
Gladstone Conservation Council Inc.

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email greg.hunt.mp@environment.gov.au

Dear Minister Hunt,

RE: ARROW ENERGY CURTIS ISLAND DECISION

With the advent of the prospect of industrialisation of Curtis Island and the subsequent ecological disaster which occurred in our harbour in 2011, we as a group of concerned citizens, formed the Gladstone

Conservation Council. We believe that what is happening in Gladstone is at best poor planning and at worst environmental vandalism in pursuit of money. We are not opposed to industrial development but strongly believe that an appropriate balance must be reached and protocols followed.

We assume your Government does not want to be the first Western Country to have a World Heritage Area listed "in danger" and therefore can come to no other conclusion but that you could not allow another LNG Plant or any further industrial development to be built on Curtis Island, the largest island within the GBRWHA.

According to GLNG fact sheet 9, August, 2008 "the Government selected Curtis Island for the LNG Industry, with the Gladstone Ports Corporation also suggesting Curtis Island because of the availability to freehold land and deep water". As we all know that the depth of water around Curtis Island was not deep, there was one section of deep water which is at Hamilton Point owned by the GPC. GLNG representatives told me that they would have loved that site as it would have required very minimal dredging however the GPC would not sell. Therefore from the very beginning of this process mistruths have been the name of the game.

From early talks with the other LNG Proponents Boatshed Point was not on their horizons for a number of reasons including cross currents and seagrass beds. We can only assume the reason that Arrow has chosen this site is simply because there was nothing else available, not because it was suitable.

Doesn't it make more sense to decline this application and if Arrow wish to proceed that they go in with one of the other proponents. From a variety of reading matter including Financial Papers this has been the thought for quite awhile. We also understand that Arrow are having problems with their leases as quite a

few of them are within high value farming land. Grave concerns are also held regarding a Company (Shell) that approximately 10 years ago publically stated that it would not develop gas or oil on a World Heritage Area and now is in the process of doing just that. Obviously you would have to doubt their integrity.

In 1998/99 Port Curtis Fishing was 9% of Queensland's Gross Value Production and there was a horticultural industry in the Yarwun/ Targinnie Area, both of which have been destroyed, the first because of the dredging program and the second because of the so called world's best shale oil extraction plant. I am sure as a Politician in Power and as a human being you realise that it is important for an area which in turn means State and Australian wide to have a diversified economy. Until the Western Basin Dredging Program and the dredging of mudflats for the LNG Industry on Curtis Island, Gladstone had that. We were an industrial city that had diversity of incomes e.g. coal exports, manufacturing industry, power production, horticultural, seafood and tourism especially in the form of the Grey Nomads. Horticulture and seafood are gone, manufacturing and power production are struggling and an enormous amount of money will be spent trying to get the Grey Nomads back.

For Gladstone to be a liveable, viable city great care must be taken in decision making, especially with regards to the environment.

We are appealing to you Minister Hunt to please respond with a resounding NO to this proposal.

Thank you for reading this submission,

Cheryl Watson

Treasurer

Gladstone Conservation Council