

Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

MC23-028218

Ms Eloise Carr DIRECTOR THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE TASMANIA 65 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000

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Dear Ms Carr

Thank you for correspondence of 31 July 2023 to the Minister for the Environment and Water, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, regarding the Australia Institute's request for reconsideration of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* decision 2012/6406: Marine Farming Expansion in Macquarie Harbour. Minister Plibersek has asked me to thank you for your letter and reply on her behalf. I also note your earlier correspondence of 8 June 2023 on this matter.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water is considering this request in accordance with the requirements of the EPBC Act and Regulations.

I assure you the department takes the matters you have raised seriously, including in the context of current scientific information regarding the Maugean skate.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Short Branch Head Environment Assessments (Vic and Tas) and Post Approvals Branch

18 September 2023