



Department of
**Environment and
Heritage Protection**

Ref CTS 0202/16

15 FEB 2016

Ms Cheryl Watson
Treasurer
Gladstone Conservation Council
cheryl.watson5@bigpond.com

Dear Ms Watson

Thank you for meeting with me at the Gladstone Community Cabinet held on Sunday, 31 January 2016 to discuss matters in relation to Curtis Island LNG Plant flares.

I am pleased to provide you with further information regarding your questions in relation to an article that appeared in the Gladstone Observer on 30 January 2016. The article was in relation to an amendment to Queensland Gas Company's (QGC) environmental authority (EA) for the Liquefied Natural Gas facility located on Curtis Island.

As a point of clarification, the statement provided during our deputation that the department is not aware of any recent changes to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was factually correct with the last project change occurring on 14 May 2015. It has since become apparent that your query during Community Cabinet was in relation to an amendment to QGC's EA and not the EIS. I would like to take the opportunity to clarify the matter.

I can advise that an amended EA was issued by the department on 29 January 2016. The intent of the conditions contained in the amendment is to mandate additional requirements for the operation of the process flare. The proposed amended conditions will require QGC to:

- operate and equip the flare with monitoring equipment that provides additional data on emissions;
- ensure smoke is not emitted for more than five minutes in any two hour period during normal operating conditions; and
- include a limit of no more than 30 minutes of flaring in 'non-normal' conditions such as planned maintenance shutdowns.

The amendment was pursued by the department as a result of community concerns and concerns raised by Gladstone Conservation Council. This action followed the issue of a penalty infringement notice during October 2015 in relation to environmental nuisance.

I have asked that Mr Tony Baker (Compliance Delivery Manager) organise a meeting with you to directly discuss the additional requirements that have been included in the amendment and to provide adequate time to address any concerns that GCC has in relation to the matter.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Mr Tony Baker, Compliance Delivery Manager of the department on (07) 4971 6530.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Reeves', with a large loop at the end.

Jim Reeves
Acting Director-General