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Decision on Tarkine national heritage listing close, says Giddings

# A premier's perspective

# EXCLUSIVE

By SEAN FORD

A FEDERAL call on national heritage listing the Tarkine is close, Premier Lara Giddings believes

Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke's decision is being eagerly awaited by miners, State Labor and the miners, State Labor and the State Liberals — who do not want mining's future disrupted
— and conservationists and the Greens who want the big North West area listed

"We've made it very clear mining is our top priority," Ms Giddings said in an exclusive interview with *The Advocate* yesterday

She said the government was on tenterhooks waiting for Mr

Burke's decision. She was not exactly sure when it would be, but said she did not believe it was far away.

Ms Giddings was encouraged Mr Burke had taken the time to understand the issues around the Tarkine

She said she hoped his decision would be one miners and conservationists could live with

The Wilderness Society is also expecting a decision soon, according to Tasmanian campaign director Vica Bayley

#### SUPER TRAWLER

Ms Giddings supports ne plans for the controversial super trawler to act as a floating freezer for other

Seafish Tasmania is seeking approval for the new plan after being banned by the Gillard Government from fishing Australian waters for tw following a campaign against

"I have sympathy with Seafish Tasmania and what they are trying to do," Ms Giddings said.

She said the company had always operated within the laws of the day and the laws had changed since it entered a legally binding contract

relating to the trawler. "They were left with a stranded asset.

"They can't fish, but they can support the wider industry and help get fresh product straight into the market

"They have every right to realise some value Asked if Seafish should suc the Commonwealth, Ms Giddings said it was a matter for the company, but she would never encourage people to "go around suing"

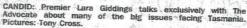
## **DEVONPORT DOINGS**

Ms Giddings has given no thought to appointing an administrator to the troubled

Devonport City Council.

A bitter schism between
Mayor Steve Martin and various other aldermen has en bubbling away for months, including recent majority





lite/ can't fish, but they can support the wider industry . . . and help get fresh product straight into the market. \*\*

support for a no-confidence

motion in the mayor.
"If there are issues at a political level they need to be resolved at a political level. Ms Giddings said.

She was referring to local government political level and said there were processes available

Ms Giddings said she believed council general manager Ian McCallum was an excellent GM.

State governments sending administrators in to run councils is rare, but not unheard of.

Former premier Jim Bacon appointed an administrator to Kentish some years back when it was going through extremely

## SAME SEX MARRIAGE

The pending retirement of Legislative Council president Sue Smith would not change the government's timing on plans for revisiting the same sex

marriage issue, Ms Giddings

The Upper House voted down legislation last year

Mrs Smith made it known she would not be supportive of the plan if she needed to vote on it.

Ms Giddings said there was now an opportunity for progressive candidates to put their hands up for Mrs Smith's seat (Montgomery).

#### DYING WITH DIGNITY

Ms Giddings expected the government would release a discussion paper on euthanasia in the next fortnight.

She was hoping a dying with dignity bill would reach parliament by the end of the parliamentary year, saying most surveys showed about 80 per cent of people supported some form of legislation on the

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