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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

Workers deserve better than having protesters invade workplaces

The Tasmanian Government condemns today's workplace invasion of Sustainable Timber Tasmania's offices in Hobart by Bob Brown Foundation protesters.

All workers deserve to be able to go to work and complete their jobs in peace and safety which is why the Government supports legislation to protect workers going about their normal business.

This is not about stopping Tasmanians from protesting. The Government respects the right of every Tasmanian to express their views and protest lawfully.

But invading a workplace and harassing or intimidating employees is simply unacceptable.

I have spoken to STT today and the incident was clearly distressing for many employees. I call on the Tasmanian Greens to publicly condemn this outrageous act by radical environmentalists.

This legislation won't stop legal protests outside hospitals, schools or climate change protests in streets or on footpaths. It's simply about protecting Tasmanian businesses, workers and families from illegal threats, disruption and ongoing disruption.

The Government has been resolute on this issue for three elections and nearly eight years and makes no apology for trying to ensure Tasmanians can go to work and run their businesses in a safe manner free from threats and disruption.