

**From:** [Mr David A Young](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Submission opposing the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project  
**Date:** Friday, 26 August 2022 7:28:45 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project. My name is David A 'Andy' Young and I have a background in environmental science, so am aware how infrequently a new species of vertebrate is discovered in this country. This is especially true in the more highly populated and more intensively studied eastern coast of the country.

It is in this context I wish to present a plea to you, in your considerations, to provide all possible protection for the newly discovered *Delma vescolineata*. Not only does it represent unique genetic heritage that we should endeavour to pass on to future generations, but this type of discovery also can provide a spark of hope regarding the future of our planet, at a time when finding reasons to feel optimistic about the state of the world is becoming increasingly difficult.

In this context, the contrast between the possible outcomes of your joint deliberations could not be starker. On the one hand you could approve the proposal, prioritising short-term jobs and wealth. In doing so you may possibly consign this newly-discovered species to history and at the same time drive us closer to the catastrophe we face from an over carbonized, climate-changing planet, as the coal measures that would be then liberated are burned and so exacerbate the already looming crisis we face.

On the other hand, you could agree that there is merit in preserving this newly discovered creature and its habitat, as a beacon of hope in a time where we are being faced with a grim reality.

The argument in favour of economic stability, as we transition away from a fossil fuel economy, is not without merit; however the effects of the status quo and of the past decade of inaction are starting to be felt- and these are looking increasingly like the ripples that precede a tsunami. Floods, fires hailstones the size of tennis balls..... you ain't seen nothing yet!

I would urge you to think of the future, to think of a true triple bottom-line analysis of costs and benefits as they relate to this project, then to realise that we, as an environmentally aware society and one of the richest nations on Earth, must draw the line somewhere. I would encourage you to draw that line in the decision you make.

My best wishes to you in your deliberations.

Thank you considering my submission,

Yours sincerely,  
Mr David A Young