies to the exaggerated honesty of good satire and agrees with the view of so many Tasmanians that "Eating Salmon is killing Tasmania".
Independent science from all over the world, wherever the salmon industry exists, confirms increased pollution, loss of species, loss of local jobsand the need for more antibiotics strewn into public waterways. (Note that the UN has stated that antibiotic resistance is likely to be the premier health risk to humans in the future.
For those of us who live near the water in so many parts of this beautiful place, we are assailed by excessive light, noise and nuisance for salmon vessels, working 24 hour days. The toll it takes on locals as well as the amenity of their beaches and shallows is shown by the thousands of protesters who gathered on beaches especially in the south-east.
If we could see the deformities and the overcroding of the poor salmon, the outcry would be deafening. The 'battery chickens' of the sea have suffered long enough! Richard Flanagan's seminal work, 'Toxic' documented faithfully and accurately the evils of the industry and has never been challenged for its authenticity.
Only a transition to alternative methods of aquaculture such as kelp farming and vertical aquaculture is a sustainable seafood industry down here. They regenerate rather than destroy. Atlantic salmon have no place here and all pens must be removed and reparations fully-paid by the industry to restore our waterways.
Your responsibility could not be greater.

Sincerely

Lisa Litjens

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Lisa Litjens. BA, Grad. Dip. Professional Writing
Freelance Writer and Editor
Vice-President, Neighbours of Fish Farming
[redacted]

'There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.' Niccolo Machiavelli

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Lisa Litjens. BA, Grad. Dip. Professional Writing
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