

Neil Doorley

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 5:40 PM
To: 'Mark Ludlow'
Subject: QNS

Ammonia investigation continues

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection is investigating another suspected ammonia exceedance from the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery.

Water samples taken during an EHP inspection on June 22 have been analysed, and indicate a further elevated ammonia result for Blind Creek.

In March 2016, Queensland Nickel Sales (QNS) advised EHP that ammonia had been detected in Blind Creek – and nearby Alick Creek - at levels higher than the surface water quality limits in the company's environmental authority (EA).

QNS subsequently submitted a report in relation to the elevated ammonia levels detected in March, which the department is considering as part of its investigation into the matter.

EHP conducted further routine inspections of the refinery on 21 April, and 22 June to assess QNS's compliance with its EA.

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, the contravention of a condition of an Environmental Authority can attract a penalty of up to 4500 penalty units (\$2,650,500 for a corporation) although penalties may be higher if it is proved that the contravention was wilful.

Environment Minister Dr Steven Miles said EHP would consider the latest sampling results (June 22) as part of its current investigation.

"While the refinery is in care and maintenance and is not currently in production, enforcement orders issued by EHP remain in place to direct Queensland Nickel Sales to ensure environmental protection systems at Yabulu keep operating," Dr Miles said.

"The department is now considering what actions, in accordance with relevant enforcement guidelines, might be taken against the company.

"I'm pleased to see the regulator is maintaining a vigilant regime of testing. The inspections in April, and again last month, covered monitoring requirements, water management practices, contaminated water storage, and key water management infrastructure at the site including seepage collection sections," he said.

ENDS



Queensland
Government

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

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Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 1:41 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - response for ABC Townsville / draft holding statement re Queensland Nickel update
Attachments: 120716 - HS - Ammonia investigations continue.docx
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat

For your approval, please.

The attached draft holding statement re the latest update on Queensland Nickel has been departmentally approved.

ABC Townsville journalist David Chen has this morning asked for the latest update – and I am happy to send him the attached (*sans* Agency Background) if you approve.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
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media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
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Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officer
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone
Phone 3339 58874 (6) Personal information	DDG:
Approved Program Manager Compliance Scott Sullivan; ESR ED Rob Lawrence; ESR DDG Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest North Queensland	

Ammonia investigation continues

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's investigations into ammonia exceedances from the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery are continuing.

The refinery is in "care and maintenance" and is not currently in production.

Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd (QNS) advised EHP in March 2016 that ammonia had been detected in nearby Alick Creek and Blind Creek at levels higher than the surface water quality limits in the company's environmental authority (EA).

QNS has submitted a report in relation to the elevated ammonia which the department is considering as part of its investigation into the matter.

EHP conducted further routine inspections of the refinery on 21 April and on 22 June 2016 to assess QNS's compliance with its EA.

Further water quality samples were taken during EHP's inspection of 22 June which have now been analysed and indicate a further elevated ammonia result for Blind Creek.

EHP will also consider this latest sampling result as part of its current investigation.

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, the contravention of a condition of an Environmental Authority can attract a penalty of up to 4500 penalty units (\$2,650,500 for a corporation) although penalties may be higher if it is proved that the contravention was wilful.

ENDS

Agency Background (for internal information only):

The inspections of 21 April and on 22 June covered monitoring requirements, water management practices, key water management infrastructure at the site including seepage collection systems, and contaminated water storage.

On 11 March 2016, Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) were issued to QNS, its two parent companies, and the sole director of all three companies.

Among other things the EPOs required the company continue to operate water management and seepage collection systems at the refinery and to meet environmental monitoring and reporting requirements under its EA.

QNS did not report the later ammonia exceedances to EHP and the recent exceedances may indicate that not all seepage from the refinery is being captured.

The department is considering what actions, in accordance with relevant enforcement guidelines, might be taken against the company.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:27 PM
To: @Premiers Media
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: QNS

Hello,

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GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Kirby Anderson
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:31 PM
To: Neil Doorley; @Premiers Media; Ian Hutcheon
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: RE: QNS

Thanks Neil

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:27 PM
To: @Premiers Media <premiers.media@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Philip Halton <Philip.Halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
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Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Katharine Wright

From: Kirby Anderson
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:31 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Subject: FW: QNS

Can we have a HIB?

From: Kirby Anderson
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:31 PM
To: Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; @Premiers Media <premiers.media@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Ian Hutcheon <Ian.Hutcheon@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
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Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 2:33 PM
To: Kirby Anderson; Katharine Wright
Subject: RE: QNS

yep



**Queensland
Government**

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

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Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 3:00 PM
To: Steven Miles
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: urgent approval needed

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Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 3:01 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran; Katharine Wright
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: Neil / Kat - for approval - response for ABC Townsville / draft holding statement re Queensland Nickel update

Hello – fyi – this is unapproved version of Min release

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ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 14 July 2016 4:00 PM
To: Stephanie Smail
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: Yabulu

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Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

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Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Katharine Wright

From: Killoran, Matthew <matthew.killoran@news.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:49 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: QN

That's great, thanks for that Kat.

Cheers,

Matt Killoran

On 30 June 2016 at 15:46, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Matt,

Please find a quote from the Minister below:

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

Let me know if you need anything further.

Cheers,

Kat

From: Killoran, Matthew [<mailto:matthew.killoran@news.com.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:40 AM

To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Re: QN

Brilliant, thanks Katharine.

On 30 June 2016 at 10:33, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Matt,

I'll get you a response to your QN questions.

Cheers,



Katharine Wright

Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP

Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

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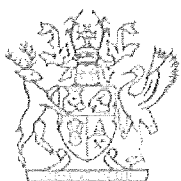
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MATTHEW KILLORAN
Reporter

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

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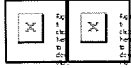
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MATTHEW KILLORAN

Reporter

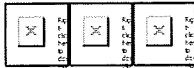


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E matthew.killoran@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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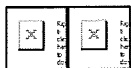
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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 4:39 PM
To: Steven Miles
Subject: FW: clive palmer nickel refinery reopening - comment?

I think we just send her the statement we sent to CM?

Sarah Elks has also asked for a copy of it.

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

From: Nance Haxton [mailto:Haxton.Nance@abc.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:39 PM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: clive palmer nickel refinery reopening - comment?

Hi Katharine

Nance here from ABC Radio's PM. Just wondering if the Minister will comment at all today regarding Clive Palmer's announcement that he will reopen the nickel refinery in Townsville?

If you could please let me know – thanks.

Nance



Nance Haxton
ABC Radio Current Affairs Reporter - AM, PM and The World Today

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T @NanceHaxton



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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Steven Miles
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 4:40 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: clive palmer nickel refinery reopening - comment?

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On 30 Jun 2016, at 4:39 PM, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

I think we just send her the statement we sent to CM?

Sarah Elks has also asked for a copy of it.

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

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Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:39 PM
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Nance here from ABC Radio's PM. Just wondering if the Minister will comment at all today regarding Clive Palmer's announcement that he will reopen the nickel refinery in Townsville?

If you could please let me know – thanks.

Nance

<image001.gif> Nance Haxton
ABC Radio Current Affairs Reporter - AM, PM and The World Today

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sch4p4 (6) Personal information F +61 7 3377 5596
T @NanceHaxton

<image002.jpg>

-

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 4:42 PM
To: Elks, Sarah
Subject: QNS statement



Queensland
Government

Hi Sarah,

Please find a statement below:

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

ENDS

Let me know if you need anything further.

Kind regards,

Katharine Wright
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 5444 (6) Personal information
Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 1:13 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran; Katharine Wright
Cc: ROBERTS Tony; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: Neil / Kat - for approval - response to ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel Sales report

Hello that is fine thank you



**Queensland
Government**

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7336 F 07 3220 6224 (6) Personal information Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

From: LEWIS Kieran [<mailto:Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 12:38 PM

To: Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: ROBERTS Tony <Tony.Roberts@ehp.qld.gov.au>; GRIFFIN Peter <Peter.Griffin@ehp.qld.gov.au>; STEELE Mary <Mary.Steele@ehp.qld.gov.au>; Media NPSR/EHP <Media@npsr.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - response to ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel Sales report

Importance: High

Neil and Kat

For your approval please.

The attached response to ABC Townsville re the QNS report on ammonia exceedances has been departmentally approved.

Note the "additional information" referred to is a consultant's report on macro invertebrates.

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

EHP | NPSR

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5874 (6) Personal information

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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: SPACKMAN Maria
Sent: Monday, 13 June 2016 2:14 PM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: NEW media enquiry - David Chen ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel

Kieran –

Another one for you:

David would like to know if EHP is on track to receive the full report by 16 June and will the media be able to access the full report?

m

<image002.png>Maria Spackman

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3339 5853

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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<image003.jpg>

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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 June 2016 2:12 PM
To: David Chen
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Response to your enquiry re Queensland Nickel Sales
Attachments: 070616 - QNS appeal - ABC Townsville.pdf

Hi David

Thanks for your enquiry. A response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: David Chen [mailto:Chen.David@abc.net.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 June 2016 1:00 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Media

Hi Kieran,

Thanks for the chat – this is what I'm after.

2037/16 QUEENSLAND NICKEL SALES PTY LTD -V- CHIEF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION

If you could provide details of the case and where it's at, that'd be greatly appreciated.

Regards

David



David Chen
Journalist, Townsville

P +61 7 4722 3034 E chen.david@abc.net.au
sch4p4(6) Personal information† 61 7 4722 3099
T @dchen21

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Sales appeal

For: David Chen
ABC Townsville
4722 3034 / (6) Personal information
chen.david@abc.net.au

Date: 07 June 2016

Thanks for the chat – this is what I'm after.

2037/16 QUEENSLAND NICKEL SALES PTY LTD -V- CHIEF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION
If you could provide details of the case and where it's at, that'd be greatly appreciated.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson

Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd, QNI Resources Pty Ltd, QNI Metals Pty Ltd and the sole director and secretary of each of these companies, Mr Clive Mesink, filed appeals in the Planning and Environment Court on 27 May 2016 in relation to six Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) issued by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

The department was served with the appeal documents on 31 May 2016.

As this is now a matter for the Court, the department is unable to comment further.

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

Katharine Wright

From: HANSON Anna <Anna.Hanson@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 June 2016 10:54 AM
To: Neil Doorley
Cc: Katharine Wright; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil FYI - Qld Nickel inspection

Neil, QNI compliance inspection likely to be Wed 22 June. TBC



Anna Hanson
Media Director
Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3339 5859
Level 6, 400 George St, Brisbane Qld 4000
PO Box 2454, Brisbane Qld 4001

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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 12:38 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: ROBERTS Tony; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - response to ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel Sales report
Attachments: 150616 - QNS report - ABC Townsville.docx
Importance: High

Neil and Kat

For your approval please.

The attached response to ABC Townsville re the QNS report on ammonia exceedances has been departmentally approved.

Note the "additional information" referred to is a consultant's report on macro invertebrates.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: SPACKMAN Maria
Sent: Monday, 13 June 2016 2:14 PM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: NEW media enquiry - David Chen ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel

Kieran –

Another one for you:

David would like to know if EHP is on track to receive the full report by 16 June and will the media be able to access the full report?

m

<image002.png>Maria Spackman
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3339 5853

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

<image003.jpg>

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Sales report

For: David Chen
ABC Townsville
4722 3034 / Section 78B
chen.david@abc.net.au

Date: 15 June 2016

Is EHP is on track to receive the full report by 16 June and will the media be able to access the full report?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson

Queensland Nickel Sales submitted its report into recent ammonia exceedances at the company's Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery to EHP on 15 June 2016.

The company has advised EHP that it has additional information to support the report which should be available by the end of July.

If the report meets the relevant criteria it will be placed on the Public Register and would be available to the public on application.

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

Agency Background (for internal information only – not to be provided to media):

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Friday, 17 June 2016 5:03 PM
To: HANSON Anna
Cc: LEWIS Kieran; Philip Halton; Katharine Wright; Peter Spencer; Megan Surawski
Subject: FW: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel

Hello can I get a holding statement done up in advance please,

Regards



Queensland
Government

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles
Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7336 F 07 3220 6221 M (6) Personal information Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

From: DAUNT Bettina [<mailto:Bettina.Daunt@ehp.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Friday, 17 June 2016 4:51 PM

To: ROBERTS Tony <Tony.Roberts@ehp.qld.gov.au>; Steven Miles <Steven.Miles@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Philip Halton <Philip.Halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Peter Spencer <Peter.Spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Danielle Cohen <Danielle.Cohen@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Cameron Mitchell <Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media NPSR/EHP <Media@npsr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@ehp.qld.gov.au>

Subject: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Departmental activity

ALERT NAME:

- Proactive Compliance Inspection of the Yabulu Nickel Refinery

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd (QNS)
- 1 Greenvale Street, Yabulu

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- EHP will conduct a compliance inspection at the Yabulu Nickel Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- The purpose of the inspection is to assess compliance with the relevant Environmental Authority and Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs)
- QNS submitted the investigation report to EHP on 15 June 2016 regarding the Ammonia exceedances that were reported by QNS in March.
- EHP is currently considering the content of this report and a formal investigation into the exceedance notifications is currently occurring.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- The site is in care and maintenance and there are significant quantities of potential environmental contaminants stored on site that require active management.
- These include the contaminated water storage facilities and chemical storage.

CUSTOMER ACTIONS:



- QNS has arranged for relevant staff to be available for the inspection.
- QNS has advised that since March 2016, a number of staff had been contracted to carry out "care and maintenance" activities at the refinery including management of the site's environmental obligations.
- A number of these staff were former environmental staff at the site when it was operated by Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd and as such have a familiarity with the environmental controls on-site.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- EHP has scheduled a proactive compliance inspection at the Yabulu Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- EHP will obtain water quality samples from licensed compliance points during the inspection.

LOCALITY DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:

- The Yabulu Nickel Refinery is located approximately 25km North-West of Townsville.



KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- EHP is continuing to monitor the environmental performance of the Palmer Cobalt and Nickel Refinery and is carrying out another compliance inspection on 22 June 2016.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Rob Lawrence (Executive Director)
- Phone number: 4222 5338
- Division: ESR

Bettina Daunt

Executive Assistant to Dean Ellwood

Deputy Director-General, Environmental Services and Regulation Division

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5550
Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 3:26 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat

For your approval, please – also forms a response to today's ABC question about Yabulu refinery.

As requested, attached is a holding statement about the upcoming QNS refinery inspection, which has been departmentally approved.

Today we received the below enquiry from the ABC, and if approved the attached statement would be a suitable response for the ABC. (Note the ABC originally requested a TV interview re the refinery, which we politely declined.)

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Nancy Notzon [<mailto:Notzon.Nancy@abc.net.au>]
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 2:09 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Kieran,

Thanks so much for your help just now.

Just to follow on with our conversation, could you please let me know when the next inspection of the nickel refinery will be.

Many thanks,

Nancy



Nancy Notzon
News Reporter, North Queensland

P +61 7 4722 3031 E notzon.nancy@abc.net.au
sch4p4(6) Personal information



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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officer Scott Sullivan
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone 4722 52004 (6) Personal information
Phone 3339 55874 (6) Personal information	DDG: (6) Personal information
Approved Program Manager (Compliance) Scott Sullivan; ED Rob Lawrence; DDG Environmental Services and Regulation Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest Townsville	

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery on Wednesday 22 June.

The inspection is routine and follows previous inspections in January, March and April this year.

Queensland Nickel Sales has an environmental authority (EA) to operate the refinery, at Yabulu some 20 kilometres north of Townsville.

Among other things, the EA includes conditions to prevent environmental harm and to secure site rehabilitation should the refinery close.

The EA and QNS's general environmental duty under the Environmental Protection Act remain binding regardless of the company's operating or financial status.

Wednesday's inspection will assist EHP in monitoring the company's ongoing environmental compliance with the EA and the Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) issued on 11 March 2016.

EHP is also currently reviewing QNS's environmental report, received Wednesday last, into ammonia exceedances in Alick and Blind creeks in March this year.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2016 10:48 AM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: FW: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat – any word on this one. We'd like to get the response to ABC Townsville this morning if possible, for tonight's news, as the inspection is tomorrow.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: LEWIS Kieran
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 3:24 PM
To: Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Katharine Wright (Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au)
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Importance: High

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Kieran Lewis
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media@ehp.qld.gov.au
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To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Kieran,

Thanks so much for your help just now.

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Nancy



Nancy Notzon
News Reporter, North Queensland

P +61 7 4722 3031 E notzon.nancy@abc.net.au
sch4p4(6) Personal information



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Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)

Draft holding statement

Deadline		Briefing officer Scott Sullivan
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis		Phone 4722 520014 (6) Personal information
Phone 3339 58874 (6) Personal information		DDG:
Approved Program Manager (Compliance) Scott Sullivan; ED Rob Lawrence; DDG Environmental Services and Regulation Dean Ellwood		Phone
Geographical area/s of interest Townsville		

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ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2016 11:44 AM
To: Steven Miles
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: This is happening tomorrow
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx

There might be some media interest around this.



Queensland
Government

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7336 F 07 3220 6224 M 6 Personal information Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officer Scott Sullivan
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone 4722 52004 (6) Personal information
Phone 3339 58974 (6) Personal information	DDG: Personal information
Approved Program Manager (Compliance) Scott Sullivan; ED Rob Lawrence; DDG Environmental Services and Regulation Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest Townsville	

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery on Wednesday 22 June.

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Among other things, the EA includes conditions to prevent environmental harm and to secure site rehabilitation should the refinery close.

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EHP is also currently reviewing QNS's environmental report, received Wednesday last, into ammonia exceedances in Alick and Blind creeks in March this year.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2016 3:43 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: MEDIA ROUNDUP - TUES

Hi Neil and Kat – just confirming we're waiting until tomorrow to act on any advice to ABC re Qld Nickel inspections. (I was in a meeting and didn't get this latest advice to the team!)

Kieran

From: CUFFE Sophie
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2016 3:14 PM
To: neil.doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au; katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: MEDIA ROUNDUP - TUES

s.73

Due COB – ABC North Qld – Queensland Nickel update (with MO 3:26pm 20/6)

s.73



Queensland
Government

Sophie Cuffe
Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

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media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au
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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 11:21 AM
To: Nancy Notzon
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Nancy

You were after some information in relation to any latest developments with Queensland Nickel Sales' Yabulu refinery. The following lines may assist:

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery today, Wednesday 22 June.

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ENDS

Regards

Kieran Lewis
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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Nancy Notzon [mailto:Notzon.Nancy@abc.net.au]
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 11:48 AM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Sophie,

Thanks for your help just now.

I'm looking to speak with someone about the work going on at Clive Palmer's nickel refinery in Townsville.

Is there someone I could touch base with today?

Many thanks,

Nancy



Nancy Notzon
News Reporter, North Queensland

P +61 7 4722 3031 E notzon.nancy@abc.net.au
sch4p4(6) Personal information



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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 11:24 AM
To: matthew.killoran@news.com.au
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: QN'S check in

Hi Matt

You were after some information in relation to any latest developments with Queensland Nickel Sales' Yabulu refinery. The following lines may assist:

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

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ENDS

Regards

Kieran Lewis
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If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Killoran, Matthew [<mailto:matthew.killoran@news.com.au>]
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 9:30 AM
To: Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: QN'S check in

Hi Neil,

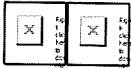
Just doing my usual check in on Queensland Nickel Sales. Has there been any change or development on that front lately?

Cheers,

Matt Killoran

--

MATTHEW KILLORAN
Reporter



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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 23 June 2016 2:32 PM
To: Neil Doorley
Cc: Katharine Wright; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil - Courier Mail seeking any update on Queensland Nickel inspection
Attachments: Re: QN'S check in

Hi Neil

Matt Killoran thanked us yesterday for the statement we provided re the Queensland Nickel inspection and asked that we get back to him to tell him if there was any significant outcome. (His email attached)

Are you OK if reply to his email saying the inspection did not show any significant issues?

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
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media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: DAUNT Bettina
Sent: Thursday, 23 June 2016 2:25 PM
To: REEVES Jim; Steven.Miles@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Philip Halton (Philip.Halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au); Peter.Spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au; SURAWSKI Megan; Cameron Mitchell (Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au) (Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au); neil.doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Media NPSR/EHP
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR Snr Mgt; ESR
Subject: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel Sales

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Departmental activity

ALERT NAME:

- Proactive Compliance Inspection of the Yabulu Nickel Refinery

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd (QNS)
- 1 Greenvale Street, Yabulu

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- EHP conducted a compliance inspection at the Yabulu Nickel Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- The purpose of the inspection is to assess compliance with the relevant Environmental Authority and Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs)
- EHP did not observe any significant changes to the operations of the refinery since the most recent inspection on 21 April 2016.

- At the time of the inspection EHP did not identify any new non-compliances or previously unknown areas of concern with either the Environmental Authority (EA) or the Environmental Protection Orders.
- QNS advised that all monitoring requirements required under the EA are being undertaken, with the exception of Stack emission testing due to the shutdown status of the refinery.
- QNS advised that a core number of staff have been retained on full-time employment, with a pool of staff available on a casual basis when needed. The number of staff stated to be onsite at any one time may be between 4-20 staff.
- The Contaminated water structures appeared to have significant storage capacity and the company indicated that it expects to meet Design Storage Allowance by November 1 as required by the Environmental Authority.
- QNS submitted the investigation report to EHP on 15 June 2016 regarding the Ammonia exceedances that were reported by QNS in March.
- EHP is currently considering the content of this report and a formal investigation into the exceedance notifications is currently occurring.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- The site is in care and maintenance and there are significant quantities of potential environmental contaminants stored on site that require active management.
- These include the contaminated water storage facilities and chemical storage.

CUSTOMER ACTIONS:

- QNS has advised that since March 2016, a number of staff had been contracted to carry out "care and maintenance" activities at the refinery including management of the site's environmental obligations.
- A number of these staff were former environmental staff at the site when it was operated by Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd and as such have a familiarity with the environmental controls on-site.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- EHP has carries out a proactive compliance inspection at the Yabulu Refinery on 22 June 2016.

LOCALITY DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:

- The Yabulu Nickel Refinery is located approximately 25km North-West of Townsville.



KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- EHP is continuing to monitor the environmental performance of the Palmer Cobalt and Nickel Refinery and is carrying out another compliance inspection on 22 June 2016.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Rob Lawrence (Executive Director)
- Phone number: 4222 5338
- Division: MANQC

Bettina Daunt

Executive Assistant to Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General, Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5550

Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

From: Killoran, Matthew <matthew.killoran@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 12:45 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Re: QN'S check in

Hi Kieran,

Thanks for the quick response. Will you be able to let me know if anything significant comes out of the inspection today, in terms of any breaches or outcomes?

Cheers,

Matt Killoran

On 22 June 2016 at 11:24, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Matt

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ENDS

Regards

Kieran Lewis

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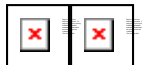
Cheers,

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MATTHEW KILLORAN

Reporter

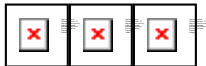


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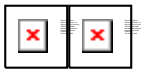
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MATTHEW KILLORAN

Reporter

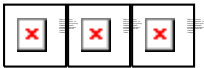


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Katharine Wright

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Regards

Kieran Lewis

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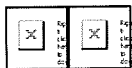
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--

MATTHEW KILLORAN

Reporter

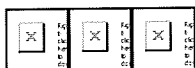


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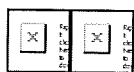
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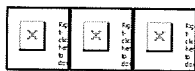
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Reporter



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Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 23 June 2016 2:40 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: Katharine Wright; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Re: Neil - Courier Mail seeking any update on Queensland Nickel inspection

Sure

Sent from my iPhone

On 23 Jun 2016, at 2:32 PM, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au> wrote:

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From: DAUNT Bettina
Sent: Thursday, 23 June 2016 2:25 PM
To: REEVES Jim; Steven.Miles@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Philip Halton (Philip.Halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au); Peter.Spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au; SURAWSKI Megan; Cameron Mitchell (Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au) (Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au); neil.doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Media NPSR/EHP
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR Snr Mgt; ESR
Subject: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel Sales

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Departmental activity

ALERT NAME:

- Proactive Compliance Inspection of the Yabulu Nickel Refinery

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd (QNS)
- 1 Greenvale Street, Yabulu

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- EHP conducted a compliance inspection at the Yabulu Nickel Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- The purpose of the inspection is to assess compliance with the relevant Environmental Authority and Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs)
- EHP did not observe any significant changes to the operations of the refinery since the most recent inspection on 21 April 2016.
- At the time of the inspection EHP did not identify any new non-compliances or previously unknown areas of concern with either the Environmental Authority (EA) or the Environmental Protection Orders.
- QNS advised that all monitoring requirements required under the EA are being undertaken, with the exception of Stack emission testing due to the shutdown status of the refinery.
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- QNS submitted the investigation report to EHP on 15 June 2016 regarding the Ammonia exceedances that were reported by QNS in March.
- EHP is currently considering the content of this report and a formal investigation into the exceedance notifications is currently occurring.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- The site is in care and maintenance and there are significant quantities of potential environmental contaminants stored on site that require active management.
- These include the contaminated water storage facilities and chemical storage.

CUSTOMER ACTIONS:

- QNS has advised that since March 2016, a number of staff had been contracted to carry out "care and maintenance" activities at the refinery including management of the site's environmental obligations.
- A number of these staff were former environmental staff at the site when it was operated by Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd and as such have a familiarity with the environmental controls on-site.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- EHP has carried out a proactive compliance inspection at the Yabulu Refinery on 22 June 2016.

LOCALITY DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:

- The Yabulu Nickel Refinery is located approximately 25km North-West of Townsville.

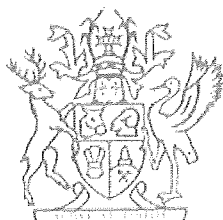


KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- EHP is continuing to monitor the environmental performance of the Palmer Cobalt and Nickel Refinery and is carrying out another compliance inspection on 22 June 2016.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Rob Lawrence (Executive Director)
- Phone number: 4222 5338
- Division: MANOC



Queensland
Government

Bettina Daunt

Executive Assistant to Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General, Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5550

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<mime-attachment>

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 23 June 2016 2:51 PM
To: Killoran, Matthew
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: QN'S check in

Hi Matt

I can confirm that yesterday's inspection at Queensland Nickel did not observe any significant issues.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Killoran, Matthew [mailto:matthew.killoran@news.com.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 12:45 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Re: QN'S check in

Hi Kieran,

Thanks for the quick response. Will you be able to let me know if anything significant comes out of the inspection today, in terms of any breaches or outcomes?

Cheers,

Matt Killoran

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Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 August 2016 2:38 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - media holding statement re Queensland Nickel trial
Attachments: 220816 - HS - QN legal action.docx

Hi Neil and Kat

As requested – the attached media holding statement re upcoming legal action against Queensland Nickel has been departmentally approved.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Neil Doorley [<mailto:Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Monday, 22 August 2016 1:42 PM
To: ESR
Cc: Steven Miles; REEVES Jim; Philip Halton; Peter Spencer; Megan Surawski; Cameron Mitchell; Media NPSR/EHP; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR Snr Mgt; BRIDGE Tracy
Subject: Re: ESR ALERT: Prosecution – Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd (in liquidation)

Hello can I get a holding statement done up on this pls

Sent from my iPhone

On 22 Aug 2016, at 1:09 PM, ESR <ESR@ehp.qld.gov.au> wrote:

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Court action – District Court trial

ALERT NAME:

- Prosecution of Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd (in liquidation) – Contravention of conditions of an Environmental Authority

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- QUEENSLAND NICKEL Pty Ltd (in liquidation) (ACN 009 842 068), 1 Greenvale Street Yabulu QLD 4818

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- On 5 August 2016 QN advised the Court that they will not enter a plea, leaving the Court to enter a plea of not guilty on their behalf and the trial proceeding in their absence.

- On 22 August 2016 QN advised the Court that a company representative will appear at the commencement of the trial to be arraigned, but they will not enter a plea.
- The trial is listed as the second trial in the sittings commencing on Wednesday, 24 August 2016.
- The 3 non-wilful charges are listed for mention before the Townsville Magistrates Court on 19 September 2016, after the finalisation of the District Court proceedings.
- Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd (in liquidation) (QN) held an Environmental Authority (EA) to operate a nickel and cobalt refinery at Yabulu, approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Townsville. The refinery is close to Halifax Bay, which is part of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area.

BACKGROUND:

- In early April 2014, Cyclone Ita passed over north Queensland, causing rain in the Townsville region. On 13 April 2014, QN notified EHP that the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) was overflowing. EHP conducted a series of site inspections over the following days and weeks, and identified a number of apparent non-compliances with QN's EA, leading to wilful (indictable) and non-wilful (simple) charges being laid against QN in December 2014.
- On 22 April 2016, QN moved into liquidation.
- QN has since transferred the EA to a different company (Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd) which is now managing the nickel refinery, which on care and maintenance.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- QN has advised the Court that it does not intend to enter a plea and the trial will proceed in its absence.
- Even though the company does not intend to enter a plea, the law requires the Department to present all of the relevant evidence including its witnesses before the jury and judge to adjudicate on guilt and sentence (if any) respectively.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- On 4 December 2014, EHP commenced a prosecution in the Townsville Magistrates Court against QN for:
 - 3 charges of wilful contravention of a condition of an EA (contrary to section 430(2) of the Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act)); and
 - 3 charges of non-wilful contravention of a condition of an EA (contrary to section 430(3) of the EP Act).
- On 9 December 2015, QN was committed to stand trial in the District Court on 2 counts of wilfully contravening a condition of their EA contrary to section 403(2) of the EP Act after one charge was discontinued. QN entered pleas of not guilty to both of the charges (relating to QN's failure to act to prevent unauthorised discharge from the TSF once it rose above the Mandatory Reporting Level and discharging from the TSF).

KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- EHP takes the protection of the environment seriously, and all holders of an EA doing business in Queensland must abide by strict environmental obligations.
- There is likely to be significant media interest in this matter.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Tracy Bridge, Senior Lawyer, Litigation Branch
- Phone number: 3330 5552
- Division: Environmental Services and Regulation

This email is an initial alert in respect of this matter.

If further advice or action is required, it will be communicated via normal channels such as a briefing note.

END

<image002.png>

Trinity Lowe
Senior Program Officer
Office of the Deputy Director General
Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5812
Level 7 400 George St Brisbane

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Department of **Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)**

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officers Tracy Bridge
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone 3330 5552
Phone 3339 5887	DDG:
Approved Adam Cradick, Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest north Queensland	

Queensland Nickel legal action

Legal action against Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd (now in liquidation), the former operator of the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery near Townsville, will go to trial on 24 August 2016.

The matter is listed as the second trial in the sittings commencing that day.

The Townsville District Court had set the matter down for a two-week trial, however Queensland Nickel have advised the Court that whilst they will appear on the first day of the trial, they will not enter a plea, meaning the Court must enter a plea of not guilty on their behalf for the trial to proceed.

The trial is expected to last for 5 days.

On 9 December 2015, Queensland Nickel was committed to stand trial on two counts of wilfully contravening a condition of its environmental authority contrary to section 430(2) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

The charges relate to the company's alleged failure to act to prevent an unauthorised discharge from its tailings storage facility in April 2014.

Queensland Nickel is also facing three charges of non-wilful contravention of its environmental authority, contrary to section 430(3) of the Act, and relating to the unauthorised discharge from its tailings storage facility.

These (the non-wilful charges) are next due before the Townsville Magistrates Court on 19 September 2016.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 12:38 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: ROBERTS Tony; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - response to ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel Sales report
Attachments: 150616 - QNS report - ABC Townsville.docx
Importance: High

Neil and Kat

For your approval please.

The attached response to ABC Townsville re the QNS report on ammonia exceedances has been departmentally approved.

Note the "additional information" referred to is a consultant's report on macro invertebrates.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887
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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: SPACKMAN Maria
Sent: Monday, 13 June 2016 2:14 PM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: NEW media enquiry - David Chen ABC Townsville re Queensland Nickel

Kieran –

Another one for you:

David would like to know if EHP is on track to receive the full report by 16 June and will the media be able to access the full report?

m

<image002.png>Maria Spackman
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3339 5853

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

<image003.jpg>

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Sales report

For: David Chen
ABC Townsville
4722 3034 / Section 78B
chen.david@abc.net.au

Date: 15 June 2016

Is EHP is on track to receive the full report by 16 June and will the media be able to access the full report?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson

Queensland Nickel Sales submitted its report into recent ammonia exceedances at the company's Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery to EHP on 15 June 2016.

The company has advised EHP that it has additional information to support the report which should be available by the end of July.

If the report meets the relevant criteria it will be placed on the Public Register and would be available to the public on application.

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

Agency Background (for internal information only – not to be provided to media):

Release

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 1:43 PM
To: David Chen
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Queensland Nickel Sales report
Attachments: 150616 - QNS report - ABC Townsville.pdf

Hi David

Thanks for your enquiry about the Queensland Nickel Sales report. A response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5831
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For: David Chen
ABC Townsville
4722 3034 / Section 78B
chen.david@abc.net.au

Date: 15 June 2016

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ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

Agency Background (for internal information only – not to be provided to media):

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Friday, 17 June 2016 5:03 PM
To: HANSON Anna
Cc: LEWIS Kieran; Philip Halton; Katharine Wright; Peter Spencer; Megan Surawski
Subject: FW: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel

Hello can I get a holding statement done up in advance please,

Regards



Queensland
Government

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7336 F 07 3220 6234 (6) Personal information Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

From: DAUNT Bettina [<mailto:Bettina.Daunt@ehp.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Friday, 17 June 2016 4:51 PM

To: ROBERTS Tony <Tony.Roberts@ehp.qld.gov.au>; Steven Miles <Steven.Miles@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Philip Halton <Philip.Halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Peter Spencer <Peter.Spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Danielle Cohen <Danielle.Cohen@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Cameron Mitchell <Cameron.Mitchell@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media NPSR/EHP <Media@npsr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@ehp.qld.gov.au>

Subject: ESR Alert Compliance Inspection Queensland Nickel

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Departmental activity

ALERT NAME:

- Proactive Compliance Inspection of the Yabulu Nickel Refinery

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd (QNS)
- 1 Greenvale Street, Yabulu

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- EHP will conduct a compliance inspection at the Yabulu Nickel Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- The purpose of the inspection is to assess compliance with the relevant Environmental Authority and Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs)
- QNS submitted the investigation report to EHP on 15 June 2016 regarding the Ammonia exceedances that were reported by QNS in March.
- EHP is currently considering the content of this report and a formal investigation into the exceedance notifications is currently occurring.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- The site is in care and maintenance and there are significant quantities of potential environmental contaminants stored on site that require active management.
- These include the contaminated water storage facilities and chemical storage.

CUSTOMER ACTIONS:



- QNS has arranged for relevant staff to be available for the inspection.
- QNS has advised that since March 2016, a number of staff had been contracted to carry out "care and maintenance" activities at the refinery including management of the site's environmental obligations.
- A number of these staff were former environmental staff at the site when it was operated by Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd and as such have a familiarity with the environmental controls on-site.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- EHP has scheduled a proactive compliance inspection at the Yabulu Refinery on 22 June 2016.
- EHP will obtain water quality samples from licensed compliance points during the inspection.

LOCALITY DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:

- The Yabulu Nickel Refinery is located approximately 25km North-West of Townsville.



KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- EHP is continuing to monitor the environmental performance of the Palmer Cobalt and Nickel Refinery and is carrying out another compliance inspection on 22 June 2016.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Rob Lawrence (Executive Director)
- Phone number: 4222 5338
- Division: ESR

Bettina Daunt

Executive Assistant to Dean Ellwood

Deputy Director-General, Environmental Services and Regulation Division

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5550
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GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 3:26 PM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat

For your approval, please – also forms a response to today's ABC question about Yabulu refinery.

As requested, attached is a holding statement about the upcoming QNS refinery inspection, which has been departmentally approved.

Today we received the below enquiry from the ABC, and if approved the attached statement would be a suitable response for the ABC. (Note the ABC originally requested a TV interview re the refinery, which we politely declined.)

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Nancy Notzon [<mailto:Notzon.Nancy@abc.net.au>]
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 2:09 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Kieran,

Thanks so much for your help just now.

Just to follow on with our conversation, could you please let me know when the next inspection of the nickel refinery will be.

Many thanks,

Nancy



Nancy Notzon
News Reporter, North Queensland

P +61 7 4722 3031 E notzon.nancy@abc.net.au

sch4p4(6) Personal information



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Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officer Scott Sullivan
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone 4722 52004 (6) Personal information
Phone 3339 58874 (6) Personal information	DDG:
Approved Program Manager (Compliance) Scott Sullivan; ED Rob Lawrence; DDG Environmental Services and Regulation Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest Townsville	

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery on Wednesday 22 June.

The inspection is routine and follows previous inspections in January, March and April this year.

Queensland Nickel Sales has an environmental authority (EA) to operate the refinery, at Yabulu some 20 kilometres north of Townsville.

Among other things, the EA includes conditions to prevent environmental harm and to secure site rehabilitation should the refinery close.

The EA and QNS's general environmental duty under the Environmental Protection Act remain binding regardless of the company's operating or financial status.

Wednesday's inspection will assist EHP in monitoring the company's ongoing environmental compliance with the EA and the Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) issued on 11 March 2016.

EHP is also currently reviewing QNS's environmental report, received Wednesday last, into ammonia exceedances in Alick and Blind creeks in March this year.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2016 10:48 AM
To: Neil Doorley; Katharine Wright
Cc: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: FW: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat – any word on this one. We'd like to get the response to ABC Townsville this morning if possible, for tonight's news, as the inspection is tomorrow.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

Level 6 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: LEWIS Kieran
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 3:24 PM
To: Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Katharine Wright (Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au)
Cc: REEVES Jim; GRIFFIN Peter; STEELE Mary; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: Neil / Kat - for approval - holding statement/ABC response re upcoming QNS refinery inspection
Importance: High

Hi Neil and Kat

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Kieran Lewis
Media Services
EHP | NPSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@npsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Nancy Notzon [<mailto:Notzon.Nancy@abc.net.au>]
Sent: Monday, 20 June 2016 2:09 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Clive Palmer's Nickel Refinery

Hi Kieran,

Thanks so much for your help just now.

Just to follow on with our conversation, could you please let me know when the next inspection of the nickel refinery will be.

Many thanks,

Nancy



Nancy Notzon
News Reporter, North Queensland

P +61 7 4722 3031 E notzon.nancy@abc.net.au
sch4p4(6) Personal information



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Department of **Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)**

Draft holding statement

Deadline	Briefing officer Scott Sullivan
Media Services contact Kieran Lewis	Phone 4722 52004 (6) Personal information
Phone 3339 58874 (6) Personal information	DDG:
Approved Program Manager (Compliance) Scott Sullivan; ED Rob Lawrence; DDG Environmental Services and Regulation Dean Ellwood	Phone
Geographical area/s of interest Townsville	

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery on Wednesday 22 June.

The inspection is routine and follows previous inspections in January, March and April this year.

Queensland Nickel Sales has an environmental authority (EA) to operate the refinery, at Yabulu some 20 kilometres north of Townsville.

Among other things, the EA includes conditions to prevent environmental harm and to secure site rehabilitation should the refinery close.

The EA and QNS's general environmental duty under the Environmental Protection Act remain binding regardless of the company's operating or financial status.

Wednesday's inspection will assist EHP in monitoring the company's ongoing environmental compliance with the EA and the Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) issued on 11 March 2016.

EHP is also currently reviewing QNS's environmental report, received Wednesday last, into ammonia exceedances in Alick and Blind creeks in March this year.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2016 9:56 AM
To: Steven Miles
Cc: Philip Halton; Katharine Wright
Subject: Are you happy for this to go out from Dept - or do you want to add some lines?
Attachments: 200616 - HS - QNS refinery inspection.docx

The ABC and CM have already asked,

Regards



Queensland
Government

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

Neil Doorley

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon Dr Steven Miles

Minister for Environment & Heritage Protection

Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7336 F 07 3220 6234 M (6) Personal information E Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Level 13, 400 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is undertaking a further inspection of Queensland Nickel Sales' (QNS) nickel and cobalt refinery today (22 June).

The inspection is routine and follows previous inspections in January, March and April this year.

Queensland Nickel Sales has an environmental authority (EA) to operate the refinery, at Yabulu some 20 kilometres north of Townsville.

Among other things, the EA includes conditions to prevent environmental harm and to secure site rehabilitation should the refinery close.

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EHP is also currently reviewing QNS's environmental report, received Wednesday last, into ammonia exceedances in Alick and Blind creeks in March this year.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:28 AM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Fwd: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Killoran, Matthew" <matthew.killoran@news.com.au>
Date: 30 June 2016 at 10:21:35 AM AEST
To: Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Hi Neil,

I understand Clive Palmer is later today claiming he will be reopening the nickel refinery at Yabulu. He has said this before, but I wanted to check if Queensland Nickel Sales has the appropriate EA's and other approvals required to do this. Can you tell me if QNS has the current environmental approvals in place to reopen?

Cheers,

--

MATTHEW KILLORAN
Reporter

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T +61 7 3666 6016
E matthew.killoran@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:29 AM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: FW: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Can we get an answer for this journo please?

From: Neil Doorley
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:28 AM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Killoran, Matthew" <matthew.killoran@news.com.au>
Date: 30 June 2016 at 10:21:35 AM AEST
To: Neil Doorley <Neil.Doorley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Hi Neil,

I understand Clive Palmer is later today claiming he will be reopening the nickel refinery at Yabulu. He has said this before, but I wanted to check if Queensland Nickel Sales has the appropriate EA's and other approvals required to do this. Can you tell me if QNS has the current environmental approvals in place to reopen?

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:58 AM
To: Katharine Wright; Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: RE: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

Hey Kat

I don't think anything changes as current EAs and suitable operator status etc cover the refinery going into care and maintenance and then re-opening. But I'll check for you.

Kieran

From: Katharine Wright [mailto:Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 10:29 AM
To: Media NPSR/EHP
Subject: FW: Yabulu nickel refinery to reopen

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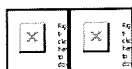
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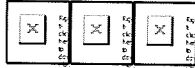
--

MATTHEW KILLORAN
Reporter



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Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:43 PM
To: Kirby Anderson; @Premiers Media
Subject: CM enquiry re Clive Palmer



Queensland
Government

Hi Kirby,

The courier mail and ABC have come to us asking about QN re-opening as per Clive Palmer's statements today. Here is our proposed response:

I understand Clive Palmer is later today claiming he will be reopening the nickel refinery at Yabulu. He has said this before, but I wanted to check if Queensland Nickel Sales has the appropriate EA's and other approvals required to do this. Can you tell me if QNS has the current environmental approvals in place to reopen?

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

Katharine Wright
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 3614 (6) Personal information
Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Katharine Wright

From: Kirby Anderson
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:44 PM
To: Katharine Wright; @Premiers Media
Subject: RE: CM enquiry re Clive Palmer



Thanks Katharine – good to go

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:43 PM
To: Kirby Anderson <Kirby.Anderson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; @Premiers Media <premiers.media@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: CM enquiry re Clive Palmer

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Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and colbalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

Katharine Wright
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7335
Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 4:44 PM
To: Nance Haxton
Subject: RE: clive palmer nickel refinery reopening - comment?



Queensland
Government

Hi Nance,

Unfortunately, he is unavailable tonight but you are welcome to use this statement:

Please attribute to Environment Minister, Dr Steven Miles:

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and colbalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

There is and never has been any impediment to Clive Palmer re-opening the refinery.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever I've asked EHP to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the EP Act.

Kind regards,

Katharine Wright
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 3384 (6) Personal information
Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Nance Haxton [mailto:Haxton.Nance@abc.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:39 PM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: clive palmer nickel refinery reopening - comment?

Hi Katharine

Nance here from ABC Radio's PM. Just wondering if the Minister will comment at all today regarding Clive Palmer's announcement that he will reopen the nickel refinery in Townsville?

If you could please let me know – thanks.

Nance



Nance Haxton
ABC Radio Current Affairs Reporter - AM, PM and The World Today

P +61 7 3377 5140
sch4p4(6) Personal information

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F +61 7 3377 5596



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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Martin Philip
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 5:25 PM
To: @Premiers Media
Cc: Sharon Durham; Tim A Shipstone; Tania Reeves; Lindsay Marshall; Scott Forbes; Katharine Wright
Subject: HIB - Yabulu
Attachments: 010716_Yabulu Workplace Safety.docx

Hi all,

HIB attached, re Clive Palmer Yabulu claims – sole focus on the workplace health & safety aspect and its major hazards facility licence.

Cheers



Martin Philip

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Grace Grace MP

Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

Minister for Racing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs

P 07 3719 7146 (Mob) Personal info Email martin.philip@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane

GRACE – Yabulu Workplace Health & Safety

WHSQ is continuing to work closely with Queensland Nickel Sales to ensure safety Yabulu, as a workplace and a major hazard facility.

WHSQ inspectors visit the site weekly to ensure QNS is meeting its duties under work health and safety legislation in managing the site.

To improve safety at the refinery, WHSQ has issued a number of statutory notices regarding storage of chemicals and emergency plans.

To date, QNS has complied with each of the notices by their due date.

Two notices to manage hazardous chemicals and stabilise plant are yet to be completed.

WHSQ has acted on concerns raised by administrators FTI Consulting over the state of the refinery.

The engineering firm will progressively provide advice in relation to risks at the site.

As has been the case since the closure, WHSQ will continue to work closely with other government agencies.

WHSQ will make a final determination about the facility and the operator within the next fortnight.

Background: Clive Palmer claims he will re-open Yabulu nickel refinery in Nth Qld by March 2017. Yabulu's former managers Qld Nickel fell into administration in April, leaving more than 800 workers without jobs and redundancy entitlements.

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 5:55 PM
To: Martin Philip; @Premiers Media
Cc: Sharon Durham; Tim A Shipstone; Tania Reeves; Lindsay Marshall; Scott Forbes
Subject: RE: HIB - Yabulu
Attachments: Yabulu reopen.docx

Here are some lines from environment side.

From: Martin Philip
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 5:25 PM
To: @Premiers Media <premiers.media@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Sharon Durham <Sharon.Durham@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tim A Shipstone <Tim.A.Shipstone@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tania Reeves <Tania.Reeves@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Lindsay Marshall <Lindsay.Marshall@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Scott Forbes <Scott.Forbes@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
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Martin Philip

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Grace Grace MP

Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

Minister for Racing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs

P 07 3719 7146 (M) 06 Personal information martin.philip@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane

HIB – Environment Yabulu

Queensland Nickel Sales' current environmental authority and suitable operator approvals cover the Yabulu nickel and cobalt refinery going into care and maintenance and re-opening.

Provided there are no changes to the refinery's operations, no further approvals are required from EHP.

However, to ensure there is no confusion whatsoever, Minister Miles has asked the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection to be available to assist and advise Mr Palmer to re-open the refinery and comply with the Environmental Protection Act.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 6:46 PM
To: Anna Jabour; Amy Hunter
Cc: Katharine Wright; Neil Doorley; Jan Martin
Subject: HIB - Yabulu
Attachments: Yabulu reopen.docx

Hi Guys,

HIB attached courtesy of the environment office – since you're in Townsville tomorrow.

Cheers,
-Scott

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

HIB – Environment Yabulu

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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Katharine Wright

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 6:46 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: RE: HIB - Yabulu

Legend, thanks

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 5:55 PM
To: Martin Philip <Martin.Philip@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; @Premiers Media <premiers.media@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Sharon Durham <Sharon.Durham@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tim A Shipstone <Tim.A.Shipstone@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tania Reeves <Tania.Reeves@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Lindsay Marshall <Lindsay.Marshall@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Scott Forbes <Scott.Forbes@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: HIB - Yabulu

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Sent: Thursday, 30 June 2016 5:25 PM
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Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

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Minister for Multicultural Affairs

P 07 3719 7148 or M 07 3719 7146 (6) Personal info Email martin.philip@ministerial.qld.gov.au
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