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FOREWORD

The theme of this year's Australian Earthquake Engineering Conference; "Dams, Fault Scarps and Earthquakes," reflects the uniqueness of the island Tasmania, the conference venue. With over 60 large dams and a modern infrastructure, Tasmania is in a vulnerable position should a large earthquake occur under the island or in the oceans nearby. Geological evidence indicates that large earthquakes have happened in the not-so-distant past.

The conference attempts, through the many papers submitted, to address the question as to how to design an infrastructure that will survive major earthquakes, how to assess seismic hazards in Tasmania and how to deal with emergencies. A wide variety of authors have contributed toward a very interesting program. The conclusions drawn and suggestions made are applicable to any community throughout Australia.

We would like to thank Barbara Butler, our Society's Secretary, and everyone else who has contributed toward the successful organisation of the Conference and these Proceedings.

Vagn Jensen
Organising Committee

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*Papers marked * were, in accordance with DETYA requirements, subjected to an independent critical review process by two experts from the field in which the material was written.*