

Media Release

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MWCC Seeks Tribunal Ruling on Council Delay

Mount Wellington Cable Way Company (MWCC) is seeking a planning appeals tribunal ruling on a new Hobart City Council request which it believes breaches the Land Use Planning Assessment Act.

MWCC Chair Chris Oldfield said today that the new Council request is outside the planning laws and will further delay the approvals process.

“The planning laws set timelines for Councils to make decisions. We have followed the process and it is unreasonable for the Council to now try to make requests clearly outside this process. Were we to accede to this it has the potential to open the way to a never-ending list of new questions.

“Consequentially we lodged an appeal with the Resource Management and Planning Appeals Tribunal to get a ruling on the validity of the new request,” Mr Oldfield said.

In June, the Council sought an Aboriginal heritage desktop assessment undertaken by Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania demonstrating that there will be no Aboriginal heritage sites affected by the proposed development.

MWCC provided that information on 2 October and is confident it meets the planning law requirements.

“Now they have a further request which we believe is invalid under the law.

Mr Oldfield said the issue for MWCC was not about Aboriginal heritage but the fairness of the process.

“We do not believe that the cable car development will disturb any known Aboriginal heritage sites but we respect the original custodians of kunanyi/Mount Wellington and have guaranteed that strong protocols are in place to protect any Aboriginal Heritage that may be discovered within the project footprint route,” Mr Oldfield said.

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