

3rd July 2008

**Attn: Mr. Norm Andrews**

Office of the Hon Michelle O'Byrne  
Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts,  
Sport and Recreation

Dear Sir,

**Meeting with Environment Minister**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of June Premier David Bartlett announced on television news he would make sure his Ministers were available to the public.

I am aware Ministers have a busy schedule, but I have been trying for some time to meet with Michelle O'Byrne without success. I have emailed and telephoned her office in Launceston and Hobart. So far I have not even been given the courtesy of a date and time, as Ms O'Byrne's advisor Mr Brad Arkell has generated what I can only take as one refusal after another.

As a result of this (and after discussing my environmental matters with Mr. Arkell for sometime prior to trying to arrange a meeting with the Minister), I have lost confidence in my dealings with Mr. Arkell.

Further, I feel Mr Arkell's trip from Hobart to meet me in Launceston (in the absence of Ms O'Byrne) is unnecessary and a waste of public money when Ms O'Byrne already works out of Launceston and I am only fifteen minutes away.

I believe I have been reasonable in my requests over time to meet with the Minister on important environmental issues that have impacted enormously on me and my family's health.

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Below is a summary of my attempts to meet with the Minister:-

**2.6.2008** - Telephone request to Michelle O'Byrne's office to meet with her (following my 3rd hospitalisation).

**3.6.2008** - Further telephone request to meet with the Environment Minister, Michelle O'Byrne.

Request denied by Brad Arkell as, "The Minister is very busy."

**5.6.2008** - e-mail reply from Environment advisor Brad Arkell. "I would like to advise you that we *are* considering your request for a meeting."

**18.6.2008** - Follow up letter to Michelle O'Byrne re meeting date.

**25.6.2008** – Email from Brad Arkell. "I will call you"

**27.6.2008** – Email from Brad Arkell. "I can advise you that Minister O'Byrne will be unable to meet with you in the short term. However, I will be available to meet with you sometime over the next few weeks if you so desire."

I look forward to your reply and would be hopeful a meeting can be arranged sooner rather than later given the time that has already elapsed.

Yours faithfully,

Clive M. Stott