

24 February 2017

Mr Patrick Billings  
The Mercury  
Level 1, 2 Salamanca Square  
Hobart. Tas 7000

Dear Mr Billings,

### **Right to Information Request 21 November 2016**

I refer to your request pursuant to the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI Act) received by Hydro Tasmania on 21 November 2016.

I thank you for the extension of time provided for us to collate the information.

I am authorised to make decisions on behalf of Hydro Tasmania in respect of applications for information under the RTI Act.

#### **1. Your Request**

Your request was for:

- Emails, letters, reports and briefings relating to the floods which were active in Tasmania over the period 4-7 June 2016.
- Emails, letters, reports and briefings covering flood mitigation issues relating to the floods active in Tasmania over the period 4-7 June 2016.
- Hydro's flood mitigation policies and procedures.
- Emails, letters, reports and briefings created prior to June 4-7 June 2016 that discuss the approaching or potential flooding that was to occur during 4-7 June 2016.
- Emails, letters, reports and briefings created after 4-7 June 2016 that discuss what Hydro did to mitigate the flood that occurred in that period.

Hereafter referred to as "the Request".

#### **2. Determination and Reasons for Determination of the Request**

I have undertaken a search of the information held by Hydro Tasmania to locate any records that may be relevant to the Request and have determined as follows.

##### **2.1 Information relevant to the Request**

In response to the Request, I have determined that the information provided in the attached to be relevant to the Requests: Appendix A. We have also previously provided a link to the Hydro Tasmania submission to the Flood Enquiry which forms part of this reply to your request.

#### **3. Information withheld**

The RTI Act provides that some information in our possession is exempt from release for the reasons stated below.

##### **3.1 Relevant sections of RTI Act**

I have assessed the identified Information in accordance with the RTI Act and I regard the following exemptions as being relevant:

- (a) Section 35(1) (Internal deliberative information);

- (b) Section 36(1) (Personal information of a person); and
- (c) Section 38(a) (Information relating to business affairs).

As required under Section 33 of the RTI Act, I have considered the Public Interest Test assessment criteria under Schedule 1 to the RTI Act in regards to the information ultimately withheld pursuant to sections 35, 36 or 38 and have determined that it was not in the public interest as a whole to disclose the withheld information.

The reasons for the determination are:

- that the release of the information would not contribute to the debate on the matter
- the information would not inform the request about the reasons for a decision
- the disclosure would prejudice the ability of Hydro Tasmania to obtain similar information in the future
- the disclosure would not provide the contextual information to aid in the understanding of Hydro Tasmania's decisions
- disclosure would promote or harm the interests of an individual or group of individuals
- disclosure may harm the business and/or the financial interests of Hydro Tasmania

A copy of this determination will be placed on the Hydro Tasmania website for public information.

<http://www.hydro.com.au/about-us/governance/right-information-request-process/right-information-disclosures>

#### **4. Review of Rights**

You have a right to seek an internal review of my decision pursuant to section 43 of the RTI Act. If you would like to request such a review, you may write to Hydro Tasmania's Chief Executive Officer within twenty (20) working days from the date of this letter at:

Mr S Davy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hydro Tasmania  
4 Elizabeth Street  
HOBART TAS 7000

This request is now considered closed.

Yours sincerely



Alan W. Evans  
Right to Information Officer & Corporation Secretary  
Hydro Tasmania  
t 03 6230 5300  
e alan.evans@hydro.com.au  
f 03 6231 4217