Response to Draft Statement on Expectations of Data Centres and AI Infrastructure.

Thank you for giving Tasmanians an opportunity to comment on the Draft Statement.

There are some significant concerns that I think are specific to Tasmania that I don't feel are adequately addressed in the draft statement:

1. Specific exclusions relating to zoning: that land zoned as Agriculture or Rural Resource are excluded as potential sites for data centres
2. Water usage – that water for irrigation for agriculture is not limited due to supply required by data centres
3. Energy usage – that energy required to drive irrigators or other necessary infrastructure necessary for agriculture, is not limited due to supply for data centres

Additional requirements that should be legislated, rather than listed as "expectations":

1. That renewable energy (solar panel and wind turbines, if physically viable) is mandated to be installed at the data centre site, prior becoming operational
2. Batteries are used and linked to the renewable energy infrastructure installed on/alongside data centres
3. Hot/warm water is not dumped into existing water courses, such as rivers, dams or the ocean – rather, settling ponds that can allow significant cooling to happen through radiant losses are utilised, before such water is discharged into existing courses.
4. Cold water is not drawn for cooling from existing water courses.
5. Rain water is collected from sites to be utilised in the operation of the centre (examples include for cooling, for human use such as in latrines, or for maintenance of shrubbery/gardens to help with cooling the footprint)

How to properly benefit to Tasmanians:

1. In addition to "no net cost" to Tasmanians, the real benefit of hosting data centres can only occur when Tasmanians are provided with royalties for the ongoing use of our resources and natural capital to aid in the ongoing function and maintenance of data centres: (cold air, clean air, renewables, cold water, noise pollution)
2. Companies building data centre *must* (rather than "should") engage with communities to ensure *enduring* benefit for that community.