Critical missing information

When evaluating a large, complex project it is essential to review all aspects of the project and its impact in order to make an informed decision.

In the case of the pulp mill, the exclusion of issues surrounding ‘world scale’ wood supply on our small island have always been ignored yet, according to community studies, these would be some of the most serious impacts of all.

The ‘fast track assessment’ has exposed the community to major risks, hidden key information from regulators and biased any debate away from matters that are very important to the community.

Matters that concern the community include the impacts on the 3 top priorities for life, air, water and food yet the ‘assessment’ avoids most of those impacts, as if they were of no particular significance.

THIS is the range of impacts described by the ‘independent’ consultants Sweco & ITS who had no defined standards to work to, nor requirements for community protection in their brief. Also included is the federal assessment which uses standards but only covers 2 small areas of impact.

THIS was the range of impacts to be studied by the RPDC who also were mandated to apply various standards to their conclusions.

THIS was the range of impacts defined by the community including research work on pulp mill impacts and submissions made. Nearly 70% of impacts have always been ignored by government along with a further 20% with the ‘fast track’ process. **This means that over 90% of impacts are ignored by the ‘fast track’ process.**

The community is concerned when their paid representatives in both government and the opposition refuse to represent them, and accept evaluation processes that hide critical information from decision makers.