Consider a future case where there is a global Plasma operator managing hundreds of millions of users (e.g a decentralized Ebay or micropayments processor).

Then if the Plasma operator misbehaves and all users exit, then major ETH miners are set to make billions USD in gas fees.

So it seems that in this scenario, there is a huge incentive for major ETH miners to hack the operator and intentionally make it do a bad thing (such as post a corrupt Merkle root to the Plasma smart contract)

To mitigate this, one way could be to provide some type of a mechanism for the plasma operator to self-correct a problem - essentially admit guilt in return for a fixed size penalty …