

Date : 13/05/2019 2:59:19 PM

From : "s.73"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"

Subject : Actions

Attachment : image001.jpg;

Dean

Thank you for your time on Friday to talk through the finalisation of our management plans.

We have been consistent in requesting clarity of both process and timing to finalise the outstanding management plans. Based on the discussions from last Friday we understand that the following actions were committed to:

- In relation to the GMMP, DES will provide comments to Adani this week in a similar format to that provided for the BTFMP;
- Adani and DES will meet in a workshop to work through feedback on the GDEMP and GMMP. We note you offered Monday 20th May to hold this workshop. We stated our preference and desire for a meeting during the course of this week and we respectfully request that DES provide an opportunity for that timing to be met.
- For the BTFMP, on a forward looking basis, we agreed to meet on Wednesday the 15th of May to workshop the matters as expressed in the reasons in your Attachment A.
- Prior to that workshop this Wednesday, Adani will send through high level comments in relation to the reasons set out in your Attachment A of the BTFMP decision of 2 May 2019. These comments are being provided in the context of Adani considering resubmission and are without prejudice to any other right me may have with respect to the BTFMP decision.

We also again request that DES provide to Adani the questions asked of CSIRO & GA regarding the Source Aquifer (GDEMP), and the timing in which CSIRO & GA will respond to those questions. As discussed in the meeting you undertook to provide me with this information today.

Thanks

s.73

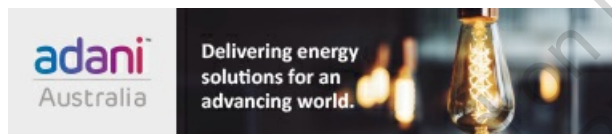
E s.73@adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 20/05/2019 3:58:09 PM
From : "TRACEY Alena"
To : "KLAASSEN Ben"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "LAWRENCE Rob" , "WELLS Melissa" , "MERRICK Jamie"
Subject : Adani - Status and Department Contact
Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;
Hi Ben

s.73

Current things on the go (as I understand it) are:

- BTFMP – meeting held with Adani last week - Adani to consider revision and resubmitting
- GDEMP – DES is seeking advice on latest version from CSIRO/Geosciences Australia
- GDEMP – Adani wrote to the DG on Friday and submitted an RTI seeking the questions we asked CSIRO/GA. Response to be drafted with legal.
- GMMP – meeting with Adani on this one today
- Carmichael mine investigation – provision of information and drilling of bores
- Abbot Point Coal – decision on Enforceable Undertaking regarding exceedances to be made today

Cheers
Alena



Alena Tracey
Executive Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

E: alena.tracey@des.qld.gov.au

M: (6) Personal info

Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane Qld 4000
Level 27, 400 George Street, Brisbane Qld 4000

Date : 15/03/2019 10:39:47 AM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "LOWE Trinity"

Subject : Adani dot points - emissions media

Hi Dean, this is what we have from an ESR perspective. Kate is trying to follow up with Climate Change with regards to any fact checks on climate change comments from media article. Thanks, Melissa.

- Despite comments made publically by Adani that they have made a decision to scale back the project to 10 mtpa, Adani's environmental authority [approval](#) for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine includes a condition that authorises an extraction rate of [up to](#) 74.5 Million tonnes per annum (mtpa) Run-of-Mine (ROM) coal (see EA condition A2 below). This is a maximum authorisation, not a requirement that must be reached.
- This means Adani are not bound to continue operations at this reduced rate (subject to outstanding approvals of the BTFMP and GDEMP) and therefore the original impact assessments of the project (including potential emissions) are still relevant.
- No project immediately commences mining at the maximum authorised rate, there is typically several phases of "ramp up" through construction and operational commencement.
- Following approval of an EA, activities must be described [and](#) undertaken in accordance with the plan of operations which describes actual and planned disturbance and in the basis for calculation of financial assurance.
- The plan of operations must be consistent with the EA conditions (i.e. not exceed any maximum authorisation in EA).
- The Coordinator-General's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and evaluation report assessed and approved the project on the basis of:
 - achieving a [maximum](#) production of 60 mtpa of product coal sourced from open-cut and underground mining
 - a coal handling and processing plant designed to process up to 74.5 mtpa of raw coal (ROM/raw coal is the unprocessed ore. Product coal is the processed ore yielded from the ROM/raw coal.)
- The CG's EIS and Land Court hearing for the EP Act EA included consideration of greenhouse gas emissions for the [maximum](#) proposed project i.e. the maximum impacts from the proposed project.
- The location and extent of disturbance is conditioned in the EA by way of tables and maps (see EA condition A3 below). Any proposed change to the disturbance location or extent would require an EA amendment application that would be assessed by DES under the EP Act.
- Any proposed change would be considered as to whether it exceeds the EIS assessment scope and the EA conditioned maximum extraction rate.
- Adani is able to amend their EA at any time to reflect the scaling back of the project to 10mtpa. This would be an amendment to the current approval. As this would be a reduction in the approved disturbance and potential impacts approved and assessed, this change would typically be initiated by Adani. The department would welcome a meeting with Adani to discuss this option.

Scope of activity	
A2	The environmental authority holder is approved for a coal extraction rate of up to 74.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of run-of-mine (ROM) coal in accordance with this environmental authority.
A3	In carrying out the mining activity authorised by this environmental authority, the holder of this environmental authority must comply with <i>Table A1: Mining Domains</i> , and <i>Figures A1–A2</i> .

Date : 14/05/2019 10:20:46 AM

From :

s.73

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa",

s.73

Subject : Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Attachment : image001.jpg;

Dean

I refer to Melissa Well's email sent last evening. It would appear despite DES' public claims that you would not be seeking a new or further review of the scientific evidence presented by CSIRO /GA, you are in fact engaging in another review as evidenced by Ms Well's reference to having to put in place a new contract. If this round of questions was simply an extension of the work undertaken we do not see how there would be any requirement for a new contract.

Furthermore we submit that the email fails to provide Adani with the necessary clarity regarding the "contract" between DES and CSIRO/GA or the substance of the questions that have been presented to CSIRO/GA by DES. Accordingly and consistent with our request on Friday 10 May, we once again request a copy of the questions you have asked CSIRO/GA to consider under this new contract. This request is reasonable given DES is commissioning a new review or assessment of Adani's GDEMP, and that DES previously provided Adani with a copy of the Terms of Reference for the so-called Wintle Review of the BTFMP. An ability to consider the questions as posed by the DES to CSIRO/GA would seem a normal part of this process and is clearly required to permit us to fully participate.

Could you also clarify whether the officers of CSIRO/GA engaged by DES were directly involved in the GDEMP review process commissioned by the Department of Environment and Energy? Can you also provide Adani with the names of all CSIRO/GA officers engaged for the DES contract? Can you confirm that DES were consulted and participated with DoEE in the original questions put to CSIRO/GA?

We request the above information by close of business today. Please contact me if I can provide further information.

s.73

E s.73 @adani.com.au

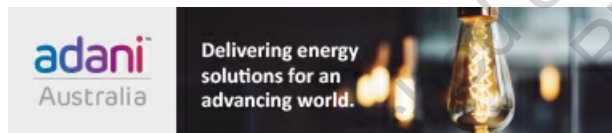
P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct:

s.73

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W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 9/04/2019 8:47:16 AM
From : "WATSON Matthew"
To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity"
Subject : Adani team: Adani inquiry
Attachment : image001.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi ESR,
Please see media inquiry below.
Ben Tracey will handle this when he is logged on shortly.
Cheers



Matt Watson
Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science
P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M (6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Ben Smee <ben.smee@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 8:17 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi DES

Quick inquiry re Adani.

Can you confirm to me the scope of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review into the Adani Carmichael GDEMP, as it was understood by DES?

Specifically, was DES of the belief that the CSIRO and GA would conduct an assessment of the technical work completed by Adani, in order to assess whether Adani had accurately identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs?

Or did CSIRO and GA have a broader remit, to instead assess Adani's GDEMP and technical work and make a recommendation as to whether the plan met the imposed environmental conditions?

Has DES been shown any report, or results from the CSIRO and GA assessment?

Is it the view of DES that Adani's GDEMP cannot be approved unless the source of the Doongmabulla Springs has been identified?

Thankyou. Happy to chat this through (6) Personal info if you'd like.

Cheers

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia

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ben.smee@theguardian.com

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theguardian.com/au

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Date : 1/05/2019 5:36:43 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "TRACEY Alena"

Cc : "DLO DES", "Media DES", "ELLWOOD Dean", "GRANT Andrea", "WATSON Matthew"

Subject : Alena for approval - Adani management plans - response to The Australian

Attachment :

image005.png;image006.jpg;image010.png;image011.png;image012.jpg;image013.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;image003.jpg;

Alena

See below a response to The Australian – approved by Dean Ellwood.

For approval please.

The text of the response is in Pam's email below Dean's and mine.

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M (6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:32 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: GRANT Andrea; WATSON Matthew; WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; ESR

Subject: Re: Dean for approval - Adani management plans - response to The Australian

That's fine

Dean Ellwood

Deputy Director-General

Environmental Services & Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 1 May 2019, at 5:29 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Dean

See below.

Are you happy with that suggested response to The Australian?

Thanks

Andrea

<image005.png> **Andrea Dobbyn**

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

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If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au

<image006.jpg>

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:25 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; DLO DES; ELLWOOD Dean; GRANT Andrea; WATSON Matthew

Subject: RE: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

We suggest adding these lines, as I've highlighted below.

But they will need to be checked by DG and DDG.

File D

Page 7 of 375

(Please note the rest of the response remains the same, except for having moved the line "DES continues to work with Adani..." from down the bottom to be now the third line. Have also removed the two details of GDEMP versions ("version 11b" etc) to avoid confusion).

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) is meeting with the proponent tomorrow to discuss their outstanding management plans.

This meeting has been scheduled for the past week.

DES continues to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress its environmental approvals.

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

These are the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP.

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES on 09 April.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

Based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-Throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised and DES is considering the final report and any other relevant information.

Under Queensland's *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, approvals for the GDEMP and the BTFMP rest with the Department of Environment and Science, as the State's environmental regulator, not with the Environment Minister.

<image010.png> **Pamela Frost**

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:18 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>; GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>; WATSON Matthew <Matthew.Watson@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

Pam

Are you happy for us to give The Australian the same response as went to the Fin Review today (attached)?

Andrea

<image011.png> **Andrea Dobbyn**

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science
19-503

File D

Page 8 of 375

<image012.jpg>

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:04 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani management plans

Hi,

As discussed, Adani (see below) claims to have been seeking clarity from DES for the past fortnight with no response. I'm chasing a comment from DES.

Cheers

"The Queensland Department of Environment and Science is required to finalise two outstanding management plans, the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan, so that we can start construction on the Carmichael Project.

"Adani Mining has been asking for advice from the Department of Environment and Science for two weeks now to understand what is required to finalise the outstanding management plans so that construction can commence on the Carmichael Project.

"On numerous occasions we have requested meetings with the Premier and Deputy Premier, to date all requests have been declined. We have repeatedly met with officials from the Department of Environment and Science, with no additional details provided on what is required to finalise these plans.

"All we've ever asked for is a fair go and to be treated like any other mining company, yet this is far from what we've experienced."

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist

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E peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

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Date : 9/04/2019 12:58:40 PM
From : "GRANT Andrea"
To : "DLO DES" , "Media DES"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : Approved Adani lines for today
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;
DLO

Here are the lines for several Adani lines that have been approved by Dean Ellwood:

Today the Department of Environment and Science received both the updated GDEMP from Adani and the independent scientific review from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy.

The department will now consider these reports.



Andrea Grant
Director-Media
Corporate Communications - Media Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5859 M 6) Personal info
Level 31, 400 George St, Brisbane
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane 4001

Date : 12/05/2019 3:45:10 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Automatic reply: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Thank you for your email. The office is now closed. For urgent matters, please call 07 3339 5831.

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Date : 9/04/2019 2:01:15 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "MERRICK Jamie" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Briefing dot points

Attachment : image002.png;image001.png;

Jamie and Dean please see below dot points for briefing.

- DES received an updated Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) from Adani today, 9 April 2019.
- DES also received the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review (the review) from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) today, 9 April 2019. DoEE have published the review on their website.
<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>
- Furthermore, DES is aware the Federal Minister for the Environment has approved the GDMP and the Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP) today, 9 April 2019.
- The Queensland environmental authority (EA) requires the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex to be identified in the GDMP. This is not a requirement of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) approval.
- DES requested through DoEE that the CSIRO and Geoscience review include the above State-specific requirement. Specifically, an assessment of how plausible and reasonable it is that the Clematis Sandstone is the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.
- Regarding the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, the review states that:
"It is plausible and reasonable that the Clematis Sandstone is a major source aquifer for the Doongmabulla Springs Complex (DSC). This is supported by water level and groundwater flow information presented by the proponent, as well as by other studies (Evans et al., 2018; Fensham et al., 2016; JBT Consulting, 2015), and by some aspects of hydrogeochemistry of the springs and the Clematis Sandstone (Fensham et al., 2016; Webb et al., 2015)."
It is not plausible and reasonable to state unequivocally that the Clematis Sandstone is the sole source aquifer for the DSC, as sufficient uncertainty surrounding hydrogeochemistry, inter-aquifer connectivity and groundwater flow (Currell et al., 2017; Lewis et al., 2018; Webb et al., 2015) exists to necessitate a precautionary approach to the conceptualisation, as ruled by Land Court of Queensland (2015)."
- DES will consider the advice from DoEE including the review, and the updated GDMP over the coming week to ensure that the GDMP meets the EA requirements.
- DES will consider the CSIRO review and the updated GDMP to understand how these concerns have been addressed.
- DES may seek a further briefing from CSIRO and Geoscience to clarify any concerns if necessary.
- If DES has further concerns regarding the GDMP, DES will write to Adani seeking clarification or further information if necessary.
- DES has not received an updated GMMP from Adani. DES will write to Adani to request an updated GMMP.
- Adani are required to publish the approved GDMP on their website within one month of approval.

Regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Date : 4/04/2019 1:33:41 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "MERRICK Jamie" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "HALLIDAY Genevieve" , "MCCOSKER Juliana"

Subject : BTFMP update

Attachment : RE: re. questions on review of EPR;BTFMP letter April 2019.docx;EA Permit 20190131_EPML01470513_Adani Mining Pty Ltd_Carmichael Coal Mine.pdf;FW: BTFMP submissions;image001.png;image003.png;

Hi Jamie and Dean,

Just by way of update on the BTFMP I can provide the following:

- 15 March 2019 Adani's response to the independent expert review was received by DES (attached);
- 21 March 2019 DES met with Adani to discuss BAAM report;
- 26 March 2019 teleconference between DES, Adani and BAAM (Adrian Caneris);
- 26 March 2019 DES sent questions to Adani for clarification on the BAAM report (attached);
- 2 April 2019 Adani responded to DES questions (attached);
- A scheduled teleconference on the 4 April cancelled by Adani and re-scheduled for 8 April 2019 (TBC);
- Attached DRAFT letter for review by Crown Law providing DES feedback to Adani on latest version of BTFMP and matters to be addressed prior to approval decision (EA attached for ease of condition reference).

Regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Date : 8/04/2019 12:13:10 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Atkin.Michael@abc.net.au"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Carmichael mine approvals
Attachment : 080419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - ABC 730.pdf;
Good afternoon Michael

I understand you were seeking the latest information on approvals for Adani's Carmichael mine. A departmental response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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Date : 1/05/2019 6:22:53 PM

From : "WATSON Matthew"

To : "peelc1@theaustralian.com.au"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : Carmichael mine response

Attachment : 010519 - Carmichael mine approvals - The Australian.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Charlie,

Please see response attached.

Cheers



Matt Watson

Principal Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

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Website www.des.qld.gov.au

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Date : 1/05/2019 12:48:33 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "LOVEDAY Chris"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Chris - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 010519 - Mines and Black Throated Finches - Channel 7 Mackay.docx;

Hi Chris

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has advised that you would be the person to check off the Byerwen coal mine-related information in the attached response to Channel 7 Mackay. This information is taken from the holding statement Megan Lutz worked on last night. Channel 7 has a 3pm deadline for this, so any advice soonest will be appreciated.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 6) Personal info
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 11:13 AM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES

Subject: Kate - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to Channel 7 Mackay re black throated finches as they relate to both Adani and QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine - and traditional owner views on Adani's GDEMP.

The information on Byerwen is a cut and paste from last night's holding statement on this matter.

The information on Adani is from our approved responses, with the highlighted section to address the question about whether we're considering traditional owner concerns.

Channel 7's deadline is 3pm today.

Thanks!

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 / 6) Personal info www.des.qld.gov.au

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Simpson, Amelia <AmSimpson@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 10:34 AM

To: Media DES

Cc: Moss, Elisabeth; Bailey, Sophie

Subject: Seven News Mackay request

Morning,

Amelia here from Seven Mackay. We're following up a story on Adani's Black throated Finch management plan and how the Queensland co-ordinator-general approved an Environmental Impact statement mentioning the presence of the same bird in 2014 for QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine.

We're also including the fact that traditional owners are concerned about the wetlands surrounding the Carmichael site, namely the Doongmabulla springs.

Can we request a statement detailing:

- Are traditional owners' concerns on the wetlands being considered?
- Why the Qcoal mine was approved, but not Adani, with its Black throated Finch management plan.
- Is there an expected date Adani will know an answer on both Black throated Finch and groundwater management plans?

I have a 3pm deadline.

Any questions, I'm on 4(6) Personal inform

Cheers,
Amelia

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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 9/04/2019 12:25:21 PM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "MERRICK Jamie"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : Condition
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;
Jamie condition as discussed

Conditions:

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan

I11 The proponent must develop and implement a Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan (GDEMP) to detail the management of threats to defined environmental values and to report results and corrective actions for each GDE over the full period of mining activities and for a period of five years post mining rehabilitation.

I12 The GDEMP must be approved by the administering authority in writing and the GDEMP published on a website before the commencement of Project Stage 2.

I13 For the purposes of conditions I11 and I12, the GDEs include the affected Carmichael River riparian zone (ecosystems associated with the Carmichael River between Doongmabulla Springs and the Belyando River, including populations of Waxy Cabbage Palm), the Lignum, Stories and Mellaluka springs and the Doongmabulla, Spring complex.

I14 A report of the findings of the GDEMP, including all monitoring results and interpretations, must be prepared annually and made available on request to the administering authority. The report must include:

- a) an assessment of background reference groundwater levels (see condition E9)
- b) the condition of each GDE compared with previous monitoring results
- c) the suitability of current groundwater trigger thresholds (as defined in condition E13)
- d) detail on the effectiveness of avoidance, mitigation and management actions in curtailing adverse impacts on GDE ecosystems
- e) a description of any adaptive management initiatives implemented
- f) any offsets required for residual impacts

Definition:

'Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP)'

A GDEMP is a plan developed by a suitably qualified and experienced person that is consistent with any Bioregional Management Plan for the bioregion, the Water Resource (Great Artesian Basin) Plan and relevant threat abatement plans, conservation advice and project species management plans. The plan must include:

- (1) A description and map of each GDE potentially or indirectly impacted by mining activities
- (2) Detailed baseline monitoring (using QuickBird imagery or similar) to be undertaken on the specific ecology of each GDE, groundwater level, groundwater and surface water quality, threatened species and ecosystem function

(3) Detailed baseline research to establish:

(a) the extent and ecological composition of each GDE, in accordance with the Wetland Monitoring Methodology for springs in the Great Artesian Basin (R. Fensham, 2009) where applicable

(b) the source aquifer(s) for groundwater supply to the GDE

- (c) the natural variation of the groundwater level/pressure
- (d) GDE ecosystem pressure response to groundwater level/pressure fluctuation
- (4) A description of how the results of baseline research and annual monitoring are to be used to determine any changes in GDE ecology attributable to mining activities
- (5) A description of the potential impact on each GDE from each project stage including impacts from subsidence, mine dewatering of aquifers, water discharge, hydrological changes and weed and pest infestation
- (6) Mitigation measures to be undertaken to avoid, mitigate, offset and manage impacts to GDE environmental values resulting from each stage of the project



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Date : 17/05/2019 3:18:06 PM

From : s.73

To : "MERRICK Jamie"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Correspondence for DES

Attachment : DES re Groundwater Management Plan - 20190517.pdf;2019 05 16 Application RTI to DES re GMMP and GDEMP (Lodged).pdf;image146889.jpg;

Jamie,

Please find attached correspondence in relation to the GDEMP.

Thanks

s.73

s.73

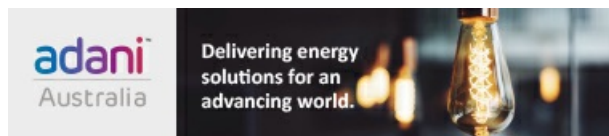
E s.73@adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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17 May 2019

Private & Confidential

Mr Jamie Merrick
Director-General
Department of Environment and Science
Queensland Government
400 George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

By email: jamie.merrick@des.qld.gov.au

Dear Jamie

Adani Mining Pty Ltd – Groundwater Management Plans

We refer to our previous correspondence in relation to groundwater management plans, in particular the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan (**GDEMP**) and the Groundwater Monitoring and Management Plan (**GMMP**) for Adani Mining Pty Ltd (**Adani**), and in particular our letter to you more than a month ago on 12 April 2019 which sought clarity from you on the process and timing for approval of those plans. In the most recent email from your Ms Melissa Wells at 5:15pm on 16 May 2019, we have been advised by the Department of Environment and Science (**DES**) that:

"...the CSIRO/GA advice is to provide clarification to the department about its original review in light of the revised GDEMP. Adani will be provided with a copy of the CSIRO/GA advice once it becomes available..."

This latest correspondence from Ms Wells was in response to our request where we had once again sought that DES provide us with the questions that DES has put to CSIRO / GA. We understand that these questions form the basis for a new contract being entered into between DES and CSIRO / GA. The latest email from DES is, at best, unresponsive and we ask:

Question 1: Can the DES please provide us with the questions that have been asked of CSIRO / GA?

It would seem fairer and simpler if you just provided us with these basic details so we have a proper opportunity to understand and engage in the process.

However, given the apparent unwillingness to meet this very simple request we have also submitted a formal Right to Information application (copy attached). As that RTI application exclusively relates to ourselves, DES and then to CSIRO / GA (who seem able to respond very rapidly to such requests) it is our expectation that this application will be dealt with as a priority.

Adani Mining Pty Ltd
Level 25
10 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2569, Brisbane QLD 4001
Australia

Tel +61 7 3223 4800
www.adaniaustralia.com

Question 2: When will you receive the advice from CSIRO / GA?

Separately, with respect to the latest correspondence from Ms Wells, there is a reference to advice from CSIRO / GA and its provision to us when it becomes available. We would expect it is a very short time frame given what seems to be, by implication, a strictly limited scope and we wish to be prepared to respond once it is available.

We are only seeking clarity as to process and timing and would appreciate the ability to be able to fully engage with the DES with a proper understanding of what is happening.

We remain committed to working collaboratively to finalise these plans so that we can get on with the task of delivering thousands of jobs for Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely

s.73

s.73

Attachment 2019 05 16 Application RTI to DES re GMMP and GDEMP (Lodged).pdf

cc Ms Mellissa Wells Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au
Mr Dean Ellwood Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au

Date : 29/04/2019 5:51:23 PM

From : "Hannah Jackson"

To : "MERRICK Jamie" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "TRACEY Alena" , "Sonja Litz"

Subject : Corro

Attachment : 190429 [REDACTED] s.73 docx;

Hi Jamie & Dean

Can I please get your input on the attached draft tonight.

Thanks

Hannah

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Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

s.73

Adani
GPO Box 2569
BRISBANE QLD 4001

GPO Box 5078 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7110
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear s.73

Thank you for your letter today, 29 April 2019, regarding finalisation of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) with the Department of Environment and Science (the department).

On 9 April 2019, I provided a statement to media which said (in part):

"Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from the Department of Environment and Science is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval."

I made that comment based on advice from the department regarding the CSIRO report (*"Advice on Carmichael Coal Project draft research plans to the Department of Environment and Energy"*) which expresses concerns such as: "It is not plausible and reasonable to state unequivocally that the Clematis Sandstone is the sole source aquifer for the DSC..." (Doongmabulla Springs Complex).

I am further advised by the department that in its **meeting/s** with you since the Federal Environment Minister approved the GDMP, it has communicated to you that it is reviewing the CSIRO report, including those concerns about the identification of source aquifers for the springs.

The process for finalising the GDMP is a matter for you to raise directly with the department as the regulator. I remain committed to ensuring Adani's environmental conditions are assessed without political interference.

I understand that a meeting between yourself and the department is taking place on Thursday 2 May 2019. I encourage you to continue to liaise directly with the department, as the regulator.

Yours sincerely

Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

Date : 7/05/2019 4:55:53 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to BBC re BTFs and approval plans

Attachment : 070519 - Carmichael mine approvals and black-throated finches - BBC.docx;image003.gif;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

The attached response to the BBC re black-throated finch populations and Adani plans still outstanding is attached.

This has been approved by Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells, and the deadline is tomorrow (Wednesday) COB.

We also envisage sending this journalist the general Adani statement from today, when it's approved.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Neena Bhandari <neena@india-voice.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 3:19 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: international media request - BBC Indian Languages

Importance: High

Dear Meegan,

It was good to speak with you. I had a few follow up questions to my email of 3rd May.

Local media reports have said, "The southern black-throated finch's (*Poephila cincta cincta*) population at the mine site represents the largest known population of the endangered species.". Is that correct? What is the population of this endangered bird in Australia and how many of them are on the mine site?

A media release from Federal Environment Minister stated, "Only 16 out of 25 environmental plans have been finalised or approved by the federal and state governments".

How many more environmental plans need approval from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science? Is it just two from the State - Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management plan, and the remaining 7 from the Federal Government?

My extended deadline is COB AEST Wednesday, 8th May.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Neena Bhandari

Foreign Correspondent - BBC Indian Languages

neena@india-voice.com www.india-voice.com h4p4(6) Personal informati

Media response

Re: Carmichael mine approvals and black-throated finches, follow-up questions

For: Neena Bhandari
BBC
neena@india-voice.com

Enquiry received: 3.19 pm, 07 May 2019

Media deadline: COB, 08 May 2019

Date: 07 May 2019

Questions

*Local media reports have said, "The southern black-throated finch's (*Poephila cincta cincta*) population at the mine site represents the largest known population of the endangered species.". Is that correct? What is the population of this endangered bird in Australia and how many of them are on the mine site?*

A media release from Federal Environment Minister stated, "Only 16 out of 25 environmental plans have been finalised or approved by the federal and state governments".

How many more environmental plans need approval from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science? Is it just two from the State - Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management plan, and the remaining 7 from the Federal Government?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Queensland Coordinator-General approved the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project in 2014, with an environmental authority (EA) for the mine site being issued to Adani on 2 February 2016, taking effect on the granting of the mining leases on 3 April 2016.

However, significant mining activities cannot commence until the Department of Environment and Science (DES) approves two environmental management plans, the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Environmental Management Plan (GDEMP).

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

While other plans may be required as mining progresses, the BTFMP and the GDEMP are the two remaining Queensland plans that need to be approved before significant mining activities can commence. There are no statutory timeframes for these plans to be approved.

Questions relating to outstanding Commonwealth plans can be addressed to the Federal Department of the Environment and Energy.

DES can confirm that the Carmichael mine site hosts the largest known population of the endangered Southern Black-throated Finch.

Adani must make a commitment in the BTFMP to establish a robust estimate of the population of the Black-throated Finch in the project area.

A population estimate is required in order to demonstrate that the Black-throated Finch population is maintained by Adani, and ensure the management and mitigation measures in the BTFMP are effective.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

CARMICHAEL COAL AND RAIL PROJECT – FURTHER PLANS REQUIRED

Further Plans required			
	Description	Jurisdiction	When required
1	Black-throated Finch Management Plan	Queensland	Before mining operations commence
2	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan	Queensland	Before mining operations commence
3	Groundwater Management and Monitoring Plan	Queensland	Before first box cut (first extraction of coal)
4	Great Artesian Basin Springs Research Plan	Commonwealth	Before first box-cut (first extraction of coal)
5	Rewan Formation Connectivity Research Plan	Commonwealth	Before first box-cut (first extraction of coal)
6	Offset Area Management Plan Moray Downs West – Offset Delivery Stage 1 – Carmichael Coal and Rail	Commonwealth & Queensland	For Queensland, this is prior to impacting Matters of State Environmental Significance.
7	Seismic Survey Management Plan	Commonwealth	Before seismic survey activities (not currently required)
8	Subsidence Management <i>Plan</i>	Queensland	Prior to commencing underground mining (not currently required)
9	Groundwater Model Review	Queensland	Within 2 years of the first box cut (first extraction of coal)
10	Groundwater Monitoring Network	Queensland	Before first box-cut (first extraction of coal)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 07 May 2019

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Date : 16/04/2019 1:41:57 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"
Subject : Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re BTFMP and GDEMP
Attachment : 160419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - The Australian.docx;
Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink and Justin Cagney have approved the attached response to The Australian re the GDEMP and the BTFMP is a direct cut and paste from yesterday's and Friday's responses to The Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Owens, Jared <owensj@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 April 2019 11:21 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Carmichael -- The Australian

Hello,

I'm seeking updated info on Adani Carmichael.

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's GDEMP?

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's BTFMP?

Thanks,
Jared

--

JARED OWENS
Reporter

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T+61 7 36666655 M owensj@theaustralian.com.au (6) Personal information
E owensj@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

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<160419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - The Australian.docx>

Date : 13/05/2019 2:01:35 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : Dean: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL: Follow up questions from Brisbane Times about Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP - Brisbane Times.docx;image001.png;image002.png;

Dean,

I've had to answer Tony's other two questions.

Can you please check the below response?

Cheers

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?
- 2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?
- 3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

“A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments,” the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No – the CSIRO assessed version 10.

- 2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

Version 11 is the latest version.

- 3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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



Matt Watson

Principal Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M (b) (6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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Website www.des.qld.gov.au

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Date : 2/05/2019 5:04:00 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR"
Cc : "DAUNT Bettina"
Subject : Dean: Adani Wintle report
Attachment : image001.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Dean,
Another Adani request from the Australian – see below.
Cheers



Matt Watson
Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M (6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 2 May 2019 4:59 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Wintle report

Hi,
Please see below a statement from Adani regarding its meeting with DES officials today.
Does DES want to comment on the matters raised i.e no detailing of process or timing regarding management plans; Wintle Report 'wish list'.
Regards

Adani spokeswoman

Today we met with officials from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science with the expectation of obtaining certainty of process and timing with respect to finalising the two outstanding management plans required to commence construction of the Carmichael Mine. Unfortunately we left the meeting still no clearer on the process or timing to finalise these plans.

In relation to the Black Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) the Department provided some correspondence. On first pass it reads more like a wish list generated from the Wintle Report rather than feedback that corresponds with our conditions and is science based. The Wintle Report was the eleventh hour, so called "independent" review led by an individual who heads up an organisation whose members have publicly stated anti-mining, anti-coal agendas, while other coal mines in Queensland have had their approvals waved through. We will of course review this correspondence in detail and respond in an expedient manner as we remain committed to finalising this plan so that we can commence construction of the mine.

Disappointingly the Department failed to provide any documentation as it relates to the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan (GDEMP) and also failed to provide any commitment in relation to process and timing beyond saying that they will meet with us again on the 10 May 2019.

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist

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Date : 13/05/2019 9:17:00 AM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity"

Subject : DEAN - approval Adani claims statement - multiple outlets

Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP claims.docx.pdf;190512 MS Management Plans

Update_FINAL.pdf;image001.png;image003.png;image004.png;

Hi Dean, we have another four requests so far – they appear to be responding to the attached Adani statement received this morning.

I have rebadged last night's statement sent to the Australian (ABC also has this).

Are you happy for us to use the same lines as last night to send out to multiple outlets today including the first line? I have attached that response.



Nicole Bidgood

Principal Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5816 or ext 74816

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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Website www.des.qld.gov.au

Just requesting a statement from you, regarding claims made by Adani Australia this morning, of more delays in the approvals process, for the groundwater management plan.

I understand this is a request from DES for clarification rather than a review?

My deadline is 2pm today.

Thanks,

Laura

Laura Gardiner

Chief of Staff, Rockhampton



Hi there, Jarryd from the 4BC newsroom, I was wondering the department has a statement on what is required from Adani on its groundwater management plan and whether someone would be available for a pre-recorded interview over the phone for some news grabs, thanks!

-

Jarryd Braybrook

4BC Panel Operator/Journalist

Hi,

I'm seeking comment on today's reports that you have sent Adani's Carmichael groundwater management plan back to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia for further assessment? Can you confirm this, and the reasons behind the decision?

Best regards,

James Thornhill

Bloomberg

From: Michelle Price <michelle.price@grantbroadcasters.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 7:24 AM

To: WATSON Matthew; QLD News

Subject: Fwd: Adani Mining Media Statement: Enough is enough.

Hi Matt, I'm wondering if the DES wanted to respond to the statement we received from Adani?

Regards

Michelle Price

Digital Journalist

Published on DES Disclosure Log
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MEDIA RELEASE

Under embargo until 12.01am 13 May 2019

Adani Mining: Enough is enough. The Queensland Government needs to stop shifting the goal posts

Queensland's Department of Environment and Science (DES) is seeking to further delay finalisation of the Carmichael project's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP), by once again engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process.

This is at odds with the department's previous commitments and smacks of the type of tactics it has employed to delay and frustrate sign-off of the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan.

Advice provided by DES officials on Friday suggests the department now intends to renege on its February commitment to no further reviews and has instead shifted the goalposts once again and requested another round of information and assessment from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, despite previously ruling this out.

DES officials would not confirm to Adani Mining what the scope and nature of the requests were or if the requests were in fact limited solely to assessing the Carmichael Project's environmental conditions.

Adani Mining CEO Lucas Dow said the department's request was the latest delay tactic designed to stop construction of the Carmichael Project and the delivery of thousands of jobs for regional Queenslanders.

"DES has consistently said it would not pursue further reviews," he said.

"However, they have gone back on their word once again.

"We are now facing prospect of another tortuous and never-ending management plan approval process like the one we have endured for the Black-Throated Finch.

"It appears this process will again go beyond the scope of what our project is required to deliver under regulatory conditions – and put simply is simply another fishing expedition."

The Federal Government approved Adani's GDEMP on 9 April 2019, following an eight-month assessment. This included expert review and advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia that has been shared with DES.

Earlier this year, DES said it would rely on the same review process and information from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia provided to the Federal Government. In a media statement on 18 February this year, DES stated:

"Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

"We asked on Friday for the scope of this latest round of CSIRO and Geoscience Australia requests and DES refused to provide us with such details then," Mr Dow said.

"The Department's processes, timing and decision-making have zero transparency. Trying to see what needs to be done to ensure these management plans can be signed off is like trying to see through a brick wall – there is absolute zero transparency.

"If this latest request for further information and assessment was above board and in-line with the Carmichael Project's conditions, why is there a need for secrecy and non-disclosure?

"We call on DES to provide Adani with the precise questions given to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia and also confirm that they are not initiating another review and that any such clarifications are solely limited to ensuring that Adani has met its environmental conditions and that they are not engaging in another Black-Throated Finch-type review process. After all this is Adani's plan they are investigating."

Mr Dow said that Adani Mining had respected and actioned the previous advice received from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia via the Federal Government and acknowledged the organisations' expertise and contribution to the improvement of the current water management plans.

"CSIRO and Geoscience Australia have reviewed the groundwater management plans in-line with our project environmental conditions, providing sound advice and guidance to the Federal and State Government," he said.

"On the basis of this advice we updated our plans to incorporate recommendations that corresponded with our conditions.

"We are not arguing the toss with respect to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's involvement or expertise. Our issue and concern is the way in which the Queensland Government continues to act," he said.

"The manner in which our plans are now being assessed by the Queensland Labor Government has gone well beyond the legitimacy of the science. Of course scientists should contribute to the delivery of management plans, as they have done in our case.

"Considering DES has already been reviewing the water management plans for more than two years, across 11 versions, and had access to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's assessments, the requirement for further information and delays at this point is not just extraordinary, it is an injustice through process," he said.

Mr Dow said DES' move towards a secondary CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review was further evidence of the Queensland Labor Government shifting the goal posts for Adani Mining.

"We are 1 of 125 coal mining companies in Australia. We should all be subject to the same legislation, regulations, approval processes and standards," Mr Dow said.

"In the past six months alone we have seen the Queensland Labor Government insist on additional review processes headed by individuals who lead organisations with members who harbour anti-coal sentiments, put in place ongoing delays and continually ask for commitments well beyond our regulated project conditions, while waving other Queensland coal mines through approvals processes.

"They have even labelled us bullies, all because we have publicly held them to account for their behaviour and asked to be treated fairly and on the same terms as other Queensland coal companies," he said.

This past weekend also marked two years since Adani Mining first submitted the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan to the Queensland Government for approval on 11 May 2017.

Over the past two years, seven versions of the plan have been submitted to the Queensland Department of Environment and Science, consisting of more than 1,000 pages of advice that have been assessed and verified by more than 10 different scientists, five environmental consultancy groups and even a Land Court judge.

Adani Mining also recently had independent ecologists, Biodiversity Assessment and Management Pty Ltd, assess the veracity of the plan, with their key findings stating:

"Overall, I view the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) as having been compiled in line with and meeting the imposed EA conditions. The plan is responsive, contemporary and suitable for the required purpose. The BTFMP has been approved by the Department of Environment and Energy. I have not identified any reason which would justify DES to not endorse the BTFMP version 7b. It is better to have a single plan approved by both levels of government than separate versions of the same plan. The adaptive management approach provides for ongoing adaption and adoption of recognised areas for improvement."

Mr Dow said after another meeting with DES officials on Friday last week, Adani Mining still had not received clarity on timeframes or process for when the Queensland Government will finalise the plans.

"We are not going to be pig-headed about it and we are working through the latest round of requested changes for the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan as urgently as possible in order to move forward, however department officials have refused to commit to a timeframe to finalise the plan, even if we were to accept the State's new round of requests in full," he said.

"At some point, the Queensland Labor Government will need to show some courage and face regional Queenslanders with a decision on these outstanding management plans, ultimately deciding whether they will allow thousands of jobs to be delivered to the parts of our State that need it most.

"We have jumped all their past hurdles and we will jump these ones as well.

"Our courage and resolve is only strengthened with every hurdle put in our path.

"We have already invested \$3.3 billion into the Queensland economy. We are not going away and we will see this through for the benefit of Queensland and in particular for the people in regional Queensland."

ENDS

Date : 13/05/2019 5:48:53 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "LAWRENCE Rob" , "WELLS Melissa" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - For approval - changes to Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP - Brisbane

Times.docx;image006.png;image009.jpg;image010.png;image017.png;image020.jpg;image002.png;image007.jpg;image008.png;image012.png;image013.png;image014.png;image015.png;image016.png;

Dean

Are you happy with the changes to the attached response to Brisbane Times?

Melissa Wells has confirmed she is fine with the changes.

A/DDG Rob Lawrence has recommended I run it by you.

Thanks

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M **Personal in**

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



I acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Owners of this country, and their connection to land, sea and community. I pay my respect to all Traditional Owners, and to the Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Media DES

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 5:33 PM

To: LAWRENCE Rob

Cc: WELLS Melissa; Media DES

Subject: Rob - For approval - changes to Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Rob

Are you happy with the changes to the attached response to Brisbane Times?

Melissa Wells has confirmed she is fine with the changes.

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M **Personal in**

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



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From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 5:29 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: LAWRENCE Rob; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: RE: Melissa - AMENDED ADANI MEDIA - FOR APPROVAL - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Hi that looks fine to me thanks

Melissa Wells

Executive Director

Coal and Central Qld Compliance

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343



99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 5:23 PM

To: WELLS Melissa

Cc: LAWRENCE Rob; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: Melissa - AMENDED ADANI MEDIA - FOR APPROVAL - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Hi Melissa

See below/attached.

Can you please advise if you are OK with these changes.

Thanks

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M **Personal in**

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



I acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Owners of this country, and their connection to land, sea and community. I pay my respect to all Traditional Owners, and to the Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 5:18 PM
To: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye
Cc: TONES Peter; Media DES
Subject: RE: AMENDED ADANI MEDIA - FOR APPROAL - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Hi, we've made some suggestions regarding the response to the last question, to keep consistent with the earlier statement, and to ensure clarity. Please check with relevant people in DES before sending back to journalist.



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M Personal@pamela.frost.com.au
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 4:12 PM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: AMENDED ADANI MEDIA - FOR APPROAL - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Hi Pam/Ros – attached is a media response for your approval. Approved by DG.

Media – DG made a minor change – re-ordering of words in first response.

thanks



Peta Johnston
Senior Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science
Ph: 3087 8407
Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:49 PM
To: TRACEY Alena
Cc: MERRICK Jamie; TONES Peter
Subject: AMENDED ADANI MEDIA - FOR APPROAL - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

Hi Alena – the department has amended the response. For your approval.
thanks



Peta Johnston
Senior Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science
Ph: 3087 8407
Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:46 PM
To: DLO DES
Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean
Subject: DLOs for approval - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today

DLOs
For approval please – response to Brisbane Times' followup questions after receiving today's Adani statement.
It has been approved by Dean Ellwood.
The reporter would like a response today.
Thanks
Andrea

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?
- 2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?
- 3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GMMP revision 5 and GDEMP version 10a: <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here: <https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact	Endorsed:
Ph:	Ph: 07
Date:	Date:



Andrea Dobbyn
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science
P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M **Personal in**
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:28 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ESR; DOBBYN Andrea
Subject: Re: Dean for approval - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times

Approved

On 13 May 2019, at 3:24 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Dean
For approval please – response below/attached to Brisbane Times, which had followup questions after getting the latest Adani statement.
Melissa Wells has approved.
Thanks
Andrea

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions
Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?
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(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

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2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

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3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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

<image002.png>Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

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GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au

<image005.jpg>

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

ta.

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

On Mon, 13 May 2019 at 11:29, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Tony, a departmental response is attached.

Regards,

DES media team

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 10:06 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

Good morning.

There are stories in the Fin Review this morning that suggest the Queensland Govt has put a further delay in the way of the assessment of the Adani Mine.

Could you please explain what the Queensland Government has requested?

Thank you.

Tony Moore

3835 7518.

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found.

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GDEMP version 10a and GMMP revision 5: <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here: <https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), which Adani submitted to DES on 9 April following approval by the Federal Government, DES is seeking updated advice from

CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP, which is not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

~~clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.~~

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact
Ph:
Date:

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 30/04/2019 2:44:46 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina"

Subject : Dean - for approval - holding statement re Adani BTFMP

Attachment : 290419 - HS - Adani BTFMP.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells have approved the attached holding statement re the Adani BTFMP. This is for use only when Adani is advised that the BTFMP needs to be revised, and then only for reactive media.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 /4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Draft holding statement

Deadline:	Briefing officer: Juliana McCosker
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9356
Phone: 3339 5887 /4p4(6) Personal informat	DDG:
Approved: ED Melissa Wells	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Queensland-wide	

Adani BTFMP

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) has today [add date] requested Adani revise its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP).

The current version of the plan, which DES has been working with Adani on for several months, does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

This version of the plan does not adequately address bird population estimates and monitoring in the project area, the amount of grazing planned in the project area and seed resource availability.

DES considered the independent expert panel review of the BTFMP, and subsequent submissions made by Adani and other parties, when making its decision on the latest version of the plan.

Significant disturbance cannot commence at the Carmichael mine site until DES approves both the BTFMP and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP).

We continue to work closely with the company to make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP and Adani is able to submit a revised version for DES to assess.

There is no statutory timeframe for approval of the BTFMP and GDMP, nor are there limits to the number of revisions of each plan that can be submitted to DES.

DES has worked closely with Adani for over two years to ensure that the BTFMP provides adequate protection, mitigation and management of the Black-throated finch population within the Carmichael coal mining leases.

The Black-throated finch population at this site represents the largest known population of the endangered southern species of the Black-throated finch.

DES is still assessing Adani's GDMP.

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 9/05/2019 1:40:33 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate"

Subject : Dean - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani.docx;image001.png;image003.png;

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells have approved the attached holding statement regarding tomorrow's meeting with Adani.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 1:29 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: BENNINK Kate; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: FW: Melissa - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Kieran minor amendment in para with comment – sorry I didn't use track..



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 12:34 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Cc: BENNINK Kate; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Melissa - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Hi Melissa

For approval, please.

The attached media holding statement re tomorrow's meeting with Adani has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 11:52 AM
To: BENNINK Kate
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Kate - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Kate

For approval / amendment please.

I've been asked to draft a holding statement for tomorrow's meeting with Adani.

Please see attached, based on earlier statements.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / s4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 <small>4p4(6) Personal informal</small>	DDG:
Approved: Kate Bennink, Melissa Wells	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised.

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

Adani's own environmental consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened, reporting that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani, which needs to consider DES's advice, make appropriate amendments and submit a revised version of the plan to the department.

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES has now reviewed the report and this week requested clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in relation to its advice, specifically the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex. **[Please confirm this paragraph prior to releasing this statement.]**

DES is continuing to assess whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 20/03/2019 10:23:16 AM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - for approval - media Q&As re Adani

Attachment : Adani itself the only thing stopping mine - CM - 210219.pdf;190319 - Media QAs - Adani.docx;

Good morning Dean

For your approval, please.

The attached Media Q&As (Word Document) have been approved by Juliana McCosker, Kate Bennink, Justin Cagney and Melissa Wells.

These will be initially provided for the Minister, as she is "standing up" at Science Week this Sunday, and we understand may be making an announcement re Climate Week.

Note the quote within the Q&As, about supporting mines that "stack up", is not from any specific ministerial media statement (that we can see), but has been taken from the media reporting, as per attached Courier Mail clipping (PDF file) from 21 February 2019.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 s4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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QAs – Adani

What is the proposal for the Carmichael Coal Mine?

The Carmichael Coal Mine is a proposed thermal coal mine in the north of the Galilee Basin in Central Queensland - approximately 160 km north-west of Clermont. Mining is planned to be conducted by both open-cut and underground methods.

What is the Department of Environment and Science's involvement in the project?

As the environmental regulator, the Department of Environment and Science (DES) approved the environmental authority (EA) for the Carmichael Mine, and is ensuring Adani meets the Queensland Government's stringent conditions to protect the environment and our iconic Great Barrier Reef.

What approvals does Adani already have for the Carmichael Coal Mine?

In May 2014, the Queensland Government's independent Coordinator-General approved Adani's Environmental Impact Statement for the Carmichael Mine and Rail Project, with stringent conditions.

DES approved the mine's EA in February 2016. The EA contains around 140 conditions to protect local flora and fauna, groundwater and surface water resources, as well as controls on dust and noise.

The mining leases, estimated to contain 11 billion tonnes of thermal coal, were approved in April 2016 by the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

The leases provide for mining and the development of infrastructure such as haul roads, buildings, workshops, power lines, workers' camp and pipelines.

Overall, the mine, rail and port components now have 19 permits and approvals at local, state and federal level, including nine primary approvals from the State and Commonwealth Governments.

A number of other steps have also been completed including secondary approvals for rail, port facilities, power, water, roadworks and an airport.

What state environmental requirements are outstanding before Adani can begin mining?

The Queensland Government takes protection of groundwater dependent ecosystems and threatened species seriously.

DES is yet to approve two environmental management plans before significant mining activities can commence at the Carmichael Mine.

These are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

Both plans are a requirement of Adani's EA for the Carmichael mine.

Why is the Black-throated finch important?

The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally and the mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the Panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the final report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

What does the GDEMP protect?

The GDEMP will protect groundwater dependent ecosystems in the vicinity of the mine.

Specifically, the GDEMP will need to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex and provide detailed mitigation measures to protect the springs.

The Doongmabulla Springs, spread across four square kilometres in area, are near to the mine site and are recognised as a nationally significant wetland complex.

The Commonwealth Government has obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES will take into consideration the findings of the review when making its decision on the GDEMP.

DES has not yet approved the GDEMP.

What Commonwealth environmental requirements are outstanding for the mine?

The Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) approved the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) in October 2015.

While the Commonwealth Government approved the BTFMP in December 2018, it is still to approve the GDEMP.

What are the timeframes for these approvals?

While there are no statutory timeframes for DES or DoEE to assess and approve the BTFMP or the GDEMP, DES will continue to work with Adani to progress these environmental approvals in a timely fashion. DES is yet to approve either plan.

What financial assurance has Adani provided for the project?

Adani has paid the Queensland Government approximately \$11.6 million in financial assurance to date.

Further financial assurance payments will be calculated and paid as the mine's construction and operation progresses.

Is DES investigating the construction of groundwater bores at the Carmichael Coal Mine?

Yes. DES is continuing its investigation into allegations of EA non-compliance in relation to the construction of groundwater bores at the Carmichael Mine.

The Queensland Government takes environmental protections very seriously and DES is committed to investigating allegations of non-compliance and taking enforcement action, as appropriate.

Is DES investigating water releases from the Abbot Point Coal Terminal?

Yes. DES is currently investigating water releases from the Abbot Point Coal Terminal, north of Bowen, alleged to have occurred during a significant weather event in late January and early February 2019.

In September 2018, DES commenced prosecution proceedings against Abbot Point Bulkcoal Pty Ltd over an earlier unauthorised discharge of sediment-laden water from the Abbot Point Coal Terminal during Cyclone Debbie in March 2017.

This matter is currently listed for a 22 July hearing in the Bowen Magistrates Court.

There are calls from the public to stop the Carmichael Mine, what are your thoughts on the mine?

The Queensland Government's position is clear, we will support a mine and any new thermal coal project, if it "stacks up" environmentally and financially.

Have approvals been granted for other new coal mines in the Galilee Basin?

In November 2018, the Coordinator-General approved an environmental impact statement for another coal project in the Galilee Basin – the China Stone Coal Project.

This proposal is for a mine directly adjacent and north of the proposed Carmichael Mine.

No environmental authority has been approved for this project and DES has highlighted a number of environmental issues that would need to be addressed, including surface and groundwater impacts, mine affected water discharges, and progressive rehabilitation.

This proposal also needs Commonwealth approval, which is on hold while the proponent addresses DES's environmental concerns.

ENDS

Date : 7/05/2019 2:17:14 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "WELLS Melissa" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "BENNINK Kate"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to ABC and Qld Country Life re Adani

Attachment : 070519 - Carmichael mine approvals.docx;image001.gif;image002.jpg;image003.jpg;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells have approved the attached response to ABC and Qld Country Life, which are seeking the latest DES statements re Adani approvals.

We've combined six of the most recent approved media responses into a general statement that can also be used for other media enquiries in the short term.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Steven Trask <steven.trask@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 9:24 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Adani finch plan

Hi DES media team

I'm following up last week's news about the assessment of Adani's black-throated finch management plan. I was hoping you could flick through the department's statement on the plan this morning, and I was also wondering if there was any update you could provide on the assessment of the groundwater plan?

Cheers,

Steve

Steven Trask

Journalist - Queensland CountryLife

Australian Community Media

m (6) Personal infor

steven.trask@fairfaxmedia.com.au

www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au

From: Melissa Maddison <Maddison.Melissa@abc.net.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 8:55 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: re: Black throated finch management plan

Good morning

I am working on an explainer for ABC News about the finch, given the amount of attention there has been on the bird in the last week or so.

Is it possible to get the latest release or correspondence that's been sent out in regards to the plan, and the concerns the department has that lead to the plan being rejected.

My deadline is COB today.

Thanks very much for your help.

Regards

Melissa



Melissa Maddison

Journalist

P 07 4957 1130

M p4(6) Personal inform

E maddison.melissa@abc.net.au

T @meljmaddison



We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 8/04/2019 1:29:48 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "ESR"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to ABC supplementary questions about the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP

Attachment : 080419 - Carmichael Mine approvals (additional) - ABC.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval please.

Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells have approved the attached response to the ABC's additional questions about the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 22/03/2019 4:32:28 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Brisbane Times re groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine

Attachment : 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine.docx;image001.png;

Good afternoon Dean

For approval please

Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells have approved the attached response to the Brisbane Times re groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine.

We would like to have this response to the Brisbane Times today, for a story to be published on Monday next week.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 4:23 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: WELLS Melissa

Subject: RE: 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine

Kieran,

Approved by Melissa and I.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland

Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal inform

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM

To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can I confirm this please

- a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?
- b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?
Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9 : Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore
(07) 3835 7518.

I am writing this story for Monday.

Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.

Thank you.

Media response

Re: Groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

For: Tony Moore
Brisbane Times
tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au

Enquiry received: 12.05 pm, Friday 22 March 2019, via Minister's Office

Media deadline: Required for a Monday (25 March) publication date

Date: 22 March 2019

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data? Professor Curnow told me that the federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.*

Question 2: *To what degree is that true?*

Question 3: *Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.*

Question 4: *If so, to what degree?*

Question 5: *What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?*

Response to Questions 1-5: These questions are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 6: *Can I confirm this please:*

a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?

Response: Adani is required to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to the approval of the GDEMP for the project.

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) must approve the GDEMP prior to the commencement of significant mining activities at the Carmichael Coal Mine.

b) Does Adani need to separately ALSO need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy as the Great Artesian Basin and Doongmabulla Springs Complex are Federal environmental matters.

Question 7: *Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet? Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?*

Response: The first part of this question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

In regards to the second part, DES is yet to approve Adani's GDEMP for the Carmichael Coal Mine.

The Commonwealth Government obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES has requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, so that the review findings can be considered before making a decision on approval of the GDEMP.

Question 8: *What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?*

Response: The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally.

The mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the panel's report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

Question 9: *Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?*

Response: The EA for the Carmichael Coal Mine was granted to Adani Mining Pty Ltd on 2 February 2016 and took effect on the granting of the mining leases on 3 April 2016.

However, significant mining activities (refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the Environmental Authority for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf>) cannot commence until DES approves the GDEMP and the BTFMP.

Questions relating to Commonwealth approvals for the Carmichael Mine are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

The Commonwealth Government approved the BTFMP on 18 December 2018.

In relation to Question 6(b): The EPBC approval for Carmichael Mine authorises a 0.2m groundwater drawdown to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex and therefore they are not authorised to have a greater groundwater drawdown impact than that.

In relation to Question 7: DES has not yet received a copy of the independent scientific review.

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 22 March 2018

Endorsed: [Name and Position] relevant DDG
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: [Date]

Date : 17/04/2019 4:02:48 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "CAGNEY Justin" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"
Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Attachment : 170419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - Courier Mail.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval please.

The attached response to the Courier Mail re the GDEMP and BTFMP has been approved by Kate Bennink. Justin Cagney has not been able to approve as yet; however the journalist and the DLOs are chasing.

Note that the response is the same as that which went to The Australian last night, with the addition of the highlighted paragraph.

On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / b4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 2:42 PM
To: CAGNEY Justin
Cc: BENNINK Kate; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Justin - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Importance: High

Hi Justin

For your approval please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Courier Mail, which wants the latest on the Adani approvals. The response is the same as that which went to The Australian last night, with the addition of the highlighted paragraph.

On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.

The Courier Mail needs the response by COB today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / b4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 2:21 PM
To: Pamela Frost
Cc: Media DES
Subject: Courier Mail - Adani inquiry

Hi Pam,

I am chasing an update around Adani's groundwater management plan and the black-throated finch management plan.

1. Has DES finished going through the groundwater management plan? Where is this process currently at? Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?
2. Does DES know when it will finish with the BTFMP? Where is this process currently at?
3. Any further comments you wish to add.

My deadline is COB today.

Thank you,

DOMANII CAMERON

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T  (6) Personal info x07 3666 6826

E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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RTI Act 2009

Media response

Re: Carmichael Mine approvals

For: Domanii Cameron
 Courier Mail
 4p4(6) Personal informa / 3666 6826
 domanii.cameron@news.com.au

Enquiry received: 2.21pm, Wed 17 April 2019

Media deadline: COB, Wed 17 April 2019

Date: 17 April 2019

Questions

I am chasing an update around Adani's groundwater management plan and the black-throated finch management plan.

- 1. Has DES finished going through the groundwater management plan? Where is this process currently at? Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?*
- 2. Does DES know when it will finish with the BTFMP? Where is this process currently at?*
- 3. Any further comments you wish to add.*

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

That includes the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version10a) in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP (version11b).

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES last week.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.

The department has been clear since last year, that it would await the outcome of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia analysis and advice, before making a decision on the GDEMP.

Given the complex and technical nature of these matters, DES will take the time necessary to thoroughly and comprehensively assess the information.

While DES continues to examine last week's submissions, based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised and DES is considering the final report and any other relevant information.

DES has met with Adani a number of times since the review was finalised to assist the company in working through the panel's recommendations and to ensure the BTFMP meets the environmental authority condition requirements.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 17 April 2019

Endorsed: [Name and Position] relevant DDG
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: [Date]

Date : 30/04/2019 2:58:51 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 300419 - Adani GDEMP - Guardian Australia.docx;image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image005.png;

Hi Dean

For approval please.

Melissa Wells has approved the attached response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 2:55 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: Media DES; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana

Subject: FW: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Kieran approved with updates



Melissa Wells

Executive Director

Coal and Central Qld Compliance

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:43 PM

To: WELLS Melissa

Cc: BENNINK Kate; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Melissa

Can you please approve the attached version. A couple of minor changes made at our end.

Many thanks

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Media DES
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:25 PM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Sorry Kate and Melissa, I may have jumped the gun here. Melissa have you formally approved the attached?

Kieran

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:17 PM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: Media DES
Subject: RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Thanks Kate and Melissa

Kieran

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:14 PM
To: Media DES; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran; TRACEY Ben
Subject: RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Thanks for adding that sentence, Kieran.

Tiny edit from me on the new EA sentence.



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal information
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:07 PM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran; TRACEY Ben; Media DES
Subject: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Melissa,

Clean version with edits and approval from Kate attached. For your approval please.

Kate- I've added that link to the EA as you requested at the bottom- can you please double check that's what you were after?

Thanks very much,

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 12:43 PM
To: Media DES; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina
Subject: RE: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kieran,

Edits in tracked changes to additional paragraph at the end.

Cheers
Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal information
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 11:27 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate and Melissa

For approval please.

Attached is a suggested response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP. The response is the same that went to the Townsville Bulletin last night, with an additional highlighted paragraph at the end.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Ben Smees <ben.smees@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 10:56 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi guys,

I have a question regarding Adani approvals that I'm hoping you can answer.

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Thanks. Happy to chat this through should you need.

Keen for a response by the end of the day if possible.

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia

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ben.smee@theguardian.com

twitter: [@bensmee](https://twitter.com/bensmee)



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Date : 4/04/2019 4:00:20 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "ESR" , "Media DES"
Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals
Attachment : 040419 - Adani approvals - Reuters.docx;image001.png;image004.png;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

The following responses to Reuters' questions about Adani approvals have been directly copied from previously approved Media Q&As (dated 20 March 2019) and a response to The Australian (dated 01 April 2019). No new content has been added.

If you require this response to go back through all departmental approvals let me know.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal infor
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:17 PM
To: DLO DES; Media DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: FW: Background info NQ

Hi team,

Can you please take care of this media inquiry from Reuters about Adani?

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal infor
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Jan Martin <Jan.Martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 6:08 AM
To: Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com>
Cc: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Background info NQ

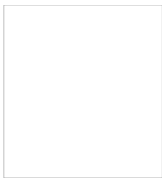
Hi Sonali

The black finch study is for the Environment Minister as her Dept is running this.
I ouwill pass on to my colleague Pam Frost in her office .

The groundwater study is Federal but Pam can also direct you better than I can.

I've copied Pam in and her number is (6) Personal infor

Rgds



Jan Martin

Senior media advisor

e: jan.martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP

Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

T: [07 3719 7370](tel:0737197370) M: [4\(6\) Personal inform](tel:0737197370)

Lvl 36, [1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

[PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002](#)

On 3 Apr 2019, at 9:41 pm, Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

Hi Jan,

This is helpful, many thanks.

Now I have some more questions stemming from our trip to Townsville.

Adani says the state government has not given them any timeframe for considering the latest issues raised about their groundwater management plan and their plan for protecting the black-throated finch.

Is there a timeframe for considering these? If not, why not?

What are the government's main concerns?

Does the state government want this project to go ahead?

Thanks and regards,

Sonali

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Date : 12/04/2019 11:21:52 AM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "CAGNEY Justin" , "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "ESR"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani approvals

Attachment : 120419 - Carmichael Mine Approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;image004.jpg;

Hi Dean

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the latest information on the BTFMP and GDEMP approvals.

The response is a direct cut and paste from our response to the ABC on 08 April re BTFMP and the general media statement on the GDEMP on 09 April.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

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www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Christine Mckee <Christine.Mckee@capnews.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 12 April 2019 11:07 AM

To: Media DES

Cc: Frazer Pearce

Subject: Adani

Good morning,

Can you please confirm what information you still require from Adani in order to finalise approvals for BTFMP and GDEMP?

My deadline is 2pm, thank you.

Regards

Christine

CHRISTINE MCKEE

Deputy Editor

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4970 3050 M p4(6) Personal inform

E christine.mckee@capnews.com.au

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Date : 25/03/2019 1:03:28 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LOWE Trinity" , "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa" , "GRANT Andrea"

Subject : Dean - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Attachment : 250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning

Bulletin.docx;image005.png;image008.jpg;image009.png;image010.png;image011.jpg;image002.png;image001.png;image006.png;

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Melissa Wells has approved the attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani BTFMP and GDEMP.

The Morning Bulletin's deadline is 2.00 pm today, so Min's office will require asap.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 12:57 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: Media DES; MCCOSKER Juliana; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea; BENNINK Kate

Subject: FW: Kate / Melissa - for urgent approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Kieran with amendments



Melissa Wells

Executive Director

Coal and Central Qld Compliance

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 12:08 PM

To: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate

Cc: Media DES; MCCOSKER Juliana; ESR; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea

Subject: Kate / Melissa - for urgent approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Hi Kate and Melissa

For urgent approval please.

Attached is a draft response, using recently approved lines, to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP.

The Morning Bulletin's deadline is 2.00 pm today, so Min's office will require asap.

Regards + Thanks

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 11:22 AM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: GRANT Andrea
Subject: FW: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Hi team, can you please get some lines together that cover off on the timeline/deadline questions.
Perhaps some of the lines that went to Tony Moore on Friday would suffice (unless they need updating)?
Can you please also check **urgently** if there is any update CSIRO report (if DES has received it?) and let me know this advice **ASAP (before midday would be good)**.

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?
Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?
What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?
Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?
Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

LEIGHTON SMITH
Political Reporter
220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700
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E Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au
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Date : 15/04/2019 12:19:59 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re GDEMP approval

Attachment : 150419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;

Good afternoon Dean

For approval please.

Kate Bennink and Justin Cagney have approved the attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani GDEMP.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 15 April 2019 9:03 AM

To: Jack Evans

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES

Subject: Re: GDEMP

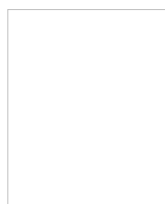
Hi Jack,

Yes this one would be best directed to DES.

I have cc-ed in the media team who will be able to assist.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal infor

[1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](http://1.William Street Brisbane QLD 4000) GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

On 15 Apr 2019, at 8:29 am, Jack Evans <Jack.Evans@capnews.com.au> wrote:

Good Morning Pam,

I Hope you're well.

I am seeking some more information regarding this statement received last week;

'Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from DES is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.'

I'm wondering what the other uncertainties are, and whether a conclusion has been reached regarding identifying the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs.

Let me know if this is one to send to the DES instead.

Look forward to hearing from you,

15/04/2019

File D

Page 75 of 375

Thanks,

JACK EVANS

Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4930 4234

E jack.evans@capnews.com.au

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Date : 1/04/2019 12:11:42 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani. MO requires by 2pm
Attachment : 010419 - Adani BTFMP GDEMP and Abbot Point - The Australian.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval please.

Melissa Wells has approved the attached response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP, BTFMP and Abbot Point. Minister's Office requires this response approved and to them by 2pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Owens, Jared <owensj@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 10:34 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Carmichael update

Hello,

What is the status of the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan?

What is the status of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan?

Have there been any other developments around the Carmichael Project or Abbot Point since the penalty notice on March 25?

I am seeking comment by 3pm

Thanks,
Jared

--

JARED OWENS
Reporter

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
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Date : 12/05/2019 3:36:44 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "MERRICK Jamie" , "Pamela Frost" , "DLO DES" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx;

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

Content for the response has come from Friday's media statement, with additional highlighted paragraphs to address the journalist's specific questions. We have public statement before that we will not be seeking an independent scientific review of the GDEMP, but would rely on the advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

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From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>

Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: Pamela Frost

Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T +61 7 3666 6172 M 4(6) Personal inform

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Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Charles Peel
The Australian
3666 6172 / h4p4(6) Personal informati
peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

Date: 12 May 2019

Questions

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) confirms its earlier public statements that it will not seek its own independent scientific review of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) but will instead rely on the advice given by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to the Commonwealth Government.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version 10) in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES only received the latest version of the GDEMP (version 11) on the same day, following its approval by the Department of Environment and Energy.

DES has now reviewed the GDEMP (version 11) and the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report.

The department has not requested CSIRO or GeoScience Australia to further review the GDEMP.

However, the department has sought updated advice from CSIRO and GeoScience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP, which is not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES has not sought advice on issues outside those that were covered in the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report of February 2019.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

While there is no statutory timeframe for the GDEMP to be approved, DES will be looking to receive this advice in a timely manner, although it must be understood the provision of this advice is in the hands of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact
Ph:
Date:

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 29/04/2019 2:45:32 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "ESR" , "WELLS Melissa" , "Media DES" , "DAUNT Bettina"
Subject : Dean - for approval - response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani approvals
Attachment : 290419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Townsville
Bulletin.docx;image003.png;image004.png;image005.png;image006.png;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Melissa Wells has approved the attached response to the Townsville Bulletin re Adani approvals.

The Bulletin's deadline is 4.30 pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 2:33 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR
Subject: RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani approvals

Is it necessary to refer to the meeting this week and can we remove the word 'definitive' please

Otherwise I am ok



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 2:25 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES
Subject: Melissa - for approval - response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani approvals
Importance: High

Good afternoon Melissa

For your approval, please.

A response to the Townsville Bulletin's latest questions on the BTFMP and the GDEMP is attached. It is the same as the most recent response to the Courier Mail on these matters, with the exception of the highlighted pars.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4.30 pm today.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 1:32 PM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: FW: Townsville Bulletin: Right of reply, Matt Canavan on Adani

Hi team, can you please get the latest lines on GDEMP and BTFMP together for Madura? See below. She needs them by 4.30pm.



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 1:17 PM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tim Auguston <augustt@min.internal>
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Right of reply, Matt Canavan on Adani

Hey guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

Talked Adani to Minister Matt Canavan, who was in Townsville today, and I was hoping you would be able to grab a comment from Minister Enoch re: something Mr Canavan said today.

Namely, his perception that the State Government could approve Adani's remaining environmental management plans "today".

"They can do it now, they've had the BTFMP since December, they've had the CSIRO report now for about a month... snails move at a faster pace than these guys."

- 1) Does the Environment Minister reject this claim?
- 2) How far along are the approvals now?
- 3) Will a decision on the BTFMP and the GDEMP be made soon?

Thank you! Hoping for a response by about 4.30pm please.

Regards,
Madura

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Date : 1/05/2019 3:30:55 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Dean - for approval - re-worked holding statement re the Adani BTFMP

Attachment : 290419 - HS - Adani BTFMP.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Melissa Wells has approved the re-worked holding statement on the Adani BTFMP.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal infor

www.des.qld.gov.au

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RTI Act 2009

Draft holding statement

Deadline:	Briefing officer: Juliana McCosker
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9356
Phone: 3339 5887 / b4(6) Personal inform	DDG:
Approved: ED Melissa Wells	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Queensland-wide	

Adani BTFMP

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) today [add date] requested Adani revise its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) as it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

Adani recently provided DES with a copy of the company's own consultants' report on the BTFMP, on 15 March 2019, followed by clarification about the report on 2 April 2019.

After receiving this information, DES's assessment determined that the current version of the plan did not adequately estimate the current Black-throated Finch population in the project area, to then define the actual habitat being impacted by the project.

Accurate population information is essential to manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch in the project area.

Furthermore, DES requires Adani to make a commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area and provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

Significant disturbance cannot commence at the Carmichael Coal Mine until DES approves both the BTFMP and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

The Black-throated finch population at this site represents the largest known population of the endangered southern species of the Black-throated Finch.

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 3/05/2019 12:46:49 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Attachment : 030519 - Adani BTFMP - Townsville Bulletin.docx;

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Townsville Bulletin re Adani. Melissa Wells is travelling and may not get to see this response prior to deadline.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?

- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?

- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?

- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

ip4(6) Personal informa

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

Townsville Bulletin

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Media response

Re: Adani BTFMP

For: Madura McCormack
Townsville Bulletin
ch4p4(6) Personal information
madura.mccormack@news.com.au

Enquiry received: 10.39 am, 03 May 2019

Media deadline: 4pm, 03 May 2019

Date: 03 May 2019

Questions

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?

- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?

- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?

- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it cannot approve its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) in its current form because it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority. This position is based on the best available science.

The consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, received by the department on 15th March 2019, itself acknowledged that the plan could be strengthened.

Adani's own consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, reported that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

With respect to academic qualifications, It is not unusual for governments to require scientific reports and reviews to be undertaken by people with scientific expertise in the area concerned, and for that scientific expertise to be supported by appropriate qualifications (including academic qualifications) in that field of expertise.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 03 May 2019

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Date : 10/05/2019 12:39:07 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "Media DES" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Dean - for re-approval - updated holding statement re today's Adani meeting

Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani.docx;image001.png;image003.png;

Hi Dean

For your re-approval please.

Melissa Wells has updated our holding statement re today's meeting with Adani as per the attached.

On your approval I will sent to DLOs for ODG and MO approval.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 p4 (6) Personal informa

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 12:25 PM

To: Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Cc: BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana

Subject: FW: Melissa re holding statement re Adani meeting

Kieran minor amendments subject to Deans approval. He may wish to remove the CSIRO reference. Still only to be used as reactive media pls.

Thanks,

Melissa.



Melissa Wells

Executive Director

Coal and Central Qld Compliance

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 1:58 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: DLOs - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Good afternoon DLOs

For ODG and MO approval please.

The attached holding statement regarding tomorrow's meeting with Adani has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Note there's a highlighted paragraph within that needs to be re-confirmed with the department prior to this statement being release.

It is not intended to release this statement proactively at this stage.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

19-503

File D

Page 90 of 375

Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 4(6) Personal inform
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Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 <small>h4p4(6) Personal informati</small>	DDG:
Approved: Kate Bennink, Melissa Wells, Dean Ellwood	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised. Today's meeting was constructive with Adani committing to respond to DES's advice in coming days.

~~DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.~~

~~Adani's own environmental consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened, reporting that:~~

- ~~• the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area~~
- ~~• the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and~~
- ~~• the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.~~

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani, which needs to consider DES's advice, make appropriate amendments and submit a revised version of the plan to the department.

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES has now reviewed the report and this week requested clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in relation to its advice, specifically **DES's interest in the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.** ~~Please confirm this paragraph prior to releasing this statement.~~

DES is continuing to assess whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 21/05/2019 1:18:54 PM
From : "TRACEY Ben"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : Dean - New Adani query - Courier Mail
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image004.png;
Hi Dean,

FYI

Melissa Wells called and has verbally approved giving out yesterday's statement to the Courier Mail.



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben
Sent: Tuesday, 21 May 2019 12:33 PM
To: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean
Cc: Media DES; LOWE Trinity; LAWRENCE Rob; ESR; DE JERSEY Timothy
Subject: Melissa/Dean - New Adani query - Courier Mail

Hi Melissa/Dean,

We have just received a call from the Courier Mail asking if we issued a statement today/yesterday about Adani?

This is the statement we gave to three media outlets yesterday (please note I just changed tense).

Is it still okay/up to date? Did we want to make any changes before I respond to the Courier Mail (Domanii Cameron)?

Thanks
Ben

Please attribute the following to a Department of Environment and Science spokesperson:

Departmental representatives met with Adani **yesterday**. This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the plans and negotiations are continuing.

The Department of Environment and Science has sought updated advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Regarding the Black Throated Finch Management Plan, the department has asked Adani to make a number of commitments to enable this plan to be finalised.



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Date : 1/05/2019 5:29:10 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "GRANT Andrea" , "WATSON Matthew" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ESR" , "Media DES"

Subject : Dean for approval - Adani management plans - response to The Australian

Attachment : image003.png;image005.png;image006.jpg;image009.png;image010.png;image011.png;image012.jpg;image013.jpg;

Dean

See below.

Are you happy with that suggested response to The Australian?

Thanks

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M (6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:25 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; DLO DES; ELLWOOD Dean; GRANT Andrea; WATSON Matthew

Subject: RE: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

We suggest adding these lines, as I've highlighted below.

But they will need to be checked by DG and DDG.

(Please note the rest of the response remains the same, except for having moved the line "DES continues to work with Adani..." from down the bottom to be now the third line. Have also removed the two details of GDEMP versions ("version 11b" etc) to avoid confusion).

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) is meeting with the proponent tomorrow to discuss their outstanding management plans.

This meeting has been scheduled for the past week.

DES continues to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress its environmental approvals.

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

These are the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP.

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES on 09 April.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

Based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-Throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised and DES is considering the final report and any other relevant information.

Under Queensland's *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, approvals for the GDEMP and the BTFMP rest with the Department of Environment and Science, as the State's environmental regulator, not with the Environment Minister.



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal info
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:18 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>; GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>; WATSON Matthew <Matthew.Watson@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

Pam

Are you happy for us to give The Australian the same response as went to the Fin Review today (attached)?

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M (6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Adani management plans

Hi,

As discussed, Adani (see below) claims to have been seeking clarity from DES for the past fortnight with no response. I'm chasing a comment from DES.

Cheers

"The Queensland Department of Environment and Science is required to finalise two outstanding management plans, the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan, so that we can start construction on the Carmichael Project.

"Adani Mining has been asking for advice from the Department of Environment and Science for two weeks now to understand what is required to finalise the outstanding management plans so that construction can commence on the Carmichael Project.

"On numerous occasions we have requested meetings with the Premier and Deputy Premier, to date all requests have been declined. We have repeatedly met with officials from the Department of Environment and Science, with no additional details provided on what is required to finalise these plans.

"All we've ever asked for is a fair go and to be treated like any other mining company, yet this is far from what we've experienced."

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T +61 7 3666 6172 M (6) Personal info

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Date : 13/05/2019 3:24:17 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "Media DES" , "DOBBYN Andrea"
Subject : Dean for approval - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times
Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP - Brisbane Times.docx;image001.png;image002.png;image005.jpg;image009.png;image010.png;
Dean
For approval please – response below/attached to Brisbane Times, which had followup questions after getting the latest Adani statement.
Melissa Wells has approved.
Thanks
Andrea

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GMMP revision 5 and GDEMP version 10a:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here:

<https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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



Andrea Dobbyn
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M (6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:17 PM
To: WATSON Matthew
Cc: Media DES
Subject: RE: MeLissa: Adani response Brisbane Times

I am fine Matt



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: WATSON Matthew <Matthew.Watson@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:03 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Cc: Media DES
Subject: MeLissa: Adani response Brisbane Times

Hi Mel,
Please see below and attached for your approval.
Is this okay?
Cheers

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:04 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Re: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

- 1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?
- 2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?
- 3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches

indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments,” the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GMMP revision 5 and GDEMP version 10a:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here:

<https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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



Matt Watson

Principal Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M 6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au

Date : 5/04/2019 12:42:42 PM

From : "TRACEY Ben"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity" , "ESR"

Subject : Dean/Melissa - new media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Attachment : 050419 - Adani project approvals - Townsville Bulletin.docx;040419 - Adani approvals - Reuters.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;image005.png;

Hi Dean/Melissa,

Please see attached word document/media response to show what we would say. This is direct content from Reuters response (attached).

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben

Sent: Friday, 5 April 2019 10:39 AM

To: ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa

Cc: BENNINK Kate; Media DES; TRACEY Ben; LOWE Trinity; ESR

Subject: Dean/Melissa - new media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Hi Dean/Melissa,

Are you OK to use the response we just sent to Reuters for the below (there will obviously be a tiny alterations made).

Thanks

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Raggatt, Tony <tony.raggatt@news.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 5 April 2019 10:30 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Hi

I'd like an update on the progress of the management plan approvals for Adani's Carmichael project.

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's black-throated finch management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's groundwater dependent ecosystem management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

regards

--

TONY RAGGATT
Business Editor

[Redacted]

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810
PO Box 587, Townsville, QLD 4810
T +61 7 4722 4439 M [Redacted] 4(6) Personal infor
E tony.raggatt@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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[Redacted]

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Date : 5/04/2019 2:12:10 PM

From : "TRACEY Ben"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity" , "ESR" , "WATSON Matthew" , "BIDGOOD Nicole"

Subject : Dean/Melissa - new media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Attachment : 050419 - Adani project approvals - Townsville Bulletin.docx;040419 - Adani approvals - Reuters.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;image005.png;

Hi all,

Tony Raggatt called and advised he would like response by 4pm. I'm just going out for 40 minutes so can you please 'reply all' so my colleagues can forward straight up to the DLO/MO.

Thanks

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben

Sent: Friday, 5 April 2019 10:39 AM

To: ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa

Cc: BENNINK Kate; Media DES; TRACEY Ben; LOWE Trinity; ESR

Subject: Dean/Melissa - new media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Hi Dean/Melissa,

Are you OK to use the response we just sent to Reuters for the below (there will obviously be a tiny alterations made).

Thanks

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Raggatt, Tony <tony.raggatt@news.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 5 April 2019 10:30 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Hi

I'd like an update on the progress of the management plan approvals for Adani's Carmichael project.

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's black-throated finch management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's groundwater dependent ecosystem management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

regards

--

TONY RAGGATT
Business Editor

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Date : 5/04/2019 10:38:36 AM
From : "TRACEY Ben"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "TRACEY Ben" , "LOWE Trinity" , "ESR"
Subject : Dean/Melissa - new media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals
Attachment : 040419 - Adani approvals - Reuters.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Dean/Melissa,

Are you OK to use the response we just sent to Reuters for the below (there will obviously be a tiny alterations made).

Thanks
Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Raggatt, Tony <tony.raggatt@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 5 April 2019 10:30 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: media inquiry re Carmichael project management plan approvals

Hi

I'd like an update on the progress of the management plan approvals for Adani's Carmichael project.

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's black-throated finch management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

What is happening with the decision making process for Adani's groundwater dependent ecosystem management plan? Can you say when this issue will be decided?

regards

--

TONY RAGGATT
Business Editor

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Date : 18/04/2019 11:17:33 AM

From : s.73

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "MERRICK Jamie" , "WELLS Melissa" , "CAGNEY Justin" s.73

Subject : DES Advancement of Adani's Environment Management Plans

Attachment : image001.jpg;

Dean

I refer to the letter sent by s.73 to Jamie Merrick on 12 April relating to the GDEMP. The penultimate paragraph states – “we ask again that the Department immediately provide us with clarity as to the next steps to apply these principles and the timing of each step to the approval.” We are yet to receive a response from the Department of Environment and Science.

Yesterday I wrote to Melissa Wells stating - *Juliana and yourself indicated in our teleconference (Tuesday 9 April) that you would be sending a document/letter to Adani Australia later in the week. You described this document as containing further issues and clarifications relating to the Black Throated Finch Management Plan that DES intends to raise with Adani. Could you please clarify when the document will be sent to Adani.* We are yet to receive a response for Melissa Wells or Justin Cagney who also received this email.

Adani Australia is eager to progress the GDEMP, GMMP and BTFMP so that we can get on with the task of delivering thousands of jobs for Queenslanders, accordingly could you please as a matter of urgency advise me when the Department is able to meet with representatives of Adani.

Regards

s.73

s.73

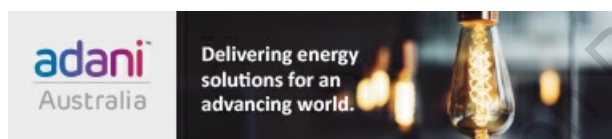
E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 10/05/2019 2:47:14 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : DLOs - for advice - Townsville Bulletin request for information on today's Adani meeting.

Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani.docx;

Good afternoon DLOs

Can you check with the Min's Office please.

The Townsville Bulletin has enquired about today's Adani meeting. They have a 4.30 pm deadline.

Can we provide the attached holding statement, which has been departmentally approved to DDG level, as a response to this journalist and any others that may enquire in the short-term.

The is the updated holding statement sent to you at 1.02 pm.

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 ip4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 2:41 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani meeting

Good afternoon,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

I understand DES and Adani met today for ongoing discussion on the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

- 1) Can the DES confirm what the outcome of this meeting was?
- 2) Have any compromises or agreements been made in relation to the BTFMP?
- 3) Have any decisions been made in relation to the GDEMP?

It would be great to grab a response by 4.30pm although I realise the hour of this request.

Let me know. Call me anytime on 4(6) Personal inform

Cheers,

Madura

MADURA MCCORMACK

Reporter

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 / 14p4(6) Personal informat	DDG:
Approved: Kate Bennink, Melissa Wells, Dean Ellwood	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised. Today's meeting was constructive with Adani committing to respond to DES's advice in coming days.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani, which needs to make appropriate amendments and submit a revised version of the plan to the department.

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES has now reviewed the report and this week requested clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in relation to its advice, specifically DES's interest in the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES is continuing to assess whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 22/03/2019 4:46:04 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "DLO DES"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : DLOs - for approval - response to Brisbane Times re groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine
Attachment : 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine - Brisbane Times.docx;
Good afternoon DLOs

For ODG and MO approval please.

The attached response to the Brisbane Times re groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine has been departmentally approved to DDG level. (DDG Dean Ellwood has specifically requested this been run past the ODG.)

We would like to have this response to the Brisbane Times today if possible, for a story to be published on Monday next week.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM
To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Springs.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can confirm this please

- a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabula Springs for the mining project to get approval?
- b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?
Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9 : Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore
(07) 3835 7518.
I am writing this story for Monday.
Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.
Thank you.

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Media response

Re: Groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

For: Tony Moore
Brisbane Times
tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au

Enquiry received: 12.05 pm, Friday 22 March 2019, via Minister's Office

Media deadline: Required for a Monday (25 March) publication date

Date: 22 March 2019

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data? Professor Curnow told me that the federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.*

Question 2: *To what degree is that true?*

Question 3: *Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.*

Question 4: *If so, to what degree?*

Question 5: *What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?*

Response to Questions 1-5: These questions are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 6: *Can I confirm this please:*

a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?

Response: Adani is required to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to the approval of the GDEMP for the project.

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) must approve the GDEMP prior to the commencement of significant mining activities at the Carmichael Coal Mine.

b) Does Adani need to separately ALSO need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy as the Great Artesian Basin and Doongmabulla Springs Complex are Federal environmental matters.

Question 7: *Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet? Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?*

Response: The first part of this question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

In regards to the second part, DES is yet to approve Adani's GDEMP for the Carmichael Coal Mine.

The Commonwealth Government obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES has requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, so that the review findings can be considered before making a decision on approval of the GDEMP.

Question 8: *What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?*

Response: The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally.

The mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the panel's report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

Question 9: *Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?*

Response: The Environmental Authority (EA) for the Carmichael Coal Mine was granted to Adani Mining Pty Ltd on 2 February 2016 and took effect on the granting of the mining leases on 3 April 2016.

However, significant mining activities (refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf>) cannot commence until DES approves the GDEMP and the BTFMP.

Questions relating to Commonwealth approvals for the Carmichael Mine are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

The Commonwealth Government approved the BTFMP on 18 December 2018.

In relation to Question 6(b): The EPBC approval for Carmichael Mine authorises a 0.2m groundwater drawdown to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex and therefore they are not authorised to have a greater groundwater drawdown impact than that.

In relation to Question 7: DES has not yet received a copy of the independent scientific review.

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 22 March 2019

Endorsed: Dean Ellwood DDG ESR
Ph: 07 3330 5628
Date: 22 March 2019

Date : 17/04/2019 4:17:35 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "DLO DES"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR"
Subject : DLOs - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Attachment : 170419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - Courier Mail.docx;

Good afternoon DLOs

The attached response to the Courier Mail re Carmichael Mine approvals (the GDEMP and BTFMP) has been approved to DDG level.

Note that the response is the same as that which went to The Australian last night, with the addition of the highlighted paragraph: **On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.**

Background:

The additional line is to address Domanii Cameron's specific question: "Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?". My understanding is that yesterday's meeting, in Canberra, was a "briefing" rather than specifically "seeking clarification".

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 2:21 PM
To: Pamela Frost
Cc: Media DES
Subject: Courier Mail - Adani inquiry

Hi Pam,

I am chasing an update around Adani's groundwater management plan and the black-throated finch management plan.

1. Has DES finished going through the groundwater management plan? Where is this process currently at? Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?
2. Does DES know when it will finish with the BTFMP? Where is this process currently at?
3. Any further comments you wish to add.

My deadline is COB today.

Thank you,

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

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Date : 25/03/2019 1:18:04 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES", "ELLWOOD Dean", "WELLS Melissa", "ESR", "LOWE Trinity", "GRANT Andrea", "Pamela Frost"

Subject : DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Attachment : 250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning

Bulletin.docx;image005.png;image008.jpg;image009.png;image010.png;image003.png;

Good afternoon DLOs

For ODG and MO approval, please.

The attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani BTFMP and GDEMP has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 11:22 AM

To: Media DES; DLO DES

Cc: GRANT Andrea

Subject: FW: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Hi team, can you please get some lines together that cover off on the timeline/deadline questions.

Perhaps some of the lines that went to Tony Moore on Friday would suffice (unless they need updating)?

Can you please also check **urgently** if there is any update CSIRO report (if DES has received it?) and let me know this advice **ASAP (before midday would be good)**.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?

Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?

What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?

Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?

Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

Political Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

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W NewsCorpAustralia.com

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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 12/04/2019 12:04:17 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ESR"

Subject : DLOs - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Carmichael Mine approvals

Attachment : 120419 - Carmichael Mine Approvals - Rockhampton Morning

Bulletin.docx;image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;image004.jpg;

Hi DLOs

For ODG and MO approval please.

The attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Carmichael Mine approvals has been approved by DDG ESR Dean Ellwood.

The response is a cut and paste from our response to the ABC on 08 April re BTFMP and the general media statement on the GDEMP on 09 April.

The newspaper's deadline is 2pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Christine Mckee <Christine.Mckee@capnews.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 12 April 2019 11:07 AM

To: Media DES

Cc: Frazer Pearce

Subject: Adani

Good morning,

Can you please confirm what information you still require from Adani in order to finalise approvals for BTFMP and GDEMP?

My deadline is 2pm, thank you.

Regards

Christine

CHRISTINE MCKEE

Deputy Editor

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Date : 10/04/2019 2:00:34 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES" , "TONES Peter" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "CAGNEY Justin" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ESR"

Subject : DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 100419 - Adani GDEMP - Courier Mail.docx;image001.png;image003.png;

Good afternoon DLOs

For Ministerial Office approval please.

The attached response to the Courier Mail's question last night about the Adani GDEMP has been provided by, and approved by the Director-General.

On M.O. approval we will provide to the journalist.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal infor

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 1:48 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: MERRICK Jamie; DLO DES; Media DES; GRANT Andrea

Subject: RE: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February

Hi Kieran

Please see below DG approved response

To qualify the DES media release of 18 February – *Adani BTFMP review report finalised*, as Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided advice, in its February 2019 report on the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan version 10a dated January 21, 2019 (GDEMP), DES reserves the right to seek advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO as necessary on the latest and current version of the GDEMP provided to DES by Adani.

Kind regards



Peter Tones

Director

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3199 7524 **M** 4(6) Personal infor

Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000

PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002

E peter.tones@des.qld.gov.au

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:38 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: DES media request

Hi guys,

Just following up with this to see when you can respond this morning?

Thanks,
Domanii

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:59, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Domanii, we will check on this for you but not sure if we'll be able to get more info tonight.

Regards,

Media team DES

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfrmp-review-report-finalised.htm>)

--

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

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Date : 13/05/2019 3:46:22 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "DLO DES"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : DLOs for approval - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times - due COB today
Attachment : image002.png;image005.jpg;image009.png;image010.png;130519 - Adani GDEMP - Brisbane Times.docx;image001.png;image002.png;image003.jpg;

DLOs

For approval please – response to Brisbane Times’ followup questions after receiving today’s Adani statement.

It has been approved by Dean Ellwood.

The reporter would like a response today.

Thanks

Andrea

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GMMP revision 5 and GDEMP version 10a:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-e8a5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here:

<https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact
Ph:
Date:

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M (6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 3:28 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ESR; DOBBYN Andrea
Subject: Re: Dean for approval - Adani response (followup) Brisbane Times

Approved

On 13 May 2019, at 3:24 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Dean

For approval please – response below/attached to Brisbane Times, which had followup questions after getting the latest Adani statement.

Melissa Wells has approved.

Thanks

Andrea

Media response

Re: Adani follow – groundwater plan

For: Brisbane Times – Tony Moore

Enquiry received: 13 May 2019

Media deadline: 13 May 2019

Date: 13 May 2019

Questions

Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

No. As per the CSIRO report, the review was undertaken on GMMP revision 5 and GDEMP version 10a:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-e5a5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

The latest version of the GDEMP, developed by Adani, is Version 11b and is available on Adani's website here:

<https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

In regards to the CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b), DES is seeking clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.

ENDS

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

<image002.png> **Andrea Dobbyn**

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

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GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

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Website www.des.qld.gov.au

<image005.jpg>

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

ta.

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

“A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments,” the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

On Mon, 13 May 2019 at 11:29, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Tony, a departmental response is attached.

Regards,

DES media team

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 10:06 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

There are stories in the Fin Review this morning that suggest the Queensland Govt has put a further delay in the way of the assessment of the Adani Mine.

Could you please explain what the Queensland Government has requested?

Thank you.

Tony Moore
3835 7518.

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Date : 17/04/2019 6:18:19 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Cameron, Domanii"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Domanii, DES response re Carmichael mine
Attachment : 170419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - Courier
Mail.docx.pdf;image001.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;image004.jpg;

Hi Domanii
Thanks for your enquiry. Please find the DES response attached.
Regards
Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science
P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 6:09 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Inquiry

Hi guys,

How was the response going?

--

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

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Date : 5/04/2019 3:21:06 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "MERRICK Jamie"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "TRACEY Alena"

Subject : Draft Letter_Adani request latest GDEMP 5 April 2019

Attachment : Letter_Adani request latest GDEMP 5 April 2019.docx;image001.png;image003.png;

Hi Jamie,

Please find attached draft correspondence for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Our Ref: Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan

5 April 2019

s.73

Adani Mining Pty Ltd
Level 25, 10 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

By email: s.73@adani.com.au

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan

Dear s.73

I am writing in regards to references made and published today, 5 April 2019, by a number of media outlets about the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMEP).

I note that several media articles suggest that Adani has incorporated the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review recommendations into an updated and final version of the GDMEP, and submitted the updated GDMEP to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DOEE) as recently as 15 March 2019.

As you are aware, both the Department of Environment and Science (the department) and DOEE are required to approve the GDMEP. In accordance with the Commonwealth's approval and previous advice from the department, where possible, a combined document should be prepared to address both State and Commonwealth conditions.

Furthermore, both State and Commonwealth approvals require the final approved GDMEP to be published on a website. I therefore reiterate previous feedback on the importance of a single document being submitted that meets both state and federal approval requirements.

I understand that the latest version of the GDMEP held by the department was received in January 2019. I am advised that discussions between departmental staff and representatives of Adani have confirmed that this version does not include changes recommended by the department in the latest comments provided to Adani in December 2018.

This suggests that the department does not currently have the latest version of the GDMEP in order to progress an approval decision.

On 5 March 2019, the department formally requested a copy of the independent scientific review of the GDMEP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia from DOEE. This was followed up with a further request by the Queensland Minister for Environment to her federal counterpart on the 12 March 2019, on behalf of the department.

The department is committed to making a decision on the GDEMP in a timely manner and using the best available science, taking the review findings into consideration before making a decision on the approval of the GDEMP.

For your awareness, to date the department has not received a copy of the review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, and cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the review's findings and recommendations.

To ensure a timely assessment and decision on the GDEMP, the department requires a copy of the latest version. Accordingly, the department requests a copy of the latest version of the GDEMP, as submitted to the Commonwealth DOEE, be provided to the department by Monday 8 April 2019.

Should you require any further information, please contact Melissa Wells on telephone (07) 4987 9343 or by email at melissa.wells@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Jamie Merrick
Director-General

Cc:
Mr Dean Knudson
Deputy Secretary
Environment Protection Group
Department of the Environment and Energy

Via email: dean.knudson@environment.gov.au

Date : 9/05/2019 12:54:36 PM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "HALLIDAY Genevieve"
Cc : "MERRICK Jamie" , "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : Draft letters CSIRO/GA
Attachment : Letter to GA clarification 090519 KB.docx;image002.png;image001.png;
Hi Genevieve,

As discussed please find attached a draft letter to be sent to GA and CSIRO requesting further advice/clarification on the source aquifer based on the CSIRO/GA review and in the context of the EA condition and most current version of the GDEMP. Apologies for timeframes but we have a meeting with Adani tomorrow morning at 10am and it would be ideal if these letters could be sent by COB today or at the latest before the meeting in the morning.

Kind regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

9 May 2019

Dr James Johnson
Chief Executive Officer
Geoscience Australia
Cnr Jerrobomberra Avenue and Hindmarsh Drive
SYMONSTON ACT 2609

By email: james.johnson@ga.gov.au

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Director
CSIRO Land and Water
Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park
Clunies Ross Street
ACTON ACT 2601

By email: [p4\(6\) Personal information@csiro.au](mailto:p4(6) Personal information@csiro.au)

Dear Dr Johnson / [p4\(6\) Personal information](mailto:p4(6) Personal information)

Thank you for meeting with representatives from the Department of Environment and Science (the department) on 16 April 2019 to discuss the report *'Advice on Groundwater Management and Monitoring and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management plans to the Department of the Environment and Energy (CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, February 2019)'*.

The department has now reviewed the report and is seeking further clarification about the research recommended by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia (GA) to provide greater certainty of the source aquifer(s) to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex (DSC).

The environmental authority for the Carmichael Coal Mine requires the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) to include detailed baseline research to establish the source aquifer(s) for the groundwater supply to the groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE). The department has been clear that the GDMP must identify the source aquifer for the DSC and the methodology used to determine it.

The department specifically notes the following points from the report:

'Available evidence supports the conceptualisation that the Clematis Sandstone is a likely source aquifer for the DSC. However, the proposed monitoring and management approaches do not sufficiently address the uncertainty regarding the potential alternative or additional source aquifers.' (p9); and

'The Advice recommends that to constrain the source aquifer(s) of the DSC, a more sophisticated statistical analysis of hydrochemistry data is required. This includes assessing a wider variety of groundwater and surface water analytes, as well as appropriate use of isotope hydrochemistry analysis. Further information on potential techniques is provided (CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, 2018).' (p10).

The department also notes that in your advice to the Department of the Environment and Energy in November 2018 on the draft research plans for Carmichael Coal Mine, the following statements were made:

'an integrated analysis of existing and newly acquired geological, hydrodynamic and hydrochemical data to improve the conceptual understanding of the groundwater sources of the DSC'. (p5); and

'need to define the analytical suite, quality assurance and quality control methods, and use a broader range of isotopic and environmental traces' to assess the springs source and groundwater flow processes (p13).

From the CSIRO and GA advices (both 2018 and 2019) and the meeting on 16 April 2019, the department is of the understanding that the following sequential process for undertaking further research would improve the certainty about the source aquifer(s) of the DSC and other GDEs:

1. hydrogeochemical analysis of water samples for comparison within and across relevant aquifers (Clematis Sandstone, Dunda Beds and Rewan Formation);
2. incorporation of the use of isotope and ageing tracers in the above hydrogeochemical analysis;
3. a comprehensive review of groundwater level and quality data from relevant aquifers including data from new proposed nested bores in the vicinity of DSC;
4. detailed geological mapping including cores from bores drilled in the vicinity of DSC and facies modelling to better inform hydraulic connectivity within and across all aquifers;
5. incorporation of the airborne electro-magnetic modelling recently completed by Geoscience Australia (and available to Adani by June 2020); and
6. revision of the conceptual understanding of the source aquifer(s) for DSC and groundwater system based on information collected from the above for incorporation into the groundwater model review (re-run).

In consideration of the above, the department requests specific advice on the following questions:

1. What is the level of confidence that the Clematis Sandstone aquifer is the main source for the DSC?
2. If there is a high level of uncertainty, what work should be undertaken to address and reduce the level of uncertainty regarding the potential alternative or additional source aquifers for the DSC?
3. For any additional work recommended for question 2, what is a realistic timeframe for the completion of each element of the additional work?

Your advice will enable my staff to consider the review report in the assessment of the GDEMP with respect to the relevant State environmental authority condition requirements.

The department wishes to progress the assessment of the GDEMP in a timely manner. Accordingly, there is some urgency to this request and a response at your earliest convenience regarding associated timeframes is appreciated.

To provide the appropriate context, please refer to the GDEMP (version 11b) that was submitted to the department on 9 April 2019 (available at <https://www.adaniaustralia.com/-/media/Project/Australia/Our-Projects--Businesses/mine-environment-reporting/GDEMP-Final-V11b-19March2019.pdf?la=en&hash=C4988A8485428FD234C4A09023D08B34>), and the enclosed document 'Research Study Report – Source Aquifer to Doongmabulla Springs' that was provided to the department by Adani in November 2018.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on (07) 4987 9343 or at Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au should you require further information about this request.

Yours sincerely

Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Queensland Compliance

Enc:
Research Study Report – Source Aquifer to Doongmabulla Springs (revision 03, Adani, November 2018)

Cc:
sch4p4(6) Personal information Director CSIRO Land and Water – p4(6) Personal information@csiro.au
Dr James Johnson, CEO, Geoscience Australia – james.johnson@ga.gov.au

Date : 11/03/2019 3:48:20 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Draft material

Attachment : Letter to Commonwealth Re CSIRO-GA review 050319.pdf;image001.png;image003.png;

Hi Dean draft material for your consideration. Thanks, Melissa.

"Dear xx,

The Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Science (the department) has been working closely with the Commonwealth's Department of Environment and Energy throughout the assessment and approval process of the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine project. As you are aware the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management plan (GDEMP) requires approval by both the Commonwealth and the Queensland Government prior to the commencement of significant mining activities on site.

I am advised the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DOEE) commissioned an independent scientific review by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia of Adani's GDEMP and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP) and that this process has now been completed and a final report received by DOEE (the final report).

I refer to previous correspondence where the Queensland Government, through the Department of Environment and Science has written to DOEE requesting a copy of the final report (Attached). I am advised to date there has been no response to this correspondence therefore in an effort to expedite the timely assessment of the GDEMP, I further request a copy of the independent scientific review report on behalf of the department as co-regulator for the Adani project, and taking into consideration the Bilateral arrangements the Queensland Government has with the Commonwealth, including any Administrative Access Policy.

The timely provision of the final report will enable the delegate to consider the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia recommendations in the assessment of the GDEMP and GMMP with respect to the relevant environmental authority condition requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* based on the best scientific advice available.

I look forward to the continued successful cooperation between Government to ensure a robust scientific approach supports both the State and Commonwealth approval processes.

Any questions in relation to this correspondence please don't hesitate to contact Melissa Wells, Executive Director on (07) 4987 9343 or melissa.wells@des.qld.gov.au."



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

5 March 2019

Mr Dean Knudson
Deputy Secretary
Environment Protection Group
Department of the Environment and Energy
John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace
Parkes Canberra ACT 2600

Email: dean.knudson@environment.gov.au

Dear Mr Knudson,

I understand the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy has received the final report from the independent scientific review by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP).

As co-regulator for the Adani project, and taking into consideration the Bilateral arrangements the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (the department) has with the Commonwealth, including any Administrative Access Policy, I request a copy of the independent scientific review report.

This will enable the delegate to consider the report in the assessment of the GDEMP and GMMP with respect to the relevant environmental authority condition requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

I look forward to the continued successful cooperation between our departments to ensure a robust scientific approach supports both the State and Commonwealth approval processes.

Any questions in relation to this correspondence please don't hesitate to contact me on (07) 4987 9343 or melissa.wells@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Queensland Compliance

Date : 13/05/2019 9:10:33 AM

From : "WATSON Matthew"

To : "ESR" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : ESR: Adani Mining Media Statement: Enough is enough.

Attachment : 190512 MS Management Plans Update_FINAL.pdf;image001.jpg;image002.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;

Morning Dean,

Here is another Adani request.

We're reviewing all requests.

Cheers



Matt Watson

Principal Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M (6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Michelle Price <michelle.price@grantbroadcasters.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 7:24 AM

To: WATSON Matthew; QLD News

Subject: Fwd: Adani Mining Media Statement: Enough is enough.

Hi Matt, I'm wondering if the DES wanted to respond to the statement we received from Adani?

Regards

Michelle Price

Digital Journalist

Phone (07) 5475 1939 / (07) 5475 1982

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Adani Australia Media** <ausmedia@adani.com.au>

Date: Mon, 13 May 2019 at 06:08

Subject: Adani Mining Media Statement: Enough is enough.

To: Adani Australia Media <ausmedia@adani.com.au>

Please find Adani Mining media statement attached.

s.73

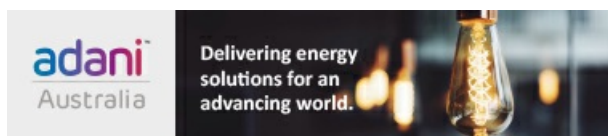
E s.73 @adani.com.au

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MEDIA RELEASE

Under embargo until 12.01am 13 May 2019

Adani Mining: Enough is enough. The Queensland Government needs to stop shifting the goal posts

Queensland's Department of Environment and Science (DES) is seeking to further delay finalisation of the Carmichael project's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP), by once again engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process.

This is at odds with the department's previous commitments and smacks of the type of tactics it has employed to delay and frustrate sign-off of the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan.

Advice provided by DES officials on Friday suggests the department now intends to renege on its February commitment to no further reviews and has instead shifted the goalposts once again and requested another round of information and assessment from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, despite previously ruling this out.

DES officials would not confirm to Adani Mining what the scope and nature of the requests were or if the requests were in fact limited solely to assessing the Carmichael Project's environmental conditions.

Adani Mining CEO Lucas Dow said the department's request was the latest delay tactic designed to stop construction of the Carmichael Project and the delivery of thousands of jobs for regional Queenslanders.

"DES has consistently said it would not pursue further reviews," he said.

"However, they have gone back on their word once again.

"We are now facing prospect of another tortuous and never-ending management plan approval process like the one we have endured for the Black-Throated Finch.

"It appears this process will again go beyond the scope of what our project is required to deliver under regulatory conditions – and put simply is simply another fishing expedition."

The Federal Government approved Adani's GDEMP on 9 April 2019, following an eight-month assessment. This included expert review and advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia that has been shared with DES.

Earlier this year, DES said it would rely on the same review process and information from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia provided to the Federal Government. In a media statement on 18 February this year, DES stated:

"Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

"We asked on Friday for the scope of this latest round of CSIRO and Geoscience Australia requests and DES refused to provide us with such details then," Mr Dow said.

"The Department's processes, timing and decision-making have zero transparency. Trying to see what needs to be done to ensure these management plans can be signed off is like trying to see through a brick wall – there is absolute zero transparency.

"If this latest request for further information and assessment was above board and in-line with the Carmichael Project's conditions, why is there a need for secrecy and non-disclosure?

"We call on DES to provide Adani with the precise questions given to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia and also confirm that they are not initiating another review and that any such clarifications are solely limited to ensuring that Adani has met its environmental conditions and that they are not engaging in another Black-Throated Finch-type review process. After all this is Adani's plan they are investigating."

Mr Dow said that Adani Mining had respected and actioned the previous advice received from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia via the Federal Government and acknowledged the organisations' expertise and contribution to the improvement of the current water management plans.

"CSIRO and Geoscience Australia have reviewed the groundwater management plans in-line with our project environmental conditions, providing sound advice and guidance to the Federal and State Government," he said.

"On the basis of this advice we updated our plans to incorporate recommendations that corresponded with our conditions.

"We are not arguing the toss with respect to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's involvement or expertise. Our issue and concern is the way in which the Queensland Government continues to act," he said.

"The manner in which our plans are now being assessed by the Queensland Labor Government has gone well beyond the legitimacy of the science. Of course scientists should contribute to the delivery of management plans, as they have done in our case.

"Considering DES has already been reviewing the water management plans for more than two years, across 11 versions, and had access to CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's assessments, the requirement for further information and delays at this point is not just extraordinary, it is an injustice through process," he said.

Mr Dow said DES' move towards a secondary CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review was further evidence of the Queensland Labor Government shifting the goal posts for Adani Mining.

"We are 1 of 125 coal mining companies in Australia. We should all be subject to the same legislation, regulations, approval processes and standards," Mr Dow said.

"In the past six months alone we have seen the Queensland Labor Government insist on additional review processes headed by individuals who lead organisations with members who harbour anti-coal sentiments, put in place ongoing delays and continually ask for commitments well beyond our regulated project conditions, while waving other Queensland coal mines through approvals processes.

"They have even labelled us bullies, all because we have publicly held them to account for their behaviour and asked to be treated fairly and on the same terms as other Queensland coal companies," he said.

This past weekend also marked two years since Adani Mining first submitted the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan to the Queensland Government for approval on 11 May 2017.

Over the past two years, seven versions of the plan have been submitted to the Queensland Department of Environment and Science, consisting of more than 1,000 pages of advice that have been assessed and verified by more than 10 different scientists, five environmental consultancy groups and even a Land Court judge.

Adani Mining also recently had independent ecologists, Biodiversity Assessment and Management Pty Ltd, assess the veracity of the plan, with their key findings stating:

"Overall, I view the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) as having been compiled in line with and meeting the imposed EA conditions. The plan is responsive, contemporary and suitable for the required purpose. The BTFMP has been approved by the Department of Environment and Energy. I have not identified any reason which would justify DES to not endorse the BTFMP version 7b. It is better to have a single plan approved by both levels of government than separate versions of the same plan. The adaptive management approach provides for ongoing adaption and adoption of recognised areas for improvement."

Mr Dow said after another meeting with DES officials on Friday last week, Adani Mining still had not received clarity on timeframes or process for when the Queensland Government will finalise the plans.

"We are not going to be pig-headed about it and we are working through the latest round of requested changes for the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan as urgently as possible in order to move forward, however department officials have refused to commit to a timeframe to finalise the plan, even if we were to accept the State's new round of requests in full," he said.

"At some point, the Queensland Labor Government will need to show some courage and face regional Queenslanders with a decision on these outstanding management plans, ultimately deciding whether they will allow thousands of jobs to be delivered to the parts of our State that need it most.

"We have jumped all their past hurdles and we will jump these ones as well.

"Our courage and resolve is only strengthened with every hurdle put in our path.

"We have already invested \$3.3 billion into the Queensland economy. We are not going away and we will see this through for the benefit of Queensland and in particular for the people in regional Queensland."

ENDS

Date : 9/04/2019 6:38:48 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ESR"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "CAGNEY Justin" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : FW: *UPDATED* Adani Weekly Update #36 and ESR Alert - Federal approval of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine

Attachment : Adani Weekly Update # 36 week ending 5 April 2019 - up date to 9 April

2019.docx;image001.png;image002.png;image004.png;

Hi ESR update to alerts.

- At 4.41pm on the 9 April 2019 Adani submitted the *Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program – Carmichael Coal Project (15 March 2019)*, version 7. This also included comments from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy about the program and Adani's responses, which informed the current version.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: ESR <ESR@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 4:47 PM

To: MERRICK Jamie; TRACEY Alena; Pamela Frost; Hannah Jackson; Angus.Sutherland@ministerial.qld.gov.au;

sonja.litz@ministerial.qld.gov.au; SEELIG Tim; MACGROARTY Robynne; DLO DES; Media DES

Cc: ESR; ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa; CAGNEY Justin; BENNINK Kate; IRELAND Anne-Maree; justin.carpenter@premiers.qld.gov.au;

Elizabeth Fellows; chris.mckenna@premiers.qld.gov.au; LOWE Trinity

Subject: Adani Weekly Update #36 and ESR Alert - Federal approval of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the Adani Weekly Update #36 as at 9 April 2019 and a below alert regarding the Federal approval of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine.

Kind regards,



Lindsay Hope
Senior Program Officer
Office of the Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3330 5535

E lindsay.hope@des.qld.gov.au

Level 7, 400 George Street
GPO Box 2454 Brisbane QLD 4001

ALERT CATEGORY:

- Departmental activity; Customer / Stakeholder activity

ALERT NAME:

- Federal approval of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine.

CUSTOMER DETAILS:

- Adani Mining Pty Ltd (Adani).

SUMMARY OF ISSUE/S:

- On 9 April 2019, the Department of Environment and Science (DES) received both the updated GDMP from Adani and the finalised independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy (DoEE).
- DES will now review both reports to ensure that they meet the State's requirements.
- The approval of the GDMP by DES is required prior to commencement of Project Stage 2 activities (significant disturbance) as per condition I12 of the environmental authority.
- On 9 April 2019, the Federal Minister for the Environment issued a statement confirming approval of the GDMP and the

Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP).

- DES has not received an updated GMMP from Adani.
- There is no statutory timeframe for DES' assessment and approval of the GDEMP.
- The Queensland environmental authority (EA) requires the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex to be identified in the GDEMP. This is not a requirement of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) approval.
- DES requested through DoEE that the CSIRO and Geoscience review include the above State-specific requirement. Specifically, an assessment of how plausible and reasonable it is that the Clematis Sandstone is the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.
- Regarding the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, the review states that:
"It is plausible and reasonable that the Clematis Sandstone is a major source aquifer for the Doongmabulla Springs Complex (DSC). This is supported by water level and groundwater flow information presented by the proponent, as well as by other studies (Evans et al., 2018; Fensham et al., 2016; JBT Consulting, 2015), and by some aspects of hydrogeochemistry of the springs and the Clematis Sandstone (Fensham et al., 2016; Webb et al., 2015)."
It is not plausible and reasonable to state unequivocally that the Clematis Sandstone is the sole source aquifer for the DSC, as sufficient uncertainty surrounding hydrogeochemistry, inter-aquifer connectivity and groundwater flow (Currell et al., 2017; Lewis et al., 2018; Webb et al., 2015) exists to necessitate a precautionary approach to the conceptualisation, as ruled by Land Court of Queensland (2015)."
- DoEE has published the CSIRO/GA review on its website: <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>

POTENTIAL IMPACTS / RISKS:

- Adani is likely to make representations to senior government officers to seek the State's approval of the plans so that activity can commence on site.

CUSTOMER ACTIONS:

- On 9 April 2019, Adani provided the updated GDEMP to DES.
- On 9 April 2019, DoEE provided the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.
- On 9 April 2019, the Federal Minister for the Environment issued a statement confirming approval of the GDEMP and GMMP.

DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

- DES will review both the updated GDEMP from Adani and the finalised independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia from the DoEE.
- DES will assess the extent to which the revised GDEMP addresses the Environmental Authority conditions and the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.
- In doing so, DES may seek further advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP.
- If DES identifies further concerns regarding the GDEMP, DES will write to Adani seeking clarification, further information or commitments should it be necessary.
- DES will write to Adani to request an updated GMMP.

LOCALITY DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

- The Carmichael Coal Mine is located approximately 160km north-west of the town of Clermont. The project is predominantly within the Local Government Area of Isaac Regional Council.

KEY COMMUNICATION MESSAGES:

- The Department of Environment and Science has received both the updated Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) for the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine from Adani and the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia independent scientific review from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy. The department will review the information in both reports to ensure that they meet the State's requirements.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Name: Melissa Wells, Executive Director, Coal and Central Queensland Compliance
- Phone number: 07 4987 9343
- Division: Environmental Services and Regulation (ESR)

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

Adani Weekly Update # 36

Date:	Week ending 5 April 2019 – *UPDATED* 9 April 2019
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CURRENT

Carmichael Coal Mine

Assessment – Contact Kate Bennink

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Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP)

- 9 April 2019 – DES received updated GDEMP (version 11b) from Adani.
- 9 April 2019 – DES received CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review from the Commonwealth. DoEE have published the review on their website. <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/csiro-geoscience-australia-final-advice.pdf>
- 9 April 2019 – Federal Minister for the Environment approved the GDEMP.

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Formal Investigation – Contact Justin Cagney

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Abbot Point

***Compliance – Contact Justin Cagney
Litigation – Contact Anne-Maree Ireland***

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Assessment – Contact Kate Bennink

s.73

Public Register

- Zero (0) new requests received for the period 3:00 pm Thursday 29 March to 3:30 pm Thursday 4 April 2019.

Historical information is provided on the following pages.

HISTORICAL
Carmichael Coal Mine
Assessment – Contact Kate Bennink



Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

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GDEMP

- Required by EA conditions I11 to I13 and EA definition.
- The GDEMP is required to be approved by the administering authority prior to commencement of Project Stage Two as per condition I12.
- Project Stage Two is defined in the EA as: project activities, other than activities carried out under project stage 1, leading to the production of coal including:
 - removal of existing structures, site clearance
 - construction of access roads, potable water treatment and sewage treatment plants, new power plants, mine administrative buildings, water storage infrastructure and hardstanding
 - removal and stockpiling of overburden and excavation of box cuts for open pit or underground mining
 - commencement of dewatering operations.
- Versions 1 – 4 of the GDEMP were not submitted to DES.
- 7 November 2016 – DES received GDEMP (version 5).
- 15 December 2016 – DES provided comments on GDEMP.
- Version 6 of the GDEMP was not submitted to DES.
- 10 April 2017 – DES received GDEMP (version 7).
- 30 May 2017 – DES provided comments on GDEMP.
- 28 September 2017 – DES received GDEMP (version 8).
- 2 November 2017 – DES provided comments on GDEMP.
- 15 December 2017 – DES received GDEMP (version 9).
- 22 December 2017 – DES received a request from Adani to suspend the review of GDEMP.
- 25 January 2018 – DES received GDEMP (version 9 dated 18 January 2018).
- 6 March 2018 – DES sent Adani correspondence outlining its concerns with the GDEMP.
- 28 March 2018 – Adani sent DES correspondence in response to DES comments of 6 March 2018.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 April 2018 – DES sent Adani correspondence outlining the outstanding issues that includes a request for consideration of how information from the Australian Government’s Bioregional Assessment: Lake Eyre Basin Springs Assessment would be used to confirm the source aquifer for the Doongmabulla Springs Complex. • 13 July 2018 – DES received GDEMP (version 9 dated 5 July 2018). • 30 July 2018 – DES sent Adani preliminary feedback on the GDEMP stating the source aquifer must be identified. • 4 October 2018 – Adani sent DES correspondence outlining the research that has been undertaken to identify the source aquifer. • 15 October 2018 – DES sent Adani comments on GDEMP and additional information on source aquifer provided by Adani on 4 October 2018. • 16 October 2018 – workshop between Adani, Commonwealth and DES to present government feedback on GDEMP. • 24 October 2018 – teleconference between Adani, Commonwealth and DES to clarify government feedback on GDEMP. • 7 November 2018 – meeting between Adani, DES and Commonwealth to discuss how Adani will address feedback on GDEMP. • 14 November 2018 – DNRME provided advice that there are still issues with the actual groundwater data on which the GDEMP and GMMP are based and that these must be resolved prior to submission of the final versions of these documents. • 15 November 2018 – meeting between Adani, DES and Commonwealth to clarify any outstanding issues with feedback and how feedback will be addressed in revised GDEMP. • 16 November 2018 – meeting between Adani, DES and Commonwealth to provide final feedback prior to GDEMP submission. • 19 November 2018 – Adani submitted GDEMP (version 10). This is the most recent version. • 20 November 2018 – DES sent GDEMP to DNRME and DES Water Sciences for review. • 20 November 2018 – Commonwealth briefed DES on the preliminary advice from CSIRO/GA on previous drafts of GDEMP and GMMP plus additional information about groundwater conceptual model and Doongmabulla Springs Complex source aquifer. • 20 November 2018 – DES received preliminary CSIRO/GA advice from the Commonwealth. • 20 November 2018 - DES sought DNRME advice on CSIRO/GA preliminary advice. • 21 November 2018 – DNRME provided comments on CSIRO/GA preliminary advice indicating that some of the issues raised in the advice had been resolved in the EIS/SEIS assessment via IESC, DNRME and Adani agreement. • 21 November 2018 – DNRME communicated to DES that the bore data discrepancies had been resolved with Adani for one aquifer (Clematis), and that work on the next aquifer (alluvium) had commenced.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 November 2018 – DES and Commonwealth met with Adani and were advised that Adani had completed more research on source aquifer and had a 150 page report to submit. • 23 November 2018 – Commonwealth sent Adani the CSIRO/GA preliminary advice. • 27 November 2018 – DES, DNRME and the Commonwealth met with Adani to discuss a way forward with verification of bore water level data discrepancies. The water level data for bores in the Clematis aquifer has been verified by DNRME hydrologists. DES and the Commonwealth advised Adani that the review of the GDEMP could not be finalised until the water level data had been verified for all bores in all aquifers. • 11 December 2018 – the department received CSIRO/GA pre-Tranche 2 assessment report from the Commonwealth that highlighted further outstanding issues with the GDEMP and GMMP. • 13 December 2018 – Adani provided the department with a spreadsheet detailing the DNRME verification of 10 of the 81 bores groundwater water level data. • 14 December 2018 – the Commonwealth organised a teleconference/workshop to discuss the outstanding issues as raised by CSIRO/GA assessment report with CSIRO/GA, Adani, DES and DNRME. • 14 December 2018 – DES sent Adani correspondence stating that the review of the GDEMP and GMMP will not continue until all water levels for all bores in all aquifers have been verified and the CSIRO/GA assessment report issues were addressed. • 21 December 2018 – Adani provided DES with data from all bores for verification. • 21 December 2018 – DNRME emailed DES to say that of the 63 bores remaining, 30 require further investigation and are likely to require clarification with Adani/AECOM. This information was relayed to Adani same day. • 21 December 2018 – DES provided feedback to date on submitted GDEMP to Adani to allow updates for resubmission in January 2019. • 9 January 2019 – Adani provided information to reconcile Dunda Bed water bore levels based on feedback from DNRME. • 10 January 2019 – the Dunda Bed water bore level reconciliation information was sent to DNRME for its advice. • 11 January 2019 – DNRME provided DES with a review summary of bore water level data and follow up actions/questions for Adani/AECOM. • 15 January 2019 – Meeting between DES, Adani and AECOM to confirm agreement on groundwater trigger level values. • 15, 16 & 17 January 2018 – Adani provided response to DES regarding DNRME review of bore water level data. Responses were sent to DNRME by DES. • 21 January 2019 – Adani were verbally advised that DNRME were not able to provide any further review advice relating to bore water level data, and that Adani should consider seeking peer review should further validation be required prior to formal submission.
--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 January 2019 – Commonwealth requested confirmation from DNRME (via DES) that the review of Adani's bore water level data has been completed. • 25 January 2019 – DNRME provided advice to DES reiterating that DNRME's initial review of the bore water level data has been completed. • 21 January 2019 – Adani advised DES that the GDEMP submitted to the Commonwealth incorporates updated bore water level data but does not address all previous comments by CSIRO, Geoscience Australia and DES. Adani has acknowledged that a further submission of a final GDEMP that addresses all comments is required, and will be provided in the near future. • 29 January 2019 – the Commonwealth advised DES that it has received an updated GDEMP on 21 January 2019. • 29 January 2019 – the Commonwealth advised DES that the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia independent scientific review commenced on 25 January 2019. The review will be based on the most recent versions of the GDEMP and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP) submitted to the Commonwealth. The independent scientific review is expected to take four weeks and be completed by 22 February 2019. • 1 February 2019 – the Commonwealth provided DES with a copy of their regulatory comments on version 10 of the GDEMP, which they also provided to Adani on the same day. • 8 February 2019 – email sent to Adani attaching NMRE advice regarding groundwater level data validation. • 8 February 2019 – Commonwealth's response to NRME regarding groundwater level data validation. • 22 February 2019 – the CSIRO and GA review was finalised. • 26 February 2019 – DES attended teleconference with Commonwealth to receive verbal summary of CSIRO/GA review findings. • 27 February 2019 – DES received a copy of the Commonwealth's requirements to Adani resulting from CSIRO/GA review findings. • 5 March 2019 – DES wrote to the Commonwealth requesting a copy of the CSIRO/GA review report. • 12 March 2019 – Minister Enoch wrote to Federal Minister Price on behalf of DES requesting a copy of the CSIRO/GA review report. • 13 March 2019 – DES received the Commonwealth's comments on the latest GDEMP it has received.
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Compliance – Contact Justin Cagney
Litigation – Contact Anne-Maree Ireland

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Assessment – Contact Gillian Naylor

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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 13/05/2019 5:27:07 PM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "MERRICK Jamie"
Subject : FW: Actions
Attachment : image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;

Good evening Jamie and Dean - FYI. Thanks, Melissa.

"Thank you for the email s.73

I can confirm DES will be in a position to provide Adani comments on the GMMP this week. I am advised that a meeting request has been sent out for the BTFMP workshop and the meeting will take place in Rockhampton from 2.30-5pm this Wednesday. As discussed in our meeting last week, the relevant staff are unavailable to meet again later this week and the next earliest opportunity is Monday 20 May. If you have a preference for the meeting location please let me know and we can send a calendar invitation.

In regards to the questions posed to GA/CSIRO I can advise that DES is seeking clarification and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management in light of the GA/CSIRO report, the resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b) and the relevant environmental authority conditions in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

In relation to timing for clarification sought from GA/CSIRO, DES has expressed the urgency around the request. From discussions with GA today, DES is advised they are currently reviewing the request and will be in a position to provide certainty around timeframes later this week.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the BTFMP prior to the workshop this Wednesday and finalising the BTFMP.

Regards,
Dean/Melissa"



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: s.73 @adani.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 2:59 PM
To: ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa
Subject: Actions

Dean

Thank you for your time on Friday to talk through the finalisation of our management plans.

We have been consistent in requesting clarity of both process and timing to finalise the outstanding management plans. Based on the discussions from last Friday we understand that the following actions were committed to:

- In relation to the GMMP, DES will provide comments to Adani this week in a similar format to that provided for the BTFMP;
- Adani and DES will meet in a workshop to work through feedback on the GDEMP and GMMP. We note you offered Monday 20th May to hold this workshop. We stated our preference and desire for a meeting during the course of this week and we respectfully request that DES provide an opportunity for that timing to be met.
- For the BTFMP, on a forward looking basis, we agreed to meet on Wednesday the 15th of May to workshop the matters as expressed in the reasons in your Attachment A.
- Prior to that workshop this Wednesday, Adani will send through high level comments in relation to the reasons set out in your Attachment A of the BTFMP decision of 2 May 2019. These comments are being provided in the context of Adani considering resubmission and are without prejudice to any other right me may have with respect to the BTFMP decision.

We also again request that DES provide to Adani the questions asked of CSIRO & GA regarding the Source Aquifer (GDEMP), and the timing in which CSIRO & GA will respond to those questions. As discussed in the meeting you undertook to provide me with this information today.

Thanks

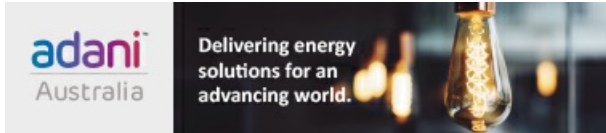
s.73

E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001



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Date : 20/05/2019 3:38:55 PM

From : "LOWE Trinity"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "LAWRENCE Rob" , "WELLS Melissa"

Subject : FW: Adani - Status and Department Contact

Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;

Afternoon Media Team,

Please see the below advice from the DG's office in relation to Adani approvals.

Dean will be the approver and if you need anything urgently followed up, please ensure you contact Bettina Daunt in the first instance or myself.

All Adani approvals will still need to come to ESR, Rob Lawrence and myself as per the usual process.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks & Cheers

Trin

s.73

Current things on the go (as I understand it) are:

- BTFMP – meeting held with Adani last week - Adani to consider revision and resubmitting
- GDMP – DES is seeking advice on latest version from CSIRO/Geosciences Australia
- GDMP – Adani wrote to the DG on Friday and submitted an RTI seeking the questions we asked CSIRO/GA. Response to be drafted with legal.
- GMMP – meeting with Adani on this one today
- Carmichael mine investigation – provision of information and drilling of bores
- Abbot Point Coal – decision on Enforceable Undertaking regarding exceedances to be made today



Trinity Lowe
Executive Officer
Office of the Deputy Director General
Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3330 5812
Level 7 400 George St Brisbane

Date : 3/05/2019 6:36:08 PM

From : "BENNINK Kate"

To : "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "BROWN Anthony" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "TONES Peter"

Subject : FW: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Attachment : 030519 - Adani BTFMP - Townsville Bulletin.docx;030519 - Adani BTFMP - Townsville Bulletin

KB.docx;image004.png;image008.png;image010.png;image001.png;image005.png;image007.png;image009.png;image011.png;

Melissa,

Can you please check my edits? MO version is attached.

My words (additions underlined):

In relation to your question about the graduate academic qualifications:

Adani simply needs to demonstrate that their ecologists are suitably experienced for the complex research work that Adani are committing to do. Under the conditions of approval of the Environmental Authority (EA), survey and monitoring must be undertaken by experienced ecologists.

The issue DES has raised is that the BTFMP does not provide enough detail to confirm that they have the appropriate experience for this work.

It is not unusual or unreasonable for governments to require scientific reports and reviews to be undertaken by people with scientific expertise in the area concerned, and for that scientific expertise to be supported by appropriate qualifications (including academic qualifications) in that field of expertise.

Anthony – I pulled out my words for ease of reading of phones, but tracked changes version is attached also for you.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland

Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: BROWN Anthony <Anthony.Brown@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 6:18 PM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; TONES Peter

Subject: FW: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Kate – also this one, particularly the ecologist lines. Are these okay?

Cheers – Anthony, tel 3339 5862

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 5:42 PM

To: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye

Cc: Media DES

Subject: RE: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Changes in the attached.

I understand the ecologist lines have been through the checking process already.



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal info

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:24 PM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Pam/Ros – attached is a media response re: Adani back to Townsville Bulletin – approved by DG and DDG ESR.
thanks



Peta Johnston
Senior Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3087 8407
Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: TRACEY Alena <Alena.Tracey@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:23 PM
To: DLO DES; MERRICK Jamie
Cc: TONES Peter
Subject: RE: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Endorsed, thanks



Alena Tracey
Executive Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

E: alena.tracey@des.qld.gov.au
M: 34 (6) Personal inform
Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane Qld 4000
Level 27, 400 George Street, Brisbane Qld 4000

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:11 PM
To: MERRICK Jamie
Cc: TRACEY Alena; TONES Peter; DLO DES
Subject: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Jamie – for your approval please.

Thanks,
Raylene



Raylene Orellana
Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3330 6271
raylene.orellana@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:00 PM
To: DLO DES
Cc: Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: DLOs - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Good afternoon DLOs

For your approval, please.

The attached response to the Townsville Bulletin re Adani has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 sp4(6) Personal informa
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

sp4(6) Personal informa

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Media response

Re: Adani BTFMP

For: Maduira McCormack
Townsville Bulletin
p4(6) Personal inform
madura.mccormack@news.com.au

Enquiry received: 10.39 am, 03 May 2019

Media deadline: 4pm, 03 May 2019

Date: 03 May 2019

Questions

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.
"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it cannot approve its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) in its current form because it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority. This position is based on the best available science.



The consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, received by the department on 15th March 2019, itself acknowledged that the plan could be strengthened.

Adani's own consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, reported that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

With respect to academic qualifications, it is not unusual for governments to require scientific reports and reviews to be undertaken by people with scientific expertise in the area concerned, and for that scientific expertise to be supported by appropriate qualifications (including academic qualifications) in that field of expertise.

In relation to your question about the graduate qualifications:

Adani simply needs to demonstrate that their ecologists are experienced. Under the conditions of approval of the Environmental Authority (EA), survey and monitoring must be undertaken by experienced ecologists.

The issue DES has raised is that the BTFMP does not provide enough detail to confirm that they have the appropriate experience for this work.

It is not unusual for governments to require scientific reports and reviews to be undertaken by people with scientific expertise in the area concerned, and for that scientific expertise to be supported by appropriate qualifications (including academic qualifications) in that field of expertise.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 03 May 2019

Endorsed: DDG ESR Dean Ellwood
Ph: 07 3330 5628
Date: 03 May 2019



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Commented [PF1]: NOTE: These lines are still being checked by the Department

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Date : 13/05/2019 1:26:30 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "DAUNT Bettina" , "ESR" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : FW: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image005.png;image007.png;

Matt my response highlighted. Will need DDG/DG approval. Melissa.

Q. 3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found.

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

It is correct to say that having regard to CSIRO's report and in light of a resubmitted GDEMP v11, DES seeks clarity and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer, its monitoring and management.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: DAUNT Bettina <Bettina.Daunt@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:48 PM

To: WELLS Melissa

Subject: FW: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

Melissa, can you have a look at this one please?



Bettina Daunt
Executive Assistant to Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General, Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3330 5550

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

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:38 PM

To: ESR; ELLWOOD Dean

Cc: DLO DES

Subject: ESR: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

Hi ESR,
Please see extra questions below.
Can I receive advice on question 3?
Cheers



Matt Watson
Principal Media Officer
Media Services| Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M 6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 12:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

ta.

1 - Am I correct to say the information provided to Federal Govt by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in February 2019 was version 11 of the groundwater plan?

2 - That is the latest groundwater plan from CSIRO?

3 - Is it correct to say Qld's Department of Environment and Science wants to corroborate the groundwater data which led the CSIRO to say in its report.

"A number of limitations were also identified in the proposed monitoring and management approaches indicating they are not sufficiently robust to monitor and minimise impacts to protected environments," the [CSIRO's February 2019 groundwater studies found](#).

(Reported by Brisbane Times on April 11, 2019.)

On Mon, 13 May 2019 at 11:29, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Tony, a departmental response is attached.

Regards,

DES media team

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 10:06 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Brisbane Times questions over reports of a "another delays" to Adani project put in place by Queensland Govt

Good morning.

There are stories in the Fin Review this morning that suggest the Queensland Govt has put a further delay in the way of the assessment of the Adani Mine.

Could you please explain what the Queensland Government has requested?

Thank you.

Tony Moore
3835 7518.

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Date : 10/04/2019 5:44:24 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity"

Subject : FW: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 100419 - Adani GDEMP - Courier

Mail.docx;image003.png;image007.png;image009.png;image001.png;image002.png;image004.png;

Dean

Can you please check if you are OK with these changes.

Kieran

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 5:36 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES; TONES Peter

Subject: RE: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Hi, we've made some changes to this.

The DG is happy with these changes.

Can you please send this back to ESR for checking, and then it can go back to the journalist.



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 4:53 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: FW: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Importance: High

Hi Pam and Ros – the Department has advised that Domanii has phoned them chasing our response.

Thanks Raylene



Raylene Orellana

Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3330 6271

raylene.orellana@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 2:13 PM

To: Pamela Frost; Rosalyn Lye

Cc: DLO DES

Subject: FW: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Importance: High

Hi Pam/Ros

Please find attached the Adani GDEMP response for the CM. Due today.

Thanks

Regula

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 2:01 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Media DES; TONES Peter; ELLWOOD Dean; CAGNEY Justin; BENNINK Kate; ESR
Subject: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP
Importance: High

Good afternoon DLOs

For Ministerial Office approval please.

The attached response to the Courier Mail's question last night about the Adani GDEMP has been provided by, and approved by the Director-General.

On M.O. approval we will provide to the journalist.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 1:48 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: MERRICK Jamie; DLO DES; Media DES; GRANT Andrea
Subject: RE: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February

Hi Kieran

Please see below DG approved response

To qualify the DES media release of 18 February – *Adani BTFMP review report finalised*, as Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided advice, in its February 2019 report on the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan version 10a dated January 21, 2019 (GDEMP), DES reserves the right to seek advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO as necessary on the latest and current version of the GDEMP provided to DES by Adani.

Kind regards



Peter Tones
Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3199 7524 M 4(6) Personal information
Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
E peter.tones@des.qld.gov.au

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:38 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Re: DES media request

Hi guys,

Just following up with this to see when you can respond this morning?

Thanks,
Domanii

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:59, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Domanii, we will check on this for you but not sure if we'll be able to get more info tonight.

Regards,

Media team DES

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfrmp-review-report-finalised.htm>)

--

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T (6) Personal info x07 3666 6826

E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Domanii Cameron
 Courier Mail / Sunday Mail
 (b) (6) Personal information / 3666 6826
 domanii.cameron@news.com.au

Enquiry received: 5.59pm, Tuesday 09 April 2019

Media deadline: As soon as possible

Date: 10 April 2019

Questions

*So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this;
<https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfmp-review-report-finalised.html>)*

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

In its assessment of the latest version of the GDEMP, DES may seek clarifying information from CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to ensure that the latest version meets the requirements of their review and the conditions in the Environmental Authority.

DES does not intend to seek another independent review of the GDEMP.

~~To qualify the DES media release of 18 February — Adani BTFMP review report finalised — as Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided advice, in its February 2019 report on the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan version 10a dated January 21, 2019 (GDEMP), DES reserves the right to seek advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO as necessary on the latest and current version of the GDEMP provided to DES by Adani.~~

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
 Ph: 4987 9338
 Date: 10 April 2019

Endorsed: Director-General
 Ph: 07 (07) 3338 9304
 Date: 10 April 2019

Date : 20/05/2019 4:34:39 PM
From : "GRANT Andrea"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "LAWRENCE Rob"
Subject : FW: Draft holding lines for today
Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;
Dean

Are you happy with these holding lines for today's meeting?

Thanks
Andrea

From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 4:32 PM
To: GRANT Andrea
Cc: BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana
Subject: FW: Draft holding lines for today

Hi amended. Getting on plane cheers!

The Department of Environment and Science met today with Adani representatives about the Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP). This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the plans and negotiations are continuing.

DES has sought updated advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO on Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP). This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES is just as keen as Adani to finalise the management plans. However, ensuring the environmental integrity of the proposed mine is our number one priority.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 3:49 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Subject: FW: Draft holding lines for today

The Department of Environment and Science met today with Adani representatives about the Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program. This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the application.

Earlier this month DES requested clarification from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO on issues relating to a source aquifer in the area of the proposed mine. That clarification has not been received yet. We are now working closely with CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to lock in timeframes.

DES is just as keen as Adani to finalise this application. However, ensuring the environmental integrity of the proposed mine is our number one priority.

From: GRANT Andrea
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 11:16 AM
To: ELLWOOD Dean; LAWRENCE Rob
Cc: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Subject: Draft holding lines for today

Dean and Rob

Below are potential holding lines for today.

The Department of Environment and Science met today with Adani representatives about the Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program. This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the application.

Earlier this month DES requested clarification from Geoscience Australian and CSIRO on issues relating to a source aquifer in the area of the proposed mine. That clarification has not been received yet. We are now working closely with CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to lock in timeframes.

DES is just as keen as Adani to finalise this application. However, ensuring the environmental integrity of the proposed mine is our number one priority.

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Date : 9/04/2019 11:13:46 AM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "MERRICK Jamie"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : FW: Geoscience Australia and CSIRO advice [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Attachment : MC19-002783 (002) (002).pdf;CSIRO-Geoscience Australia Tranche 2 Report_att. A.PDF;Attachment B - ltr from GA to DoEE 5 April 2019.pdf;Attachment A - Letter from CSIRO to Dean Knudson re Advice on Groundwater....pdf;image001.png;image003.png;

FYI



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Gregory Manning <Gregory.Manning@environment.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:00 AM

To: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean

Cc: James Tregurtha

Subject: Geoscience Australia and CSIRO advice [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

Dear Dean and Melissa

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Price to Minister Enoch in relation to Adani groundwater management plans and advice.

Regards

Greg.

Greg Manning

Assistant Secretary, Assessments (WA, SA and NT) and Post Approvals

Department of the Environment and Energy

51 Allara Street, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2600

T 02 6274 1400 M (6) Personal info gregory.manning@environment.gov.au

From: Alannah Pentony

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 10:54 AM

To: 'DESMinsterandDG.Corro@des.qld.gov.au' <DESMinsterandDG.Corro@des.qld.gov.au>; 'Hannah.jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au' <Hannah.jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: DLO Price <DLOPrice@environment.gov.au>

Subject: Geoscience Australia and CSIRO advice [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

DLO price

Please find attached a letter from Minister Price to Minister Enoch

Kind regards

Alannah

Alannah Pentony

Office of the Hon Melissa Price MP

Minister for the Environment

a: Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

t: (02) 6277 7920 | m: (6) Personal info e: alannah.pentony@environment.gov.au

The Hon Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
GPO Box 5078
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter concerning the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report commissioned by my Department on Adani Mining Pty Ltd's groundwater plans.

The Department of the Environment and Energy commissioned CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to provide it with technical advice to support assessment of Adani's groundwater management and research plans. This advice was sought to inform the regulatory decisions to be made on how Adani's groundwater plans meet their *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) conditions of approval for the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Infrastructure Project (Project).

In considering the advice to me from the Department, I asked that the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia be briefed so that I could be assured that the actions required of Adani by the Department adequately address the issues in their review. CSIRO and Geoscience Australia have now provided that assurance.

Consistent with the bilateral arrangements we have with Queensland, and as a co-regulator on the Carmichael Mine and Rail Project, I enclose a copy of the report and I have asked my Department to provide a copy directly to the Queensland Department of Environment and Science. I also enclose a copy of correspondence from both the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in response to the briefing from the Department.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely



MELISSA PRICE



Australian Government

Geoscience Australia

Friday 5 April 2019

Cnr Jerrabomberra Avenue
and Hindmarsh Drive,
Symonston ACT 2609

GPO Box 378,
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

+61 2 6249 9111
www.ga.gov.au

ABN 80 091 799 039

Mr. Finn Pratt

Secretary

Department of the Environment and Energy

finn.pratt@environment.gov.au

cc: Mr Dean Knudson (dean.knudson@environment.gov.au)

Finn

Dear Mr Pratt,

Thank you for the extensive briefing from Department of Environment and Energy regarding the actions agreed to by Adani in the revised Groundwater Management and Monitoring and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management plans in response to advice provided your Department from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO on 22 February 2019. Based on this briefing Geoscience Australia is of the view that Adani have addressed the issues and concerns raised in our recommendations.

Sincerely,

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Dr. James Johnson

Chief Executive Officer

Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park, Clunies Ross Street, Acton ACT 2601
GPO Box 1700, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia
T (02) 6246 4383 • ABN 41 687 119 230

5 April 2019

Mr Dean Knudson
Deputy Secretary, Environmental Protection Group
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2600
(dean.knudson@environment.gov.au)

Dear Mr Knudson

RE: Advice on Groundwater Management Plans and Response

Thank you for briefing me on the actions agreed to by Adani in their two groundwater-related management plans, following the advice that CSIRO and Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided to you in late February 2019. CSIRO was responsible for the modelling component of this advice, and our comments here relate to that component of Adani's responses.

Our examination of Adani's actions is based on today's briefing and the summary information ("Summary of CSIRO and Geoscience Australia (GA) Advice on Groundwater Management Plans and Response") subsequently provided to CSIRO by your Department.

CSIRO is of the view that Adani's responses should satisfy the recommendation to update the groundwater models, and are directed to address the modelling related issues and concerns raised in our advice, noting that there are still components of that advice that will need to be addressed through the approval of the research plan.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Director
CSIRO Land and Water

cc Finn Pratt, Secretary, Department of the Environment and Energy
Greg Manning, Assistant Secretary, Assessment & Post Approvals Branch,
Department of the Environment and Energy

Date : 9/04/2019 3:57:26 PM
From : "MERRICK Jamie"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "LAWRENCE Rob"
Subject : FW: Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP)
Attachment : DG DES re GDEMP - 20190409.pdf;image163210.jpg;

FYI

From: [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 3:55 PM
To: MERRICK Jamie
Cc: [REDACTED] s.73
Subject: Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP)

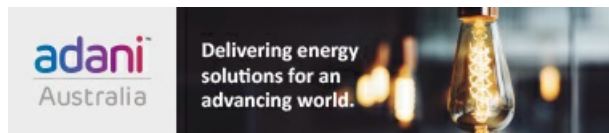
Hi Jamie,
As per our meeting of yesterday please find attached our response to your correspondence.

Regards,

[REDACTED] s.73

[REDACTED] s.73
[REDACTED] s.73 - Adani Mining

E [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au
P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: [REDACTED] s.73
A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000
P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001
W adaniaustralia.com



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9 April 2019

Private & Confidential

Mr Jamie Merrick
Director-General
Department of Environment and Science
Queensland Government
400 George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

By email: jamie.merrick@des.qld.gov.au

Dear Jamie

Adani Mining Pty Ltd – Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan

We refer to your correspondence of 5 April 2019 in relation to the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan (**GDEMP**) and also the opportunity for us to meet on 8 April 2019.

As you are aware, we have been working with both the Federal and State Departments in relation to the finalisation of this plan for more than two years. Unfortunately, despite repeated requests from Adani, the Queensland Government has been unwilling to provide commitments in relation to timing and process to finalise outstanding management plans. This lack of clarity has been evident throughout the Department's approach to finalising the Black -Throated Finch Management Plan (**BTFMP**), which is still dragging on and which has been the subject of last minute interventions, such as the highly questionable review led by Professor Wintle about which we have raised serious concerns.

In relation to the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, as we understand it, this was work commissioned for use by both the Federal and State Department; accordingly we find it inexplicable that the Queensland Government is now stating that it does not have access to the report. We would have thought it reasonable that the Queensland Government would have had sufficient foresight and planning to ensure the timely delivery of the report in order to enable the finalisation of the plan. Accordingly, for this to now be offered up as an excuse for continued delay is not reasonable from our perspective.

Absent the Queensland Government detailing a defined process and timing to finalise the GDEMP, the requirements are unclear and it seems the goal posts continue to shift in the same way we have experienced with finalisation of the BTFMP. More specifically, the approach undertaken by the State in assessing the BTFMP has been reflective of the State's apparent desire to create two versions of the same plan. Accordingly, we assumed a similar approach was intended for the GDEMP. Nonetheless, the GDEMP was submitted to the Department on 9 April 2019.

We remain committed to working collaboratively to finalise these plans so that we can get on with the task of delivering thousands of jobs for Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely

s.73

s.73

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Date : 24/04/2019 3:54:30 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "MERRICK Jamie"

Subject : FW: Letter from DES regarding GDEMP process

Attachment : Letter DES GDEMP process 24 April 2019.pdf;image001.png;image003.png;image005.png;

FYI



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: MICHELMORE Shawn <Shawn.Michelmore@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 3:45 PM

To: s.73 @adani.com.au'

Cc: s.73 WELLS Melissa

Subject: Letter from DES regarding GDEMP process

Dear s.73

Please find attached correspondence on behalf of Melissa Wells.

Regards,
Shawn.



Shawn Michelmore
Executive Assistant to **Melissa Wells**
Coal and Central QLD Compliance Directorate | Rockhampton
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9385

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720



Department of
Environment and Science

Our Ref: Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan

24 April 2019

s.73

Adani Mining Pty Ltd
Level 25, 10 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

By email: s.73@adani.com.au

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan

Dear s.73

I am writing in regards to your correspondence of 9 and 12 April 2019 about the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMEP).

This letter responds specifically to your request for clarification of next steps in the approval process for the GDEMP. The Department of Environment and Science (the department) is considering the broader matters raised in your letters, particularly your letter of 12 April 2019, and may respond separately to them.

After requests to both the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) and Adani Mining Pty Ltd (Adani), the department received the following documents on 9 April 2019:

- (a) the independent scientific review of version 10a of the GDEMP and version 5 of the Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP) prepared by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia for DOEE (the review);
- (b) version 11b of the GDEMP dated 19 March 2019; and
- (c) version 7 of the GMMP dated 15 March 2019.

The department is presently:

- (a) considering the review findings and recommendations in the context of the updated GDEMP (version 11b) and GMMP (version 7), and may seek further clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to ensure an accurate understanding of issues raised and recommendations made, as well as how these have been addressed by Adani in the updated plans; and

- (b) assessing version 11b of the GDEMP against the requirements of Adani's environmental authority, which will require consideration of relevant components of version 7 of the GMMP given that the data within the GMMP is fundamental to quantifying the impacts to the groundwater dependent ecosystems and ensuring that the mitigation measures presented in the GDEMP are effective.

As you are aware, these documents, particularly the GMMP, are lengthy and complicated and the department is therefore unable to say precisely when it expects to complete its consideration. However, the department is working as quickly as possible to progress the matter.

Once the department has completed its review of the documents and obtained any necessary further advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, we will inform you if any further information, or changes to the GDEMP, are required in order for the GDEMP to be approved.

Should you require any further information, please contact Juliana McCosker, Manager on telephone (07) 4987 9356 or by email at Juliana.McCosker@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Queensland Compliance

Date : 9/04/2019 5:56:08 PM
From : "BIDGOOD Nicole"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR"
Cc : "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : FW: Media statement from the Department of Environment and Science
Attachment : image001.jpg;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Dean and ESR. Would this question be something we can answer tonight? Maybe that DES only received the CSIRO report today, and this report is being considered?



Nicole Bidgood
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5816 or ext 74816
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 5:27 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Re: Media statement from the Department of Environment and Science

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btftp-review-report-finalised.html>)

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:18, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Today the Department of Environment and Science received the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia of the GDEMP from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy. DES also today received an updated GDEMP from Adani.
Based on the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it would appear that a number of uncertainties remain, including whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.
DES will move to consider whether the revised GDEMP addresses the Environmental Authority conditions, and the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES has also requested that the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy provide the summary information provided to CSIRO.

ENDS

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--

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

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E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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Date : 1/05/2019 3:13:44 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES", "ELLWOOD Dean", "WELLS Melissa", "BENNINK Kate", "BROWN Glen", "LOVEDAY Chris", "LEWIS Kieran", "ESR", "DAUNT Bettina", "HOPE Lindsay"

Subject : FW: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

Attachment : 010519 - Mines and Black Throated Finches - Channel 7 Mackay.docx;

Thanks DLOs, we have saved this version as our Master version over here. Kieran

-----Original Message-----

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 3:11 PM

To: Pamela Frost

Cc: Media DES; Rosalyn Lye; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: FW: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

Hi Pam - pls see amended/approved version from the DG.
thanks

Peta Johnston

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3087 8407

Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane

-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 3:04 PM

To: Pamela Frost

Cc: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye; GRANT Andrea; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: RE: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

This is what's currently with the EDs for approval.

Note that in the first line, we changed 'significant project' to 'coordinated project' on subsequent advice from the business unit.

Kieran

-----Original Message-----

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 3:00 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye; GRANT Andrea; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: RE: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

I need to see a draft urgently please.

Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M **Personal**

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 2:57 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>; LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

Hi Pam

It's with two EDs for approval - Melissa Wells and Dr Glen Brown - after that it goes to Dean Ellwood. DLOs have a copy of what went to the EDs.

We have advised and apologised to the journalist (since we may well miss her 3pm deadline) and she said her deadline could be extended until 3.30 pm.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 | **Personal** | https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A-linkprotect.cudasvc.com_url-3Fa-3Dhttps-253a-252f-252fwww.des.qld.gov.au-26c-3DE-2C1-2C6No2SJ-5Fj3TMotlOrC-5FY-2Dlzh7TtnLBAeGHnfm4doC-2DEY6p2GhYAbImrf-2D01BUb7jvclZRIshCBvBkW9lvZRTcYahl-2DmCyggVintyaBzQha-5FqNVZGFa2M-2C-26typo-3Dl&d=DwIGaO&c=tpTzelpK&wZbZ5Dlo0lybSdHDHlYksGticXfalek&r=KOLvKsELC6OQsGuVPJ21LjnTdAwedOaCby_ay7HuYjE&m=T0IER2T4Cgd7XYoB6gBTsvQSD2juor3ZfalcvaoP38k&s=M00sc12ZuXhuZ4lAmllcChpPUKVlbnmAFU4brM0w_70E&e=

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 2:51 PM

To: BIDGOOD Nicole

Cc: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye; Media DES; GRANT Andrea

Subject: RE: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

... Guys, where is this up to?

Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M **Personal**

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

-----Original Message-----

From: Pamela Frost

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 1:46 PM

To: BIDGOOD Nicole <Nicole.Bidgood@des.qld.gov.au>

Cc: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

Hi, can I please check where this response is up to?

Given her deadline is 3pm, we need to see this ASAP.

Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M **Personal**

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

-----Original Message-----

From: BIDGOOD Nicole <Nicole.Bidgood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 11:07 AM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Pam FYI: Seven News Mackay request

FYI this has just come in Pam.

-----Original Message-----

From: Simpson, Amelia <AmSimpson@Seven.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 10:34 AM
To: Media DES
Cc: Moss, Elisabeth; Bailey, Sophie
Subject: Seven News Mackay request

Morning,

Amelia here from Seven Mackay. We're following up a story on Adani's Black throated Finch management plan and how the Queensland co-ordinator-general approved an Environmental Impact statement mentioning the presence of the same bird in 2014 for QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine.

We're also including the fact that traditional owners are concerned about the wetlands surrounding the Carmichael site, namely the Doongmabulla springs.

Can we request a statement detailing:

- Are traditional owners' concerns on the wetlands being considered?
- Why the Qcoal mine was approved, but not Adani, with its Black throated Finch management plan.
- Is there an expected date Adani will know an answer on both Black throated Finch and groundwater management plans?

I have a 3pm deadline.

Any questions, I'm on Personal

Cheers,
Amelia

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Date : 21/05/2019 9:39:11 AM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : FW: PO5 Strategic Water Advice for Licensing for 2019/20
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image004.png;
Dean FYI this has the potential to impact finalisation of the GDEMP and GMMP.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: CLAUS Sonia <Sonia.Claus@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 2:42 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Subject: FW: PO5 Strategic Water Advice for Licensing for 2019/20
Importance: High

Hi Mel

Just thought I'd send this onto you, regarding the PO5 funding. It looks like we may have to cut back services from 30th June if we don't get a commitment from ESR soon.

Sonia

From: RAMSAY Ian <ian.ramsay@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 12:56 PM
To: CLAUS Sonia
Subject: FW: PO5 Strategic Water Advice for Licensing for 2019/20
Importance: High

fyi

From: LAVERY Katrina <katrina.lavery@des.qld.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** JACOBS Mark
Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 12:37 PM
To: LAWRENCE Rob
Cc: WITTE Christian; RAMSAY Ian; JACOBS Mark; ELLWOOD Dean
Subject: PO5 Strategic Water Advice for Licensing for 2019/20
Importance: High

Dear Rob,

s.73

Could you please provide us with a funding source or cost centre for 2019/20 so that we can progress the business case and hopefully maintain these services past 30th June? The expected Salary cost for 2019/20 is \$130k.

Please let me know if you would like more information or would prefer if we got together to discuss,

Regards
Mark



Dr Mark Jacobs
Deputy Director-General
Science and Technology Division
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3170 5848 M 6) Personal info mark.jacobs@des.qld.gov.au
41 Boggo Road DUTTON PARK QLD 4102

Customers first | Ideas into action | Unleash potential | Be courageous | Empower people

Date : 22/05/2019 12:52:43 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : FW: Proposal for advice request from DHES around the Adani Carmichael mine

Attachment : DES CSIRO_GA Request REVISED.docx;image001.png;image003.png;image005.png;

FYI (removed GDEMP attachments).



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: WELLS Melissa

Sent: Wednesday, 22 May 2019 12:06 PM

To: (6) Personal information (L&W, Black Mountain)

Cc: Johnson James

Subject: RE: Proposal for advice request from DHES around the Adani Carmichael mine

Importance: High

Dear (6) Personal information (cc James),

Thank you for your proposal. In light of the feedback and information that CSIRO/GA have sought clarification on, DES has significantly reviewed the initial scope of the request to provide more clarity and direction in relation to DES's interests.

The revised scope provides clarity and focusses on the track changed versions of the GDEMP. The scope provides confirmation that the review does *not* include the updated GMMP and includes a refined list of questions. Accordingly, please find attached a narrowed and refined scope for the review and the 'track changed' GDEMPs (for ease of reference). Again, given the urgency around timeliness, if you could please review and provide an update proposal (costings/timeframes) at your earliest convenience.

If you would like to discuss or seek clarification I would be happy to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

Kind regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: (6) Personal information (L&W, Black Mountain) (6) Personal information@csiro.au>

Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 3:31 PM

To: WELLS Melissa

Cc: Johnson James

Subject: Proposal for advice request from DHES around the Adani Carmichael mine

Dear Melissa (cc James),

Thank you for your request on Friday May 10th for GA and CSIRO to provide advice about the type of investigation and research that may provide greater certainty regarding your Department's interest in relation to the identification of the source aquifer(s) to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

GA and CSIRO would be happy to undertake the work detailed in your email.

Please find attached our joint proposal, noting we are seeking clarification on aspects of the advice you are seeking. In summary, we have estimated the cost at \$103,072 (GST exclusive) and the advice delivered to you within 20 working days following contract execution.

Please engage with (6) Personal information as the primary contact in relation to contractual issues (6) Personal information@csiro.au, (6) Personal information (6) Personal information

With regards, [redacted] Personal information

[redacted] 4(6) Personal information

Director

CSIRO Land and Water

E [redacted] 4(6) Personal information @csiro.au

T +61 2 6246 4383 M [redacted] 4(6) Personal information

<https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/LWF>

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands that we live and work on across Australia and pays its respect to Elders past and present.

GPO Box 1700

CSIRO Black Mountain Site

Clunies Ross St, Canberra ACT 2601

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

DES CSIRO/GA GDEMP 11b Advice request – REVISED based on CSIRO/GA feedback and clarification provided 20 May 2019

Review documents (for clarification please note DES does not require a review of the GMMP):

1. GDEMP v11b (track change versions v10 – v11 and v11a-11b attached);

Following the department's review of the CSIRO/GA 2019 Report, the department seeks your advice about the type of investigation and research that may provide greater certainty regarding the department's interest in relation to the identification of the source aquifer(s) to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex (DSC).

The environmental authority (EA) for the Carmichael Coal Mine requires Adani to develop and implement a Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan (GDEMP). The term GDEMP is defined in the EA and states, among other things, that a GDEMP must include *'detailed baseline research to establish the source aquifer(s) for groundwater supply to each groundwater dependent ecosystem [potentially or indirectly impacted by mining activities]'*.

Your 2019 Report states that:

'It is plausible and reasonable that the Clematis Sandstone is a major source aquifer for the DSC... It is not plausible and reasonable to state unequivocally that the Clematis Sandstone is the sole source aquifer for the DSC...' (p2); and

'Available evidence supports the conceptualisation that the Clematis Sandstone is a likely source aquifer for the DSC. However, the proposed monitoring and management approaches do not sufficiently address the uncertainty regarding the potential alternative or additional source aquifers (refer Section 3.2 and 3.3).' (p9); and

'To constrain the source aquifer(s) of the DSC, a more sophisticated statistical analysis of hydrochemistry data is required. This includes assessing a wider variety of groundwater and surface water analytes, as well as appropriate use of isotope hydrochemistry analysis. Further information on potential techniques is provided (CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, 2018) and other readily available references.' (p10)

Further, in advice given to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy, *'Advice on draft research plans to the Department of the Environment and Energy'*, dated November 2018, you state:

'An integrated analysis of existing and newly acquired geological, hydrodynamic and hydrochemical data would improve the conceptual understanding of the groundwater sources of the DSC'. (at page 5); and

'Further information on the specific methods and techniques to be applied to chemically assess the springs source and groundwater flow processes is required for a more detailed assessment to be made. This includes the need to define the

analytical suite, quality assurance and quality control methods, and use of a broader range of isotopic and environmental traces...' (at page 13).

Having regard to **the 2019 Report, the 2018 advice, and our meeting of 16 April 2019**, the department has the understanding that the following further research (steps) would improve the certainty about the source aquifer(s) of the DSC and other groundwater dependent ecosystems:

- a) hydrogeochemical analysis of water samples for comparison within and across relevant aquifers (Clematis Sandstone, Dunda Beds and Rewan Formation);
 - b) incorporation of the use of isotope and ageing tracers in the above hydrogeochemical analysis;
 - c) a comprehensive review of groundwater level and quality data from relevant aquifers including data from new proposed nested bores in the vicinity of DSC;
 - d) detailed geological mapping including cores from bores drilled in the vicinity of DSC and facies modelling to better inform hydraulic connectivity within and across all aquifers;
 - e) incorporation of the airborne electro-magnetic modelling recently completed by Geoscience Australia (and available to Adani by June 2020); and
 - f) revision of the conceptual understanding of the source aquifer(s) for DSC and groundwater system based on information collected from the above for incorporation into the groundwater model review (re-run).
1. Does the above summary accurately reflect the CSIRO/GA advice with respect to further work that could increase certainty of the source aquifer(s) for the DSC?
 2. Would CSIRO/GA recommend any additional measures?
 3. Would it be appropriate from an adaptive management framework for all the above matters to be undertaken over a set period i.e. prior to the model review (re-run)?

Based on GDEMP 11b (track change version/s) and the CSIRO/GA advice dated November 2018 and February 2019, the department seeks your additional advice on the following questions:

4. Generally, in respect to groundwater research and modelling, is it acceptable and/or common from a scientific basis to have some level of uncertainty? i.e. can source aquifer(s) ever be categorically determined or definitively identified? Can you have absolute certainty? Is there always some level of uncertainty?
5. Are the groundwater drawdown trigger thresholds proposed in the updated GDEMP 11b appropriate and suitable to ensure the long-term protection of the DSC in light of your advice that the numerical model is not fit for purpose?
6. For question 5, are the adaptive management measures and commitments in the updated GDEMP appropriate? If not, please provide suggestions to address this?

This advice will assist the department's review and assessment of the latest version of the GDEMP 11b.

Please note there is a high level of urgency to your advice given the department wishes to progress the assessment of the GDEMP and work with Adani to finalise the plan.

Date : 5/03/2019 1:18:51 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "MERRICK Jamie" , "TRACEY Alena"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : FW: Request for Commonwealth CSIRO and Geoscience Australia expert scientific review (Final) of GDEMP and GMMP

Attachment : Letter to Commonwealth Re CSIRO-GA review 050319.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;image005.png;

Good Afternoon – Just FYI.

Kind Regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: WELLS Melissa

Sent: Tuesday, 5 March 2019 1:18 PM

To: 'Dean.Knudson@environment.gov.au'

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; 'John.Foster@environment.gov.au'; MCCOSKER Juliana

Subject: Request for Commonwealth CSIRO and Geoscience Australia expert scientific review (Final) of GDEMP and GMMP

Good Afternoon Dean,

Please find attached correspondence requesting final CSIRO/GA review report on GDEMP and GMMP.

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

5 March 2019

Mr Dean Knudson
Deputy Secretary
Environment Protection Group
Department of the Environment and Energy
John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace
Parkes Canberra ACT 2600

Email: dean.knudson@environment.gov.au

Dear Mr Knudson,

I understand the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy has received the final report from the independent scientific review by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP).

As co-regulator for the Adani project, and taking into consideration the Bilateral arrangements the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (the department) has with the Commonwealth, including any Administrative Access Policy, I request a copy of the independent scientific review report.

This will enable the delegate to consider the report in the assessment of the GDEMP and GMMP with respect to the relevant environmental authority condition requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

I look forward to the continued successful cooperation between our departments to ensure a robust scientific approach supports both the State and Commonwealth approval processes.

Any questions in relation to this correspondence please don't hesitate to contact me on (07) 4987 9343 or melissa.wells@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Queensland Compliance

Date : 16/05/2019 3:15:47 PM
From : "LOWE Trinity"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : FW: Rob - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP
Attachment : 160519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Dean

Please see the attached statement for your URGENT approval. I have spoken to Rob and he understands this sits with you. If this process has changed, just let me know.

Thanks & Cheers

Trin



Trinity Lowe
Executive Officer
Office of the Deputy Director General
Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3330 5812
Level 7 400 George St Brisbane

From: LEWIS Kieran
Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2019 3:02 PM
To: LAWRENCE Rob <Rob.Lawrence@des.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; DAUNT Bettina <Bettina.Daunt@des.qld.gov.au>; ESR <ESR@des.qld.gov.au>; LOWE Trinity <Trinity.Lowe@des.qld.gov.au>; WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>; BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Rob - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Hi Rob

For your approval, please.

The attached response to the Australian re the Adani GDEMP and advice we are seeking on this has been approved by Kate Bennink and Melissa Wells.

The Australian has a 4pm deadline for this.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal info
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2019 11:42 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Groundwater Management Plan

Good morning,
Speaking on Sky News yesterday, Adani Mining CEO [REDACTED] said the Department of Environment and Science had put in place a contract that includes fee for service with CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to do a further review on the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan.

Is this correct?

Have timeframes been set out for CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to update their review of the latest version of the GDEMP?

A response by 4pm would be appreciated.

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 12/05/2019 5:13:08 PM

From : "MERRICK Jamie"

To : "Pam Frost" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Fwd: Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx;ATT00001.htm;

I can approve the response as is.

The only other option would be to state something of the following:

Adani's claims are false.

On Friday 10th May, DES agreed to meet with Adani this week and set out the timeframes for CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to update their review following analysis of the latest version of the GDEMP, once this timeframe has been confirmed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Date: 12 May 2019 at 3:57:07 pm AEST

To: MERRICK Jamie <Jamie.Merrick@des.qld.gov.au>

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>, Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>, DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>, TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Good afternoon Jamie

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

DDG ESR Dean Ellwood has approved the attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 1 (6) Personal info

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 3:45 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MERRICK Jamie; Pamela Frost; DLO DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Looks ok, just remove:

The department has not requested CSIRO or GeoScience Australia to further review the GDEMP.

And then remove the first word 'However,' from next para.

If you can put words around "DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO and GA.

Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science
[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)
GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 12 May 2019, at 3:36 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

Content for the response has come from Friday's media statement, with additional highlighted paragraphs to address the journalist's specific questions. We have public statement before that we will not be seeking an independent scientific review of the GDEMP, but would rely on the advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: Pamela Frost
Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T +61 7 3666 6172 M p4(6) Personal inform
E peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

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<120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx>

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 12/05/2019 5:49:54 PM
From : "Pamela Frost"
To : "Media DES"
Cc : "MERRICK Jamie" , "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : Fwd: Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP
Thanks DG and Dean.
Kieran, DG's suggested changes below.

null
Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal info
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

Begin forwarded message:

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Date: 12 May 2019 at 5:26:21 pm AEST
To: MERRICK Jamie <Jamie.Merrick@des.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Perfect

Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science
Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000 <x-apple-data-detectors://1/1>
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001 <x-apple-data-detectors://2>

On 12 May 2019, at 5:13 pm, MERRICK Jamie <Jamie.Merrick@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

I can approve the response as is.

The only other option would be to state something of the following:

Adani's claims are false.

On Friday 10th May, DES agreed to meet with Adani this week and set out the timeframes for CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to update their review following analysis of the latest version of the GDEMP, once this timeframe has been confirmed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Date: 12 May 2019 at 3:57:07 pm AEST
To: MERRICK Jamie <Jamie.Merrick@des.qld.gov.au>, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>, Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>, DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>, TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Good afternoon Jamie

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

DDG ESR Dean Ellwood has approved the attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887
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If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@des.qld.gov.au

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 3:45 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MERRICK Jamie; Pamela Frost; DLO DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Looks ok, just remove:

The department has not requested CSIRO or GeoScience Australia to further review the GDEMP.

And then remove the first word 'However,' from next para.

If you can put words around "DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO sand GA.
Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000<x-apple-data-detectors://1/1>
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001<x-apple-data-detectors://2>

On 12 May 2019, at 3:36 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au<mailto:Media@des.qld.gov.au>> wrote:
Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

Content for the response has come from Friday's media statement, with additional highlighted paragraphs to address the journalist's specific questions. We have public statement before that we will not be seeking an independent scientific review of the GDEMP, but would rely on the advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au<mailto:media@des.qld.gov.au>

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If you are emailing about a media matter, please cc media@des.qld.gov.au<mailto:media@des.qld.gov.au>

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au<mailto:peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: Pamela Frost
Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."
Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?
How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,
Charlie Peel
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T +61 7 3666 6172 M (6) Personal info

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Date : 20/05/2019 3:43:43 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Fwd: Proposal for advice request from DHES around the Adani Carmichael mine

Attachment : Advice request and costing response_CSIRO_GA_20May2019_for_submission.docx;ATT00001.htm;
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [redacted] (L&W, Black Mountain)" [redacted] [redacted]@csiro.au>
Date: 20 May 2019 at 3:31:25 pm AEST
To: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Johnson James <James.Johnson@ga.gov.au>
Subject: Proposal for advice request from DHES around the Adani Carmichael mine

Dear Melissa (cc James),

Thank you for your request on Friday May 10th for GA and CSIRO to provide advice about the type of investigation and research that may provide greater certainty regarding your Department's interest in relation to the identification of the source aquifer(s) to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

GA and CSIRO would be happy to undertake the work detailed in your email.

Please find attached our joint proposal, noting we are seeking clarification on aspects of the advice you are seeking. In summary, we have estimated the cost at \$103,072 (GST exclusive) and the advice delivered to you within 20 working days following contract execution.

Please engage with [redacted] the primary contact in relation to contractual issues (E [redacted]@csiro.au, T: [redacted])

With regards, [redacted]

[redacted]
Director
CSIRO Land and Water
E [redacted]@csiro.au
T +61 2 6246 4383 M [redacted]
<https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/LWF>

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands that we live and work on across Australia and pays its respect to Elders past and present.

GPO Box 1700
CSIRO Black Mountain Site
Clunies Ross St, Canberra ACT 2601

Advice request | Queensland Department of Environment and Science request on Carmichael Coal Mine Project management plans

This proposal responds to a request for advice from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science on 10 May 2019 with regard to the Carmichael Coal Mine Project. This proposal: sets out the advice sought, our understanding of the request, seeks clarification on a number of matters, provides a costing estimate, delivery timeframe, and personnel roles and responsibilities.

Advice sought by QDES

The following are excerpts from the request letter sent to Geoscience Australia (GA) and the CSIRO.

Having regard to the 2019 Report, the 2018 advice, and our meeting of 16 April 2019, the department has the understanding that the following further research (steps) would improve the certainty about the source aquifer(s) of the DSC and other groundwater dependent ecosystems:

1. *Hydrogeochemical analysis of water samples for comparison within and across relevant aquifers (Clematis Sandstone, Dunda Beds and Rewan Formation);*
2. *Incorporation of the use of isotope and ageing tracers in the above hydrogeochemical analysis;*
3. *A comprehensive review of groundwater level and quality data from relevant aquifers including data from new proposed nested bores in the vicinity of DSC;*
4. *Detailed geological mapping including cores from bores drilled in the vicinity of DSC and facies modelling to better inform hydraulic connectivity within and across all aquifers;*
5. *Incorporation of the airborne electro-magnetic modelling recently completed by Geoscience Australia (and available to Adani by June 2020); and*
6. *Revision of the conceptual understanding of the source aquifer(s) for DSC and groundwater system based on information collected from the above for incorporation into the groundwater model review (re-run).*

Is this understanding correct? Does the above summary accurately reflect the CSIRO and GA advice with respect to further work required to increase certainty of the source aquifer(s) for the DSC?

In addition, the department seeks your advice on the following questions:

1. *What is the level of confidence that the Clematis Sandstone aquifer is the main source for the DSC?*
2. *If there is a high level of uncertainty, what work should be undertaken to address and reduce the level of uncertainty regarding the potential alternative or additional source aquifers for the DSC?*
3. *For any additional work recommended for question 2, what is a realistic timeframe for the completion of each element of the additional work?*
4. *Are the groundwater drawdown trigger thresholds proposed in the new GDEMP appropriate and suitable to ensure the long-term protection of the DSC in light of your advice that the conceptual model is not fit for purpose?*
5. *Based on GDEMP version 11 b, are there any other matters or recommendations that CSIRO and GA would highlight in order to ensure the effectiveness of the management plan in relation to environmental authority conditions?*

This advice will assist the department's review and assessment of the GDEMP.

Considerations and clarifications required by GA and CSIRO

Clarification required – The request solely mentions the GDEMP. It is of note that the State EA only mentions the GDEMP. However, as the GDEMP is intrinsically tied to the GMMP via monitoring and management triggers, it is implicit that a review of the GDEMP would require a review of the GMMP. For transparency, DES should clarify it is of the same understanding.

Clarification required – Question 1 – the issue is not whether the Clematis is the main source aquifer for the DSC. It is whether it is the *only* source aquifer for the DSC.

Clarification required - Question 2 - uncertainty - this requires additional clarity as to what constitutes a "high level of uncertainty". This will involve advice as to what is an acceptable level of uncertainty for the Qld EA. From the context, it is assumed that this question relates to "conceptual uncertainty" and not the "predictive uncertainty" of the numerical model. GA/CSIRO will not be providing a definitive answer on this matter but will provide commentary towards the question.

To note: Question 3 - this question has a multitude of variables including what resources are available, and what level of reduction in uncertainty is desired. Without knowing these, GA/CSIRO is only able to provide indicative timeframes. GA/CSIRO will not be providing a decision on this matter but will provide commentary towards the question.

Clarification required - Question 4 - It is incorrect that previous GA/CSIRO advice to the Department of Environment and Energy (DoEE) was "that the conceptual model is not fit for purpose". For context, the GA/CSIRO advice in February 2019 is worded the "best choice of available [numerical] model runs does not mean that this [numerical] model run is considered to be fit-for-purpose". This question required reframing if GA/CSIRO are to proceed.

Scope of advice to be provided by GA-CSIRO

The joint response from GA and CSIRO will:

- Build upon existing advice to DoEE but incorporate changes to recent documents, specifically changes in GDEMPv11b and related matters in GMMPv7
- Require QDES to supply the following documents GMMPv5, GMMPv7, GDEMPv10 and GDEMPv11b . In addition, and if available, 'tracked changes' version of the GMMP and/or GDEMP that contain all changes made between document versions mentioned above.

Cost estimates

GA Cost: \$79,569 includes technical assessment, peer review and agency clearance.

CSIRO Cost – \$23,503 includes technical assessment, peer review and agency clearance.

Estimated total cost: \$103,072 GST exclusive

Delivery of services

From date of contract execution the advice would be delivered to QDES within **20 working days** in the form a report. This timeline assumes the scope of work remains unchanged from that set out above.

Resourcing

GA Staff and effort

Role	Days
Response Coordinator	17
Hydrodynamics – Senior	12
Hydrochemistry – Senior	12
Geology/Hydrogeology - Senior	12

GA Cost – \$79,569 includes technical assessment, peer review and agency clearance.

CSIRO Staff and effort

Role	Days
CSIRO coordinator and reviewer	2
GDE Ecologist	5
Numerical Modeller	5

CSIRO Cost – \$23,503 includes technical assessment, peer review and agency clearance.

Role descriptions

GA and CSIRO Response coordinator 1) technical hydrogeological lead to direct response 2) uphold scientific impartiality and integrity, 3) coordinate a cohesive response across agencies and disciplines, and 4) support and facilitate response through cross

GA Geology/Hydrogeology - Senior 1) consider the strategic implications of proponent's preferred hydrogeological (including structure) conceptualisation and plausible/reasonable alternatives, 2) Provide strategic technical advice under broad direction, 4) evaluate and communicate risks, in the technical context.

GA Hydrodynamic - Senior 1) to assess and evaluate the adequacy and feasibility of proponent technical methodology and approaches including hydraulic parameterisation and water flow, 2) Provide high level specialist technical advice under broad direction, 3) Evaluate, prioritise and communicate identified technical risks in the context of a multi-disciplinary science advice response, and 4) contribute to a concise and timely cohesive advice response to support decision making.

GA Hydrochemistry - Senior 1) to assess and evaluate the adequacy and feasibility of proponent technical methodology and approaches including bulk chemistry and water quality, 2) Provide high level specialist technical advice under broad direction, 3) Evaluate, prioritise and communicate identified technical risks in the context of a multi-disciplinary science advice response, and 4) contribute to a concise and timely cohesive advice response to support decision making.

CSIRO Numerical Modeller 1) to assess and evaluate the adequacy and feasibility of proponent technical methodology and approaches including numerical methods, model parameterisation and conceptual implementation, 2) Provide high level specialist technical advice under broad direction, 3) Evaluate, prioritise and communicate identified technical risks in the context of a multi-disciplinary science advice response, and 4) contribute to a concise and timely cohesive advice response to support decision making.

CSIRO Ecologist 1) to assess and evaluate the adequacy and feasibility of proponent technical methodology and approaches including ecosystem monitoring and mitigation measures, 2) Provide high level specialist technical advice under broad direction, 3) Evaluate, prioritise and communicate identified technical risks in the context of a multi-disciplinary science advice response, and 4) contribute to a concise and timely cohesive advice response to support decision making.

Date : 12/05/2019 3:57:07 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "MERRICK Jamie"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "Media DES" , "Pamela Frost" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "DLO DES" , "TONES Peter"
Subject : Jamie - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP
Attachment : 120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx;

Good afternoon Jamie

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

DDG ESR Dean Ellwood has approved the attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal infor
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 3:45 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MERRICK Jamie; Pamela Frost; DLO DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Looks ok, just remove:

The department has not requested CSIRO or GeoScience Australia to further review the GDEMP.

And then remove the first word 'However,' from next para.

If you can put words around "DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO sand GA.

Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science
[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)
GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 12 May 2019, at 3:36 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

Content for the response has come from Friday's media statement, with additional highlighted paragraphs to address the journalist's specific questions. We have public statement before that we will not be seeking an independent scientific review of the GDEMP, but would rely on the advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
19-503

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>

Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: Pamela Frost

Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T +61 7 3666 6172 M p4(6) Personal inform

E peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

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<120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx>

Date : 16/04/2019 5:55:51 PM
From : "DOBBYN Andrea"
To : "owensj@theaustralian.com.au"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Jared, response from DES re Adani BTFMP
Attachment : 160419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - The Australian.docx.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;image003.jpg;image004.jpg;

Jared
Thanks for your enquiry.
Please find the DES response attached.
Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn
Senior Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Owens, Jared <owensj@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 April 2019 11:21 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Carmichael -- The Australian

Hello,

I'm seeking updated info on Adani Carmichael.

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's GDEMP?

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's BTFMP?

Thanks,
Jared

--
JARED OWENS
Reporter
Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T +61 7 36666655 M owensj@theaustralian.com.au theaustralian.com.au
P4(6) Personal inform

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Date : 22/03/2019 12:46:06 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "MCCOSKER Juliana"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa"

Subject : Juliana / Kate - for approval - response to Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Attachment : 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine.docx;image001.png;image002.png;

Hello Juliana and Kate

For your review, amendment and approval please.

Attached are suggested responses to the Brisbane Times' questions about groundwater and the Carmichael mine.

Note I have asked for advice in relation to the response to Q6(b). Happy to take advice on any other responses too, of course.

I'd like to have this to the Minister's Office by 4pm today. Can we please have this back to Media Services [by 3pm today?](#)

Thanks for your help.

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 12:05 PM

To: Media DES; DLO DES

Cc: GRANT Andrea

Subject: FW: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Hi team, this is very technical – can I please leave it with you.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4p4(6) Personal information

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM

To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to assess the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can I confirm this please

- a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?
- b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?
Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9: Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore
(07) 3835 7518.

I am writing this story for Monday.

Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.

Thank you.

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Media response

Re: Groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

For: Tony Moore
Brisbane Times
tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au

Enquiry received: 12.05 pm, Friday 22 March 2019, via Minister's Office

Media deadline: Required for a Monday (25 March) publication date

Date: 22 March 2019

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data? Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.*

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 2: *To what degree is that true?*

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 3: Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 4: If so, to what degree?

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 5: What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 6: Can I confirm this please:

a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?

Response: Yes.

b) Does Adani need to separately ALSO need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Response: FOR ADVICE PLEASE

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet? Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Response: The Commonwealth Government is still to approve Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) for the Carmichael Coal Mine.

The Commonwealth Government has obtained an independent scientific review of the GDMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES will take into consideration any findings of these reviews when making its decision on the GDMP, which will occur once the Commonwealth Government formally approves the plan.

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Response: The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally and the mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the final report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

Question 9: *Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?*

Response: The BTFMP and GDEMP need to be approved by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments before operations can begin at Adani's Carmichael Coal Mine.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

The Commonwealth Government approved the BTFMP on 18 December 2018.

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 22 March 2018

Endorsed: [Name and Position] relevant DDG
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: [Date]

Date : 10/04/2019 9:44:14 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "CAGNEY Justin" , "BENNINK Kate"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "Media DES" , "ESR" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : Justin / Kate - for advice - is our February media release re GDEMP still current

Hi Justin (for Melissa) and Kate

For advice please.

The Courier Mail's Domanni Cameron wants an answer this morning as to whether these lines in a media release on our website (<https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfmp-review-report-finalised.html>) dated 18 February 2019 remain correct.

Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case.

DES will be satisfied to consider the scientific advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia in relation to the GDEMP prior to making a decision on the plan.

If yes, please let me know and we can advise the journalist. If they are not correct, we need to edit the media release online, or perhaps remove it.

Thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:38 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Re: DES media request

Hi guys,

Just following up with this to see when you can respond this morning?

Thanks,
Domanii

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:59, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Domanii, we will check on this for you but not sure if we'll be able to get more info tonight.

Regards,

Media team DES

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfmp-review-report-finalised.html>)

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DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T (6) Personal info x07 3666 6826

E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 17/04/2019 2:41:40 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "CAGNEY Justin"
Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"
Subject : Justin - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Attachment : 170419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - Courier Mail.docx;

Hi Justin

For your approval please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Courier Mail, which wants the latest on the Adani approvals. The response is the same as that which went to The Australian last night, with the addition of the highlighted paragraph.

On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.

The Courier Mail needs the response by COB today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 s4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 2:21 PM
To: Pamela Frost
Cc: Media DES
Subject: Courier Mail - Adani inquiry

Hi Pam,

I am chasing an update around Adani's groundwater management plan and the black-throated finch management plan.

1. Has DES finished going through the groundwater management plan? Where is this process currently at? Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?
2. Does DES know when it will finish with the BTFMP? Where is this process currently at?
3. Any further comments you wish to add.

My deadline is COB today.

Thank you,

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T + s4(6) Personal info x07 3666 6826
E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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Date : 15/04/2019 11:06:27 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "CAGNEY Justin"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "BENNINK Kate"
Subject : Justin - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re GDEMP approval
Attachment : 150419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;

Hi Justin

For your approval please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani GDEMP.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform:
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 15 April 2019 9:03 AM
To: Jack Evans
Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES
Subject: Re: GDEMP

Hi Jack,

Yes this one would be best directed to DES.
I have cc-ed in the media team who will be able to assist.

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M p4(6) Personal inform:

[1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](#) GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

On 15 Apr 2019, at 8:29 am, Jack Evans <Jack.Evans@capnews.com.au> wrote:

Good Morning Pam,

I Hope you're well.

I am seeking some more information regarding this statement received last week;

'Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from DES is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.'

I'm wondering what the other uncertainties are, and whether a conclusion has been reached regarding identifying the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs.

Let me know if this is one to send to the DES instead.

Look Forward to hearing from you,

Thanks,

JACK EVANS

Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4930 4234

E jack.evans@capnews.com.au

W NewsCorpAustralia.com

[<image001.jpg>](#)

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[<image004.jpg>](#)

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Date : 12/04/2019 4:16:47 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "BENNINK Kate"

Cc : "CAGNEY Justin" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"

Subject : Kate / Dean - Ministerial changes to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin response re Carmichael Mine Approvals

Attachment : 120419 - Carmichael Mine Approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;

Hi Kate and Dean

The Minister's Office has made substantial changes to our proposed response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani approvals. Please see attached.

Are you OK with this response?

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 /s4(6) Personal inform

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Date : 7/05/2019 10:31:23 AM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Kate / Melissa - for approval - general statement re Adani to address ABC and Country Life enquiries

Attachment : Adani finch plan;re: Black throated finch management plan;070519 - Carmichael mine approvals.docx;

Hi Kate and Melissa

For your approval, please.

We've received the attached media enquiries from ABC and Country Life re Adani and I've combined our most recent statements into one. Note Country Life has also asked about the GDEMP.

Is the attached OK to progress.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4 (6) Personal inform

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Date : 30/04/2019 11:27:16 AM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"

Subject : Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 300419 - Adani GDEMP - Guardian Australia.docx;

Hi Kate and Melissa

For approval please.

Attached is a suggested response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP. The response is the same that went to the Townsville Bulletin last night, with an additional highlighted paragraph at the end.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal informa

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Ben Smee <ben.smee@theguardian.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 10:56 AM

To: Media DES

Subject:

Hi guys,

I have a question regarding Adani approvals that I'm hoping you can answer.

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Thanks. Happy to chat this through should you need.

Keen for a response by the end of the day if possible.

Ben Smee

Queensland Correspondent

The Guardian | Australia

sch4p4(6) Personal information

19-503

ben.smee@theguardian.com

twitter: [@bensmee](https://twitter.com/bensmee)

theguardian.com/au

Download the Guardian app for [Android](#) and [iOS](#)

Published on DES Disclosure Log
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Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Ben Smee
The Guardian | Australia
sch4p4(6) Personal information
ben.smee@theguardian.com

Enquiry received: 10.56 am, Tuesday 30 April 2019

Guardian deadline: COB, Tuesday 30 April 2019

Date: 30 April 2019

Questions

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

These are the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version10a) in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP (version11b).

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES on 09 April.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

Based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES continues to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress the GDEMP.

Any change in the scale of the proposed Carmichael coal mine would be reflected in the Adani's Plan of Operations, which it is required to submit to DES when operational areas change. While no additional approvals may be required for a smaller mine, certain matters, such as financial assurance, may vary.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: (07) 4987 9338
Date: 30 April 2019

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Date : 3/05/2019 10:46:45 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Hi Kate and Melissa

Can you please provide dot points asap to help us write a response to the questions below from the Townsville Bulletin about Adani. The Bulletin requires our approved response by 4pm today at the latest.

I have highlighted the journalist's specific requirements, below.

Many thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / ip4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

4p4(6) Personal informat

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Date : 9/05/2019 11:51:37 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "BENNINK Kate"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : Kate - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting
Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani.docx;
Kate

For approval / amendment please.

I've been asked to draft a holding statement for tomorrow's meeting with Adani.

Please see attached, based on earlier statements.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 / 4p4(6) Personal informal	DDG:
Approved:	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised.

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

Adani's own environmental consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened, reporting that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March.

DES is now assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

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Date : 15/04/2019 9:56:19 AM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "CAGNEY Justin"

Subject : Kate - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re GDEMP approval

Attachment : image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;image004.jpg;150419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;

Hello Kate

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin's latest questions re the GDEMP approval. It's the same response as went to the Bulletin last week (Friday); but re-worded slightly at the end to address the journalist's specific question.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 15 April 2019 9:03 AM

To: Jack Evans

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES

Subject: Re: GDEMP

Hi Jack,

Yes this one would be best directed to DES.

I have cc-ed in the media team who will be able to assist.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform

[1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](#) GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

On 15 Apr 2019, at 8:29 am, Jack Evans <Jack.Evans@capnews.com.au> wrote:

Good Morning Pam,

I Hope you're well.

I am seeking some more information regarding this statement received last week;

'Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from DES is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.'

I'm wondering what the other uncertainties are, and whether a conclusion has been reached regarding identifying the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs.

Let me know if this is one to send to the DES instead.

Look Forward to hearing from you,

Thanks,

JACK EVANS

Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4930 4234

E jack.evans@capnews.com.au

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Date : 2/05/2019 10:43:38 AM
From : "MERRICK Jamie"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : Latest draft
Attachment : BTFMP Media Release.docx;

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Draft holding statement

Deadline:	Briefing officer: Juliana McCosker
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9356
Phone: 3339 5887 4p4(6) Personal informal	DDG:
Approved: ED Melissa Wells; DDG ESR Dean Ellwood,	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Queensland-wide	

Adani BTFMP

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) has today [add date] requested that Adani revise its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and provide clear commitment to a small number of specified actions, as the current version does not satisfy the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

This position is based on the best available science.

DES has provided Adani with the opportunity to make a number of representations. As part of the process, DES has reviewed a consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, and received by the department on 15th March. Further clarification was sought and received about the consultant report on 2 April 2019. This report itself acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened.

After considering all information, DES requires Adani to commit to gathering more accurate population information, which is essential to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area.

DES also requires Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess. Whilst DES has set out clear commitments that Adani must make in the BTFMP, the activities do not need to be carried out before the BTFMP itself can be approved.

Significant disturbance cannot commence at the Carmichael Coal Mine until DES approves both the BTFMP and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

The Black-throated Finch population at this site represents the largest known population of the endangered southern species of the Black-throated Finch.

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 23/04/2019 2:13:17 PM

From : [REDACTED] s.73

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "MCCOSKER Juliana"

Cc : [REDACTED] s.73

Subject : Meeting with Adani Australia

Attachment : image001.jpg;

Dean

Following on from our telephone conversation this morning and consistent with the email I sent to you last week, Adani Australia requests a meeting with relevant DES officers this coming Friday 26 April, to recommence discussions associated with the approval of our outstanding environment management plans.

Can you please confirm a suitable time and venue.

You indicated in the telephone conversations that DES is sending letters to Adani relating to the BTFMP, GDEMP & GMMP. We would be grateful if you can send these letters before Friday's meeting.

Regards

[REDACTED] s.73

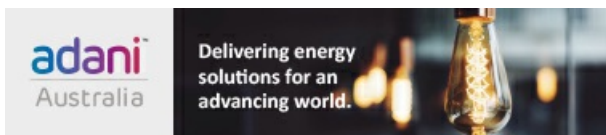
E [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: [REDACTED] s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 9/04/2019 11:53:59 AM

From : "TRACEY Ben"

To : "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "LOWE Trinity" , "GRANT Andrea" , "MAVROMMATI Connie" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Melissa - Adani media response for approval - The Guardian - Due to MO at 12.30pm

Attachment : 090419 - Carmichael mine - GDEMP review -

Guardian.docx;image003.png;image004.png;image001.png;image006.png;

Hi Melissa,

Please see attached newly updated media response for the Guardian (and all media).

I've left tracks on so you can see what we originally had planned.

For your editing/approval please.

As discussed, these lines will be used for all media that ask.

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:14 AM

To: TRACEY Ben

Cc: Media DES

Subject: RE: Kate- Adani media inquiry - The Guardian - Due to MO at 12.30pm

Hi Ben,

See suggested edits in tracked changes in the attached.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: TRACEY Ben <Ben.Tracey@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 10:40 AM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: TRACEY Ben; Media DES

Subject: RE: Kate- Adani media inquiry - The Guardian - Due to MO at 12.30pm

Hi Kate,

Here you go – added in one extra line from that response which I hope covers it. Anything else you want to say? We didn't say much else in that other response.

I copied in that response to the bris times at the bottom.

For approval please.

Thanks



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 10:02 AM
To: TRACEY Ben
Cc: MCCOSKER Juliana; Media DES; LOWE Trinity
Subject: Re: Kate- Adani media inquiry - The Guardian - Due to MO at 12.30pm

Hi Ben,

For Q1&2, I think we should use the line that Kieran has been using in previous Corro regarding directing question to the feds. And then the lines about the fact that we've asked for the review from the Feds.

I'll review q3&4 and get back to you.

Cheers
Kate

Kate Bennink
Director | Business Centre Coal
Department of Environment and Science
P 4987 9338 | M p4(6) Personal informa
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

On 9 Apr 2019, at 9:48 am, TRACEY Ben <Ben.Tracey@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Kate/Juliana,

Can you please give me a call as soon as you can. 3339 5845.

Please see attached draft response for 3 and 4. Can you please give me some advice on Q1 and 2a 2b. I don't know that we've given out that specific information before? (although I haven't done Adani in quite some time so I could be wrong).

Can we just give them a general line?

Thanks
Ben

<image002.png> **Ben Tracey**
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 9:07 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LOWE Trinity; WATSON Matthew; MCCOSKER Juliana
Subject: Kate- Adani team: Adani inquiry

Hi all,

The journalist has just indicated he wants a response by 2pm.

We will try and get something to the MO by 12.30pm if possible.

Ben 19-503

File D

Page 241 of 375

<image006.png>

Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: WATSON Matthew <Matthew.Watson@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 8:47 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LOWE Trinity
Subject: Adani team: Adani inquiry

Hi ESR,
Please see media inquiry below.
Ben Tracey will handle this when he is logged on shortly.
Cheers

<image007.png> Matt Watson

Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5819 or ext 74819 M (6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au

From: Ben Smee <ben.smee@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 8:17 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi DES

Quick inquiry re Adani.

Can you confirm to me the scope of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review into the Adani Carmichael GDEMP, as it was understood by DES?

Specifically, was DES of the belief that the CSIRO and GA would conduct an assessment of the technical work completed by Adani, in order to assess whether Adani had accurately identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs?

Or did CSIRO and GA have a broader remit, to instead assess Adani's GDEMP and technical work and make a recommendation as to whether the plan met the imposed environmental conditions?

Has DES been shown any report, or results from the CSIRO and GA assessment?

Is it the view of DES that Adani's GDEMP cannot be approved unless the source of the Doongmabulla Springs has been identified?

Thankyou. Happy to chat this through (4) (6) Personal information if you'd like.

Cheers

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia

(ch4p4) (6) Personal information
ben.smee@theguardian.com

twitter: [@bensmee](https://twitter.com/bensmee)

<image008.jpg>

theguardian.com/au

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<090419 - Carmichael mine - GDEMP review - Guardian.docx>

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Media response

Re: Adani - GDEMP

For: Ben Smee – The Guardian

Deadline: 2pm (deadline to MO is 12.30pm)

Date: 09 April 2019

1.Can you confirm to me the scope of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review into the Adani Carmichael GDEMP, as it was understood by DES?

2a.Specifically, was DES of the belief that the CSIRO and GA would conduct an assessment of the technical work completed by Adani, in order to assess whether Adani had accurately identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs?

2b.Or did CSIRO and GA have a broader remit, to instead assess Adani's GDEMP and technical work and make a recommendation as to whether the plan met the imposed environmental conditions?

3.Has DES been shown any report, or results from the CSIRO and GA assessment?

4. Is it the view of DES that Adani's GDEMP cannot be approved unless the source of the Doongmabulla Springs has been identified?

Thankyou. Happy to chat this through 4p4(6) Personal information if you'd like.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Today the Department of Environment and Science received both the updated GDEMP from Adani and the independent scientific review from the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy.

The department will now consider these reports.

~~The CSIRO and Geoscience Australia were engaged by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy to undertake an independent scientific review of the GDEMP.~~

~~The Commonwealth requested this as the Doongmabulla Springs Complex is a Federal environmental matter.~~

~~The Queensland Department of Environment and Science has liaised closely on with the Commonwealth about the GDEMP as it requires approval from both State and Federal Governments.~~

~~This includes providing advice about what matters in the GDEMP should be reviewed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.~~

~~However, further questions about the scope of the review are best addressed by the Commonwealth.~~

~~On 5 March, DES formally requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review of the GDEMP, undertaken by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.~~

~~This has been followed up by the Queensland Minister for Environment and Science writing to her Federal counterpart on 12 March 2019 to request a copy of the report on behalf of the department.~~

~~To date DES has not received the independent scientific review of the GDEMP nor been provided with an indication of when the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review will be made available.~~

~~To ensure the decision on the GDEMP is made using the best available science, DES has committed to taking the review findings into consideration before making its decision on approval of the GDEMP.~~

~~Accordingly, DES cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the independent scientific review.~~

~~The identification of the source aquifer, to be included as part of the GDEMP, is a requirement of Adani's Environmental Authority for the Carmichael Mine.~~

~~For further details, refer to the environmental authority for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf>.~~

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Media response

Re: Groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

For: Tony Moore

Brisbane Times

tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au

Date: 22 March 2019

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018. In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Springs.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to assess the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data? Professor Curnow told me that the federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.*

Question 2: *To what degree is that true?*

Question 3: *Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.*

Question 4: *If so, to what degree?*

Question 5: *What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?*

Response to Questions 1-5: These questions are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

Question 6: *Can I confirm this please:*

- a) *Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?*

Response: Adani is required to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to the approval of the GDEMP for the project.

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) must approve the GDEMP prior to the commencement of significant mining activities at the Carmichael Coal Mine.

- b) *Does Adani need to separately ALSO need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?*

Response: This question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy as the Great Artesian Basin and Doongmabulla Springs Complex are Federal environmental matters.

Question 7: *Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet? Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?*

Response: The first part of this question is best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

In regards to the second part, DES is yet to approve Adani's GDEMP for the Carmichael Coal Mine.

The Commonwealth Government obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES has requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia, so that the review findings can be considered before making a decision on approval of the GDEMP. DES cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the independent scientific review.

Question 8: *What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?*

Response: The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally.

The mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the panel's report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

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DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

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Question 9: *Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?*

Response: The Environmental Authority (EA) for the Carmichael Coal Mine was granted to Adani Mining Pty Ltd on 2 February 2016 and took effect on the granting of the mining leases on 3 April 2016. However, significant mining activities (refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf>) cannot commence until DES approves the GDEMP and the BTFMP.

Questions relating to Commonwealth approvals for the Carmichael Mine are best addressed to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy.

ENDS

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

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: 9 April 2019

Endorsed: Dean Ellwood (pending)
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: 9 April 2019

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Date : 30/04/2019 3:44:18 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Melissa / Kate - OK to send ABC the latest on the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP

Attachment : 290419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Townsville Bulletin.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;

Melissa and/or Kate

For urgent advice please.

Josh Robertson from the ABC would like the latest on the ADANI GDEMP and BTFMP. Min's Office suggests we sent him last night's response on this that we sent Townsville Bulletin assuming it doesn't need updating.

Can we send the attached to the ABC?

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 3:40 PM

To: DLO DES; Media DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye

Subject: Latest on GDEMP and BTFMP

Hi team,

Josh Robertson from ABC has just called me, asking for the latest on the Adani.

Are you able to send through the latest statement to him on the approvals of BTFMP and GDEMP? The response to the Townsville Bulletin yesterday should suffice, if it doesn't need updating.

Robertson.Joshua@abc.net.au

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

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Date : 8/04/2019 5:17:04 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES"
Subject : Melissa - for approval - further ABC questions re the Adani GDEMP
Attachment : 090419 - Carmichael mine approvals - ABC (Slezak).docx;

Hi Melissa

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached suggested responses to the six questions below from the ABC re the Adani GDEMP.

The ABC's deadline is noon tomorrow.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Michael Slezak <Slezak.Michael@abc.net.au>
Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 2:40 PM
To: Media DES
Subject: Clarification of role of QLD in approving Adani GDEMP

Hi there,

Can you please get me a quick response to the following query? Would it be possible to get back to me by midday tomorrow (Tuesday)?

1. Does the Adani's GDEMP need to be approved by the Queensland government, the Federal government, or both?
2. Has it been approved by either the Federal or Queensland government?
3. Did the Queensland government raise any problems with the 10th version of the plan?
4. On 14 August 2018, the Qld DES told the ABC (via email to me) that the GDEMP is required to identify the source of the aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to approval of the GDEMP for the Carmichael Coal Mine. Is that still true?
5. Will any version of the GDEMP that does not identify that be rejected?
6. The current version – version 10 – does not identify that source. Does that mean it will be rejected?

Regards,
Michael

ABC

Michael Slezak
National Science, Technology and Environment Reporter
Specialist Reporting Team

P +61 2 8333 3135

M 4(6) Personal informati

E slezak.michael@abc.net.au

T @mikeyslezak

Date : 9/05/2019 12:33:41 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : Melissa - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting
Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani.docx;
Hi Melissa

For approval, please.

The attached media holding statement re tomorrow's meeting with Adani has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 11:52 AM
To: BENNINK Kate
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Kate - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Kate

For approval / amendment please.

I've been asked to draft a holding statement for tomorrow's meeting with Adani.

Please see attached, based on earlier statements.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 /4p4(6) Personal informa	DDG:
Approved:	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised.

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

Adani's own environmental consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened, reporting that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani, which needs to consider DES's advice, make appropriate amendments and submit a revised version of the plan to the department.

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

This week DES has requested clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia about the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES is continuing to assess whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

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Date : 22/03/2019 1:59:24 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Melissa - for approval - response to Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Attachment : 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine.docx;image003.png;image004.png;image002.png;

Hi Melissa

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Brisbane Times re Adani mine and groundwater testing.

Can we please have this back by 3pm today?

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 1:36 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran; MCCOSKER Juliana

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES; WELLS Melissa

Subject: RE: Juliana / Kate - for approval - response to Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Hi Kieran,

Edits in tracked changes.

Thanks

Kate



Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland

Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M 4(6) Personal information

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 12:46 PM

To: BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES; WELLS Melissa

Subject: Juliana / Kate - for approval - response to Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Importance: High

Hello Juliana and Kate

For your review, amendment and approval please.

Attached are suggested responses to the Brisbane Times' questions about groundwater and the Carmichael mine.

Note I have asked for advice in relation to the response to Q6(b). Happy to take advice on any other responses too, of course.

I'd like to have this to the Minister's Office by 4pm today. Can we please have this back to Media Services by 3pm today?

Thanks for your help.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / b4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 12:05 PM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: GRANT Andrea
Subject: FW: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Hi team, this is very technical – can I please leave it with you.

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M b4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM
To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Springs.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to assess the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can I confirm this please

- a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?
- b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?
Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9 : Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore
(07) 3835 7518.

I am writing this story for Monday.

Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.

Thank you.

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Date : 30/04/2019 1:07:28 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "TRACEY Ben" , "Media DES"

Subject : Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 300419 - Adani GDEMP - Guardian Australia.docx;image002.png;image004.png;image001.png;

Hi Melissa,

Clean version with edits and approval from Kate attached. For your approval please.

Kate- I've added that link to the EA as you requested at the bottom- can you please double check that's what you were after?

Thanks very much,

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 12:43 PM

To: Media DES; WELLS Melissa

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina

Subject: RE: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kieran,

Edits in tracked changes to additional paragraph at the end.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal infor
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 11:27 AM

To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES

Subject: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate and Melissa

For approval please.

Attached is a suggested response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP. The response is the same that went to the Townsville Bulletin last night, with an additional highlighted paragraph at the end.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Ben Smee <ben.smee@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 10:56 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi guys,

I have a question regarding Adani approvals that I'm hoping you can answer.

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Thanks. Happy to chat this through should you need.

Keen for a response by the end of the day if possible.

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia

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□ theguardian.com/au

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Date : 29/04/2019 2:25:18 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "Media DES"
Subject : Melissa - for approval - response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani approvals
Attachment : 290419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Townsville Bulletin.docx;image001.png;image002.png;

Good afternoon Melissa

For your approval, please.

A response to the Townsville Bulletin's latest questions on the BTFMP and the GDEMP is attached. It is the same as the most recent response to the Courier Mail on these matters, with the exception of the highlighted pars.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4.30 pm today.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 1:32 PM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: FW: Townsville Bulletin: Right of reply, Matt Canavan on Adani

Hi team, can you please get the latest lines on GDEMP and BTFMP together for Madura? See below. She needs them by 4.30pm.



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M p4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 1:17 PM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Tim Auguston <augustt@min.internal>
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Right of reply, Matt Canavan on Adani

Hey guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

Talked Adani to Minister Matt Canavan, who was in Townsville today, and I was hoping you would be able to grab a comment from Minister Enoch re: something Mr Canavan said today.

Namely, his perception that the State Government could approve Adani's remaining environmental management plans "today".

"They can do it now, they've had the BTFMP since December, they've had the CSIRO report now for about a month... snails move at a faster pace than these guys."

- 1) Does the Environment Minister reject this claim?
- 2) How far along are the approvals now?
- 3) Will a decision on the BTFMP and the GDEMP be made soon?

Thank you! Hoping for a response by about 4.30pm please.

Regards,
Madura

19-503

File D

Page 260 of 375

MADURA MCCORMACK

Reporter

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

□

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 20/05/2019 3:01:37 PM

From : "TRACEY Ben"

To : "WELLS Melissa" , "LAWRENCE Rob"

Cc : "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "DAUNT Bettina"

Subject : Melissa/Rob - new media response for approval - latest on Adani - SMH - URGENT

Attachment : image003.png;image004.png;image005.png;image007.png;image008.png;

Hi Melissa/Rob,

Please see below a draft media response for the SMH: (they have asked the MO for the "latest").

This has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Apologies for sending this to both of you, the MO would like to see our draft now:

The Department of Environment and Science is awaiting advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Regarding the Black Throated Finch Management Plan, the department has asked Adani to make a number of commitments to enable this plan to be finalised.

Departmental representatives are today meeting with Adani representatives.



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

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GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben

Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 2:16 PM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: WELLS Melissa; MCCOSKER Juliana; LAWRENCE Rob; Media DES; TRACEY Ben; LOWE Trinity; ESR

Subject: Kate - new media query - latest on Adani - SMH - URGENT

Importance: High

Hi Kate,

Please see below a new media query.

As discussed, are we able to edit the below statement with a line advising there is/was a meeting today? (Im waiting to hear back from my director about the HS for today's meeting).

Thanks

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

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media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Media response

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) confirms its earlier public statements that it will not seek its own independent scientific review of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) but will instead rely on the advice given by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to the Commonwealth Government.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version 10) in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES only received the latest version of the GDEMP (version 11) on the same day, following its approval by the Department of Environment and Energy.

DES has now reviewed the GDEMP (version 11) and the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report.

The department has sought updated advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP, which is not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES has not sought advice on issues outside those that were covered in the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report of February 2019.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

While there is no statutory timeframe for the GDEMP to be approved, DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES is meeting with Adani today and set out the timeframes for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to update their review following analysis of the latest version of the GDEMP, once this timeframe has been confirmed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 10:16 AM

To: DLO DES; Media DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye

Subject: Latest on Adani

Hi team,

I have received an inquiry from the Sydney Morning Herald.

The journalist, Peter Hannam phannam@smh.com.au, is seeking the latest information on Adani approvals.

Can you please get a statement together with the latest information?

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

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Date : 1/05/2019 5:18:29 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "Pamela Frost"

Cc : "Rosalyn Lye" , "Media DES" , "DLO DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "GRANT Andrea" , "WATSON Matthew"

Subject : Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

Attachment : 010519 - Carmichael mine approvals - AFR.pdf;image001.jpg;image001.png;image004.png;image008.jpg;

Pam

Are you happy for us to give The Australian the same response as went to the Fin Review today (attached)?

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M p4(6) Personal info

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au

Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Adani management plans

Hi,

As discussed, Adani (see below) claims to have been seeking clarity from DES for the past fortnight with no response. I'm chasing a comment from DES.

Cheers

"The Queensland Department of Environment and Science is required to finalise two outstanding management plans, the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan, so that we can start construction on the Carmichael Project."

"Adani Mining has been asking for advice from the Department of Environment and Science for two weeks now to understand what is required to finalise the outstanding management plans so that construction can commence on the Carmichael Project."

"On numerous occasions we have requested meetings with the Premier and Deputy Premier, to date all requests have been declined. We have repeatedly met with officials from the Department of Environment and Science, with no additional details provided on what is required to finalise these plans."

"All we've ever asked for is a fair go and to be treated like any other mining company, yet this is far from what we've experienced."

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

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Date : 7/05/2019 5:53:38 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "steven.trask@fairfaxmedia.com.au"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Re: Adani finch plan
Attachment : 070519 - Carmichael mine approvals - General Media.pdf;
Good evening [Steven](#)

Thanks for your enquiry re Adani approvals. A departmental statement is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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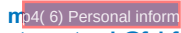
From: Steven Trask <steven.trask@fairfaxmedia.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 9:24 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani finch plan

Hi DES media team

I'm following up last week's news about the assessment of Adani's black-throated finch management plan. I was hoping you could flick through the department's statement on the plan this morning, and I was also wondering if there was any update you could provide on the assessment of the groundwater plan?

Cheers,

Steve
Steven Trask
Journalist - Queensland Country Life
Australian Community Media

 (6) Personal inform
steven.trask@fairfaxmedia.com.au
www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au

Date : 13/05/2019 6:16:18 PM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "s.73"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : RE: Actions
Attachment : image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;

Good evening s.73

On behalf of Dean I can confirm DES will be in a position to provide Adani comments on the GMMP this week. As you are aware, a meeting request has been sent out for the BTFMP workshop and the meeting will take place in Rockhampton from 2.30-5pm this Wednesday. As discussed in our meeting last week, the relevant staff are unavailable to meet again later this week and the next earliest opportunity is Monday 20 May. If you have a preference for the meeting location please let me know and we can send a calendar invitation.

In regards to the questions posed to GA/CSIRO I can advise that DES is seeking clarification and feedback regarding the level of certainty around the source aquifer/s, its monitoring and management in light of the GA/CSIRO report, the resubmitted GDEMP (version 11b) and the relevant environmental authority conditions in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

In relation to timing for clarification sought from GA/CSIRO, DES has expressed the urgency around the request. From discussions with GA today, DES is advised they are currently reviewing the request and will be in a position to provide certainty around timeframes later this week as the contract is in place.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the BTFMP prior to the workshop this Wednesday and finalising the BTFMP.

Kind regards,
Melissa



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: s.73 @adani.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 2:59 PM
To: ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa
Subject: Actions

Dean

Thank you for your time on Friday to talk through the finalisation of our management plans.

We have been consistent in requesting clarity of both process and timing to finalise the outstanding management plans. Based on the discussions from last Friday we understand that the following actions were committed to:

- In relation to the GMMP, DES will provide comments to Adani this week in a similar format to that provided for the BTFMP;
- Adani and DES will meet in a workshop to work through feedback on the GDEMP and GMMP. We note you offered Monday 20th May to hold this workshop. We stated our preference and desire for a meeting during the course of this week and we respectfully request that DES provide an opportunity for that timing to be met.
- For the BTFMP, on a forward looking basis, we agreed to meet on Wednesday the 15th of May to workshop the matters as expressed in the reasons in your Attachment A.
- Prior to that workshop this Wednesday, Adani will send through high level comments in relation to the reasons set out in your Attachment A of the BTFMP decision of 2 May 2019. These comments are being provided in the context of Adani considering resubmission and are without prejudice to any other right me may have with respect to the BTFMP decision.

We also again request that DES provide to Adani the questions asked of CSIRO & GA regarding the Source Aquifer (GDEMP), and the timing in which CSIRO & GA will respond to those questions. As discussed in the meeting you undertook to provide me with this information today.

Thanks

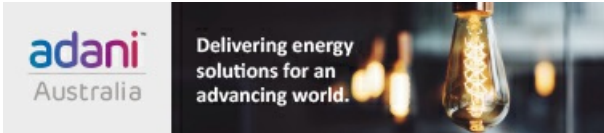
s.73

E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

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Date : 20/05/2019 3:40:23 PM
From : "DE JERSEY Timothy"
To : "LOWE Trinity" , "Media DES"
Cc : "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "LAWRENCE Rob" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : RE: Adani - Status and Department Contact
Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;
Ta Trin – really appreciated.
Tim

Timothy de Jersey
Media Manager
Department of Environment and Science

P: 3339 5890 M 4(6) Personal inform
E: timothy.dejersey@des.qld.gov.au
A: Level 31, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
W: www.des.qld.gov.au | media@des.qld.gov.au

From: LOWE Trinity <Trinity.Lowe@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 3:39 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: ESR; DAUNT Bettina; ELLWOOD Dean; LAWRENCE Rob; WELLS Melissa
Subject: FW: Adani - Status and Department Contact

Afternoon Media Team,
Please see the below advice from the DG's office in relation to Adani approvals.
Dean will be the approver and if you need anything urgently followed up, please ensure you contact Bettina Daunt in the first instance or myself.
All Adani approvals will still need to come to ESR, Rob Lawrence and myself as per the usual process.
Let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks & Cheers
Trin

With the recent Executive moves, responsibility for all things Adani remained, and moved, with Dean in his new role until otherwise determined by the DG. This is to ensure continuity of executive leadership and engagement across DES, and with the company, given the ongoing nature of the approvals process currently underway.

Current things on the go (as I understand it) are:

- BTFMP – meeting held with Adani last week - Adani to consider revision and resubmitting
- GDEMP – DES is seeking advice on latest version from CSIRO/Geosciences Australia
- GDEMP – Adani wrote to the DG on Friday and submitted an RTI seeking the questions we asked CSIRO/GA. Response to be drafted with legal.
- GMMP – meeting with Adani on this one today
- Carmichael mine investigation – provision of information and drilling of bores
- Abbot Point Coal – decision on Enforceable Undertaking regarding exceedances to be made today



Trinity Lowe
Executive Officer
Office of the Deputy Director General
Environmental Services and Regulation Division
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3330 5812
Level 7 400 George St Brisbane

Date : 12/04/2019 4:33:25 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "Christine McKee"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : Re: Adani

Attachment : 120419 - Carmichael Mine Approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.pdf;image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;
Hi Christine

Thanks for your enquiry re approvals for the Carmichael mine. A departmental response is attached.

Note that in terms of approvals still required, other government agencies may require information from Adani as part of this process and you may consider contacting those agencies. They may include the Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, and the Coordinator-General.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Christine McKee <Christine.Mckee@capnews.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 12 April 2019 11:07 AM

To: Media DES

Cc: Frazer Pearce

Subject: Adani

Good morning,

Can you please confirm what information you still require from Adani in order to finalise approvals for BTFMP and GDMP?

My deadline is 2pm, thank you.

Regards
Christine

CHRISTINE MCKEE

Deputy Editor

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Date : 1/04/2019 2:39:40 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Owens, Jared"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Adani Carmichael update
Attachment : 010419 - Adani BTFMP GDEMP and Abbot Point - The Australian.pdf;

Good afternoon Jared

Thank-you for your enquiry, our departmental response is attached for your information.

Many thanks, the DES media team

From: Owens, Jared <owensj@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 10:34 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Carmichael update

Hello,

What is the status of the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan?

What is the status of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan?

Have there been any other developments around the Carmichael Project or Abbot Point since the penalty notice on March 25?

I am seeking comment by 3pm.

Thanks,
Jared

--

JARED OWENS
Reporter

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Media response

Re: Adani BFMP, GDEMP and Abbot Point PIN

For: Jared Owens, The Australian

Date: 01 April 2019

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *What is the status of the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan?*

Response: The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to discuss the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan.

While there is no statutory timeframe for this plan to be approved, DES will work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to ensure issues and recommendations are addressed in a timely manner.

Question 2: *What is the status of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan?*

Response: The GDEMP still requires approval from both State and Federal Governments.

The Commonwealth Government obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

On 5th March, DES formally requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. This has been followed up by the Queensland Minister for Environment and Science writing to her Federal counterpart on 12 March 2019 to request a copy of the report on behalf of the department. To date DES has not received the independent scientific review of the GDEMP.

To ensure the decision on the GDEMP is made using the best available science, DES has committed to taking the review findings into consideration before making its decision on approval of the GDEMP.

Accordingly, DES cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the independent scientific review.

Adani is required to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to the approval of the GDEMP of the project by DES.

Question 3: *Have there been any other developments around the Carmichael Project or Abbot Point since the penalty notice on March 25?*

Response: On 25 March 2019 Abbot Point Bulkcoal Pty Ltd was issued with a \$13,055 penalty infringement notice (PIN) for breaching its environmental authority in relation to the release of stormwater into the Caley Valley Wetland in February this year.

The fine was for the release of stormwater that did not meet the environmental standards prescribed in its environmental authority to operate the port. The company has 28 days from the date of issue to pay or contest the notice.

The 28 days ends on 21 April 2019.

ENDS

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

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Date : 13/05/2019 11:31:39 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Burton, Melanie (Reuters)"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Adani Ground water management plan
Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP - media.pdf;
Hi Melanie, a departmental response is attached.

Regards,

DES media team

From: Burton, Melanie (Reuters) <Melanie.Burton@thomsonreuters.com>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 10:12 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Ground water management plan

Hi there,
As you know, Adani has released a response today about Qld DES's request for a more in depth ground water review.
Adani said it received the request on Friday.
We are wondering if you could confirm you sent them a new request on Friday and if this was the first time that Adani has been informed of a new review into its groundwater management plan please?
Many thanks
Melanie

Melanie Burton
Asia Mining Correspondent
Thomson Reuters
Phone: +613 9286 1421
Mobile: 4p4(6) Personal informa
melanie.burton@tr.com

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 16/05/2019 4:23:44 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Peel, Charlie"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Re: Adani Groundwater Management Plan
Attachment : 160519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.pdf;

Good afternoon Charlie

Thanks for your enquiry re the Adani GDEMP. A departmental response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2019 11:42 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Groundwater Management Plan

Good morning,
Speaking on Sky News yesterday, Adani Mining CEO Lucas Dow said the Department of Environment and Science had put in place a contract that includes fee for service with CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to do a further review on the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan.

Is this correct?
Have timeframes been set out for CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to update their review of the latest version of the GDEMP?

A response by 4pm would be appreciated.
Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist
Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T +61 7 3666 6172 M p4(6) Personal inform
E peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Charles Peel
The Australian
3666 6172 / [redacted] Personal information
peelc1@theaustralian.com.au

Date: 16 May 2019

Questions

Speaking on Sky News yesterday, Adani Mining [redacted] s.73 said the Department of Environment and Science had put in place a contract that includes fee for service with CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to do a further review on the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan.

Is this correct?

Have timeframes been set out for CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to update their review of the latest version of the GDEMP?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science has sought updated advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on the latest version of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP), as this was not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES is seeking clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex. DES has not sought advice on issues outside those that were covered in the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report of February 2019.

Given the initial review was undertaken by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy, it is appropriate and reasonable for DES to seek this clarification and advice through its own agreement with the technical agencies.

ENDS

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

Date : 12/05/2019 6:00:36 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Peel, Charlie"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Adani groundwater
Attachment : 120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.pdf;

Good evening Charlie

A departmental response to your questions is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: Pamela Frost
Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?
How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL
Journalist

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Date : 2/05/2019 3:11:59 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "Pamela Frost" , "Roslyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au"

Cc : "DLO DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina"

Subject : Re: Adani holding statement

Attachment : 020519 - HS - Adani BTFMP.docx;

Hi everyone

FYI, and in case it's needed. Attached is the Adani BTFMP holding statement (in anticipation of the meeting between the regulator and Adani this afternoon), should it be needed. This version has been amended and approved by DG.

As per yesterday's advice, DDG ESR has requested that we discuss the issue with him directly, should circumstances arise where we would envisage sending this statement out.

Kind regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: MERRICK Jamie <Jamie.Merrick@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 2 May 2019 1:55 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: TONES Peter; WELLS Melissa

Subject: Media Release - confidential

Hi Kieran

In anticipation of the meeting between the regulator and Adani this afternoon, here is the release should it be required.

Jamie

Draft holding statement

Deadline:	Briefing officer: Juliana McCosker
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9356
Phone: 3339 5887 4p4(6) Personal informat	DDG:
Approved: ED Melissa Wells; DDG ESR Dean Ellwood, DG Dr Jamie Merrick	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Queensland-wide	

Adani BTFMP

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) has today [add date] advised Adani that it cannot approve its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) in its current form because it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority. However, Adani may submit a new or revised BTFMP for DES's consideration.

This position is based on the best available science.

DES has provided Adani with the opportunity to make a number of representations. As part of the process, DES has reviewed a consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, and received by the department on 15th March 2019. Further clarification was sought by DES and received about the consultant report on 2 April 2019. This report itself acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened.

After considering all the information available and consistent with previous advice, DES is seeking a number of commitments from Adani. This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area.

DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess. Whilst DES has set out clear commitments that Adani is expected to make in the BTFMP, the activities do not need to be carried out before the BTFMP can be approved.

Significant disturbance cannot commence at the Carmichael Coal Mine until DES approves both the BTFMP and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

The Black-throated Finch population at this site represents the largest known population of the endangered southern species of the Black-throated Finch.

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Date : 3/05/2019 6:33:29 PM

From : "BROWN Anthony"

To : "BENNINK Kate"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "TONES Peter"

Subject : RE: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image004.png;image006.png;image008.png;image010.png;image012.png;

Hi Kate – how are we going with the grad quals part of the response – that's in a few of the responses.

Cheers - Anthony



Anthony Brown

Senior Communication Officer (Work days – Wed, Thurs & Fri)

Communication Services | Corporate Communications

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5862 (Wed & Fri), P 07 3170 5789 (Thurs)

Level 31, 400 George Street, Brisbane

GPO Box 2454 Brisbane Qld 4001

From: BROWN Anthony

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 6:18 PM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; TONES Peter

Subject: FW: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Kate – also this one, particularly the ecologist lines. Are these okay?

Cheers – Anthony, tel 3339 5862

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 5:42 PM

To: DLO DES; Rosalyn Lye

Cc: Media DES

Subject: RE: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Changes in the attached.

I understand the ecologist lines have been through the checking process already.



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,

Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M4(6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:24 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: FW: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Pam/Ros – attached is a media response re: Adani back to Townsville Bulletin – approved by DG and DDG ESR.
thanks



Peta Johnston

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3087 8407

Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



We will make a difference
Let's end domestic and family violence

From: TRACEY Alena <Alena.Tracey@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:23 PM

To: DLO DES; MERRICK Jamie
Cc: TONES Peter
Subject: RE: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Endorsed, thanks



Alena Tracey
Executive Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

E: alena.tracey@des.qld.gov.au
M: 4(6) Personal information
Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane Qld 4000
Level 27, 400 George Street, Brisbane Qld 4000

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:11 PM
To: MERRICK Jamie
Cc: TRACEY Alena; TONES Peter; DLO DES
Subject: ADANI MEDIA FOR APPROVAL - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Hi Jamie – for your approval please.

Thanks,
Raylene



Raylene Orellana
Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3330 6271
raylene.orellana@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:00 PM
To: DLO DES
Cc: Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: DLOs - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Good afternoon DLOs

For your approval, please.

The attached response to the Townsville Bulletin re Adani has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?

- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?

- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?

- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

4p4(6) Personal informat

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

Townsville Bulletin

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Date : 14/05/2019 6:26:12 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "s.73"

Cc : "s.73", "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : RE: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Attachment : image002.png;image004.jpg;image001.png;

s.73

I refer to your email of this morning, 14 May 2019 concerning the departments review of the resubmitted Adani GDEMP.

I remind you that the review of the Adani GDEMP undertaken by CSIRO/GA (the review) was commissioned by the Department of the Environment and Energy (DOEE).

While the department was consulted by DOEE on the review's terms of reference and attended a presentation of the CSIRO/GA's Tranche 1 advice, the department did not further participate or meet with CSIRO/GA during the DOEE independent review. Nor did the department have any commercial arrangement with CSIRO/GA regarding the DOEE review.

The final review (advice/report) was not provided to department until 9 April 2019, some four weeks after multiple requests by the department to DOEE, including requests at Ministerial level.

Again, given that Adani has submitted a revised version of the GDEMP (version 11b), a version that is different to the one that the CSIRO/GA review (advice/report) relied on, the department is simply seeking clarification from CSIRO/GA about its review in light of the revised GDEMP. This clarification will assist the department in part to decide whether the GDEMP is in compliance with the conditions of the environmental authority (EA) granted to Adani under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Act) for the Carmichael Mine. This is not a 'new' review of the GDEMP, and it is entirely consistent with the clear message provided to Adani that the department would rely upon advice from CSIRO/GA and not seek other third party advice.

Given the resource implications and urgency around the timeliness of the advice sought from CSIRO/GA, the department considers the requirement of a contract and fee for service by CSIRO/GA as reasonable and consistent with any necessary governance in relation to a process such as this.

To date, the department has communicated with Dr James Johnson, CEO Geoscience Australia and p4(6) Personal inform Director CSIRO in relation to the department's request.

The names of the officers of CSIRO/GA who will be involved in preparing advice for the department is a matter for CSIRO/GA. I am neither furnished with the information nor would it be appropriate for me to comment on the CSIRO/GA officers who were involved with the DOEE GDEMP review.

The department's actions in relation to the Adani GDEMP are directed solely at ensuring the proper administration of the Act and compliance with the conditions of the environmental authority.

My email of yesterday, gave you an indication on the timing of the review of the GDEMP by the department and the advice of CSIRO/GA.

Kind regards
Melissa



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: s.73 @adani.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 10:21 AM

To: ELLWOOD Dean

Cc: WELLS Melissa; s.73

Subject: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Dean

I refer to Melissa Well's email sent last evening. It would appear despite DES' public claims that you would not be seeking a new or further review of the scientific evidence presented by CSIRO /GA, you are in fact engaging in another review as evidenced by Ms Well's reference to having to put in place a new contract. If this round of questions was simply an extension of the work undertaken we do not see how there would be any requirement for a new contract.

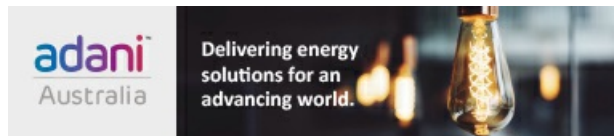
Furthermore we submit that the email fails to provide Adani with the necessary clarity regarding the “contract” between DES and CSIRO/GA or the substance of the questions that have been presented to CSIRO/GA by DES. Accordingly and consistent with our request on Friday 10 May, we once again request a copy of the questions you have asked CSIRO/GA to consider under this new contract. This request is reasonable given DES is commissioning a new review or assessment of Adani’s GDEMP, and that DES previously provided Adani with a copy of the Terms of Reference for the so-called Wintle Review of the BTFMP. An ability to consider the questions as posed by the DES to CSIRO/GA would seem a normal part of this process and is clearly required to permit us to fully participate.

Could you also clarify whether the officers of CSIRO/GA engaged by DES were directly involved in the GDEMP review process commissioned by the Department of Environment and Energy? Can you also provide Adani with the names of all CSIRO/GA officers engaged for the DES contract? Can you confirm that DES were consulted and participated with DoEE in the original questions put to CSIRO/GA?

We request the above information by close of business today. Please contact me if I can provide further information.

s.73

E s.73 @adani.com.au
P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73
A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000
P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001
W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 14/05/2019 6:51:38 PM

From : [REDACTED] s.73

To : "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : [REDACTED] s.73 , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : Re: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Attachment : image004.jpg;image001.png;image568012.jpg;

Melissa

Thank you for your email. As per my email this morning, can you please advise Adani as to when DES will provide Adani with a copy of the questions that you have provided CSIRO/GA in relation to the GDEMP?

[REDACTED] s.73

| Adani Australia

[Level 25, AMP Place, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000](#)

Phone: [REDACTED] s.73 | Mobile: [REDACTED] s.73

[REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au

[REDACTED] s.73

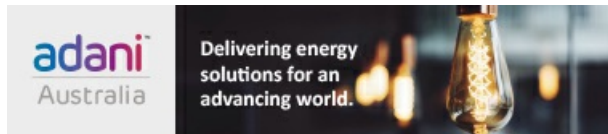
E [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: [REDACTED] s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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On 14 May 2019, at 6:26 pm, WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

[REDACTED] s.73

I refer to your email of this morning, 14 May 2019 concerning the departments review of the resubmitted Adani GDEMP.

I remind you that the review of the Adani GDEMP undertaken by CSIRO/GA (the review) was commissioned by the Department of the Environment and Energy (DOEE).

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My email of yesterday, gave you an indication on the timing of the review of the GDEMP by the department and the advice of CSIRO/GA.

Kind regards
Melissa

<image001.png> **Melissa Wells**
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 10:21 AM

To: ELLWOOD Dean

Cc: WELLS Melissa [REDACTED] s.73

Subject: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Dean

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We request the above information by close of business today. Please contact me if I can provide further information.

[REDACTED] s.73

E [REDACTED] s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: [REDACTED] s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com

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Date : 16/05/2019 5:15:23 PM
From : "WELLS Melissa"
To : "s.73"
Cc : "s.73", "ELLWOOD Dean"
Subject : RE: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019
Attachment : image001.png;image003.jpg;image002.png;

Hi s.73

As stated, the CSIRO/GA advice is to provide clarification to the department about its original review in light of the revised GDEMP. Adani will be provided with a copy of the CSIRO/GA advice once it becomes available.

Kind regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: s.73 <s.73@adani.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 6:52 PM
To: WELLS Melissa
Cc: s.73, ELLWOOD Dean
Subject: Re: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Melissa

Thank you for your email. As per my email this morning, can you please advise Adani as to when DES will provide Adani with a copy of the questions that you have provided CSIRO/GA in relation to the GDEMP?

s.73

| Adani Australia

[Level 25, AMP Place, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000](#)

Phone: s.73

s.73 @adani.com.au

s.73

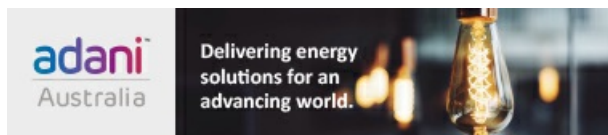
E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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On 14 May 2019, at 6:26 pm, WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

s.73

I refer to your email of this morning, 14 May 2019 concerning the departments review of the resubmitted Adani GDEMP.

I remind you that the review of the Adani GDEMP undertaken by CSIRO/GA (the review) was commissioned by the Department of the Environment and Energy (DOEE).

While the department was consulted by DOEE on the review's terms of reference and attended a presentation of the CSIRO/GA's Tranche 1 advice, the department did not further participate or meet with CSIRO/GA during the DOEE independent review. Nor did the department have any commercial arrangement with CSIRO/GA regarding the DOEE review.

The final review (advice/report) was not provided to department until 9 April 2019, some four weeks after multiple requests by the department to DOEE, including requests at Ministerial level.

Again, given that Adani has submitted a revised version of the GDEMP (version 11b), a version that is different to the one that the CSIRO/GA review (advice/report) relied on, the department is simply seeking clarification from CSIRO/GA about its review in light of the revised GDEMP. This clarification will assist the department in part to decide whether the GDEMP is in compliance with the conditions of the environmental authority (EA) granted to Adani under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Act) for the Carmichael Mine. This is not a 'new' review of the GDEMP, and it is entirely consistent with the clear message provided to Adani that the department would rely upon advice from CSIRO/GA and not seek other third party advice.

Given the resource implications and urgency around the timeliness of the advice sought from CSIRO/GA, the department considers the requirement of a contract and fee for service by CSIRO/GA as reasonable and consistent with any necessary governance in relation to a process such as this.

To date, the department has communicated with Dr James Johnson, CEO Geoscience Australia and s4(6) Personal Inform Director CSIRO in relation to the department's request.

The names of the officers of CSIRO/GA who will be involved in preparing advice for the department is a matter for CSIRO/GA. I am neither furnished with the information nor would it be appropriate for me to comment on the CSIRO/GA officers who were involved with the DOEE GDEMP review.

The department's actions in relation to the Adani GDEMP are directed solely at ensuring the proper administration of the Act and compliance with the conditions of the environmental authority.

My email of yesterday, gave you an indication on the timing of the review of the GDEMP by the department and the advice of CSIRO/GA.

Kind regards
Melissa

<image001.png> **Melissa Wells**
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From s.73 <adani.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 10:21 AM
To: ELLWOOD Dean
Cc: WELLS Melissa; s.73
Subject: Adani response to DES email 13 May 2019

Dean

I refer to Melissa Well's email sent last evening. It would appear despite DES' public claims that you would not be seeking a new or further review of the scientific evidence presented by CSIRO /GA, you are in fact engaging in another review as evidenced by Ms Well's reference to having to put in place a new contract. If this round of questions was simply an extension of the work undertaken we do not see how there would be any requirement for a new contract.

Furthermore we submit that the email fails to provide Adani with the necessary clarity regarding the "contract" between DES and CSIRO/GA or the substance of the questions that have been presented to CSIRO/GA by DES. Accordingly and consistent with our request on Friday 10 May, we once again request a copy of the questions you have asked CSIRO/GA to consider under this new contract. This request is reasonable given DES is commissioning a new review or assessment of Adani's GDEMP, and that DES previously provided Adani with a copy of the Terms of Reference for the so-called Wintle Review of the BTFMP. An ability to consider the questions as posed by the DES to CSIRO/GA would seem a normal part of this process and is clearly required to permit us to fully participate.

Could you also clarify whether the officers of CSIRO/GA engaged by DES were directly involved in the GDEMP review process commissioned by the Department of Environment and Energy? Can you also provide Adani with the names of all CSIRO/GA officers engaged for the DES contract? Can you confirm that DES were consulted and participated with DoEE in the original questions put to CSIRO/GA?

We request the above information by close of business today. Please contact me if I can provide further information.

Paul

s.73

E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com

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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 13/05/2019 11:25:55 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Laura Gardiner"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Adani statement - WIN News Rocky
Attachment : 130519 - Adani GDEMP - media.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Laura, a departmental statement is attached.

Regards,

DES media team

From: Laura Gardiner <gardinerl@winqld.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 9:03 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani statement - WIN News Rocky

Good morning,

Just requesting a statement from you, regarding claims made by Adani Australia this morning, of more delays in the approvals process, for the groundwater management plan.
I understand this is a request from DES for clarification rather than a review?

My deadline is 2pm today.

Thanks,
Laura

Laura Gardiner
Chief of Staff, Rockhampton



p: (07) 4930 4475 **i:** 4075 **m:** p4(6) Personal inform.
e: gardinerl@winqld.com.au rocknews@winqld.com.au
Facebook: WINNewsCentralQueensland
Level 6 32-34 East Street Rockhampton 4700

WIN Network
Locked Bag 8800 Wollongong NSW 2500 Television Avenue Mt St Thomas



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Date : 7/04/2019 1:37:58 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "mludlow@afri.com"
Cc : "Media DES"
Subject : Re: Adani
Attachment : 070419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - AFR.pdf;

Thanks for your enquiry regarding the Carmichael mine, Mark. A departmental response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5831
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Mark Ludlow <mludlow@afri.com>
Date: 7 April 2019 at 12:50:40 pm AEST
To: Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au, Tim.Auguston@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Subject: Adani
Reply-To: MLudlow@afri.com

Hi,

I'm just chasing a few fresh lines about Adani approvals.

The reporting over the past few days seems to suggest the federal Environment Minister just needs to sign off on groundwater plans and the Carmichael mine can go ahead.

But the state still has to sign off on those groundwater plans too, don't they?

And then there is the management plan for the black-throated finch too? Where is that at?

Cheers,

Mark

Date : 22/03/2019 6:45:57 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : Re: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Attachment : 220319 - Groundwater testing and the Carmichael coal mine - Brisbane Times.pdf;

Good evening Tony

Thanks for your enquiry. A departmental response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5831

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM

To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Springs.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to assess the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can I confirm this please

a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?

b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7 Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?

Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9 : Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore

(07) 3835 7518.

I am writing this story for Monday.

Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.

Thank you.

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 23/05/2019 2:39:28 PM
From : "MCCOSKER Juliana"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : re. BTFMP and GDEMP
Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;
Hi Dean and Melissa,

Please note, as the delegate for the approvals of the Black-throated Finch Management Plan and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan and in accordance with the environmental authority requirements for Carmichael Coal Mine, any required potential commitments for additional work will not preclude the commencement of Project stage 2 activities at the mine site.

Ciao for now

Juliana



Juliana McCosker
Manager
Business Centre Coal - Coal and Central Queensland Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9356 M 4(6) Personal inform
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Media response

Re: Adani approvals

For: Sonali Paul
Reuters
Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com

Enquiry received: 04 April 2019, 3.17 pm, from Minister's Office

Media deadline: Not stated

Date: 04 April 2019

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Question 1: *Adani says the state government has not given them any timeframe for considering the latest issues raised about their groundwater management plan and their plan for protecting the black-throated finch. Is there a timeframe for considering these? If not, why not?*

Response: While there are no statutory timeframes for the Department of Environment and Science (DES) to assess and approve the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) or the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP), DES will continue to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress these environmental approvals in a timely fashion.

Question 2: *What are the government's main concerns?*

Response: The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally and the mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the final report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

In an effort to progress the matter, DES has met with Adani a number of times since the panel's report was provided (most recently on 21 March 2019) review was finalised to assist the company in working through the panel's recommendations and to progress any revisions necessary to the BTFMP, to ensure the BTFMP meets the environmental authority condition requirements.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

The purpose of the GDEMP is to will protect groundwater dependent ecosystems in the vicinity of the mine.

Specifically, the GDEMP will need to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex and provide detailed mitigation measures to protect the springs.

The Doongmabulla Springs, spread across four square kilometres in area, are near to the mine site and are recognised as a nationally significant wetland complex.

On 5th March, DES formally requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

This has been followed up by the Queensland Minister for Environment and Science writing to her Federal counterpart on 12 March 2019 to request a copy of the report on behalf of the department. To date DES has not received the independent scientific review of the GDEMP.

To ensure the decision on the GDEMP is made using the best available science, DES has committed to taking the review findings into consideration before making its decision on approval of the GDEMP.

Accordingly, DES cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the independent scientific review.

Question 3: *Does the state government want this project to go ahead?*

Response: The Queensland Government's position is clear, it will support a mine and any new thermal coal project, if it "stacks up" environmentally and financially.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 20 March 2019

Endorsed: Dean Ellwood, DDG ESR
Ph: 07 3330 5628
Date: 20 March 2019

Date : 4/04/2019 5:08:08 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "ESR" , "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

Thanks Dean

Kieran

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 5:05 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana; DAUNT Bettina; ESR; Media DES
Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

Approved

Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science
[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)
GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 4 Apr 2019, at 4:53 pm, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Dean

For approval.

The attached responses to Reuters re Adani approvals now have the additional paragraph you requested. See Track in attached. Melissa Wells has approved.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:06 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana; DAUNT Bettina; ESR; Media DES
Subject: RE: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

The second part about the GDEMP is ok. The first part on the BTFMP, we don't explain that we are basically waiting for Adani to provide an update version of the plan. It reads as if we are just sitting on our hands. Be good to update pls. I know Julianna is busy atm.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the final report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:00 PM
To: ELLWOOD Dean
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana; DAUNT Bettina; ESR; Media DES
Subject: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

The following responses to Reuters' questions about Adani approvals have been directly copied from previously approved Media Q&As (dated 20 March 2019) and a response to The Australian (dated 01 April 2019). No new content has been added.

If you require this response to go back through all departmental approvals let me know.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:17 PM
To: DLO DES; Media DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: FW: Background info NQ

Hi team,

Can you please take care of this media inquiry from Reuters about Adani?

Thanks,
Pam

<image004.png> **Pamela Frost**
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M p4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Jan Martin <Jan.Martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 6:08 AM
To: Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com>
Cc: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Background info NQ

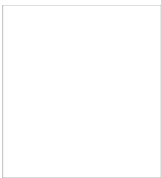
Hi Sonali

The black finch study is for the Environment Minister as her Dept is running this.
I ouwill pass on to my colleague Pam Frost in her office .

The groundwater study is Federal but Pam can also direct you better than I can.

I've copied Pam in and her number is p4(6) Personal inform

Rgds



Jan Martin

Senior media advisor

e:jan.martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP

Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

T: [07 3719 7370](tel:0737197370) M [4\(6\) Personal inform](#)

Lvl 36, [1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

[PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002](#)

On 3 Apr 2019, at 9:41 pm, Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

Hi Jan,

This is helpful, many thanks.

Now I have some more questions stemming from our trip to Townsville.

Adani says the state government has not given them any timeframe for considering the latest issues raised about their groundwater management plan and their plan for protecting the black-throated finch.

Is there a timeframe for considering these? If not, why not?

What are the government's main concerns?

Does the state government want this project to go ahead?

Thanks and regards,

Sonali

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<040419 - Adani approvals - Reuters.docx>

Date : 4/04/2019 4:07:46 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa", "BENNINK Kate", "MCCOSKER Juliana", "DAUNT Bettina", "ESR", "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals
Attachment : image001.png;image004.png;

OK, we'll craft some new words and get them to Juliana, Kate and Melissa for approval.

Kieran

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:06 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana; DAUNT Bettina; ESR; Media DES
Subject: RE: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

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This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the final report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP.

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:00 PM
To: ELLWOOD Dean
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MCCOSKER Juliana; DAUNT Bettina; ESR; Media DES
Subject: Dean - for approval - response to Reuters re Adani approvals

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If you require this response to go back through all departmental approvals let me know.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 (4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:17 PM
To: DLO DES; Media DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: FW: Background info NQ

Hi team,

Can you please take care of this media inquiry from Reuters about Adani?
19-503 File D

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Jan Martin <Jan.Martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2019 6:08 AM
To: Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com>
Cc: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Background info NQ

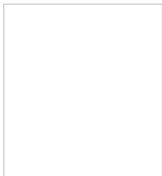
Hi Sonali

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I ouwill pass on to my colleague Pam Frost in her office .

The groundwater study is Federal but Pam can also direct you better than I can.

I've copied Pam in and her number is 4(6) Personal inform

Rgds



Jan Martin

Senior media advisor
e:jan.martin@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

T: [07 3719 7370](tel:0737197370) M 4(6) Personal inform
Lvl 36, [1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000](#)
[PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002](#)

On 3 Apr 2019, at 9:41 pm, Paul, Sonali (Reuters) <Sonali.Paul@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

Hi Jan,
This is helpful, many thanks.
Now I have some more questions stemming from our trip to Townsville.

Adani says the state government has not given them any timeframe for considering the latest issues raised about their groundwater management plan and their plan for protecting the black-throated finch.
Is there a timeframe for considering these? If not, why not?

What are the government's main concerns?

Does the state government want this project to go ahead?

Thanks and regards,

Sonali

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Date : 12/04/2019 11:36:42 AM
From : "Media DES"
To : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "CAGNEY Justin" , "BENNINK Kate" , "ESR" , "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Dean - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani approvals
Attachment : 120419 - Carmichael Mine Approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx;image001.jpg;image002.png;image003.png;image004.jpg;
Dean

Kate Bennink has asked me to include the date when we received the GDEMP. Amended as highlighted in the attached.

Many thanks.

Kieran

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2019 11:22 AM
To: ELLWOOD Dean
Cc: WELLS Melissa; CAGNEY Justin; BENNINK Kate; Media DES; ESR
Subject: Dean - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani approvals

Hi Dean

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the latest information on the BTFMP and GDEMP approvals.

The response is a direct cut and paste from our response to the ABC on 08 April re BTFMP and the general media statement on the GDEMP on 09 April.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Christine Mckee <Christine.Mckee@capnews.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2019 11:07 AM
To: Media DES
Cc: Frazer Pearce
Subject: Adani

Good morning,

Can you please confirm what information you still require from Adani in order to finalise approvals for BTFMP and GDEMP?

My deadline is 2pm, thank you.

Regards
Christine

CHRISTINE MCKEE
Deputy Editor
220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700
T +61 7 4970 3050 M p4(6) Personal inform
E christine.mckee@capnews.com.au
W NewsCorpAustralia.com
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The Bulletin

Date : 25/03/2019 1:14:17 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : RE: Dean - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Thanks Dean, Kieran

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 1:11 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LOWE Trinity; Media DES; WELLS Melissa; GRANT Andrea

Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Approved

Dean Ellwood

Deputy Director-General

Environmental Services & Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 25 Mar 2019, at 1:03 pm, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Melissa Wells has approved the attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani BTFMP and GDEMP.

The Morning Bulletin's deadline is 2.00 pm today, so Min's office will require asap.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 12:57 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran

Cc: Media DES; MCCOSKER Juliana; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea; BENNINK Kate

Subject: FW: Kate / Melissa - for urgent approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Kieran with amendments

<image001.png>

Melissa Wells

Executive Director

Coal and Central Qld Compliance

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 12:08 PM

To: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate

Cc: Media DES; MCCOSKER Juliana; ESR; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea

Subject: Kate / Melissa - for urgent approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Hi Kate and Melissa

For urgent approval please.

Attached is a draft response, using recently approved lines, to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP.

The Morning Bulletin's deadline is 2.00 pm today, so Min's office will require asap.

Regards + Thanks

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4p4(6) Personal informat
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 11:22 AM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: GRANT Andrea
Subject: FW: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Hi team, can you please get some lines together that cover off on the timeline/deadline questions.
Perhaps some of the lines that went to Tony Moore on Friday would suffice (unless they need updating)?
Can you please also check **urgently** if there is any update CSIRO report (if DES has received it?) and let me know this advice **ASAP (before midday would be good)**.

Thanks,
Pam

<image006.png> **Pamela Frost**
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?
Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?
What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?
Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?
Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

LEIGHTON SMITH
Political Reporter
19-503

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

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E Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au

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[<image008.jpg>](#)

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[<image011.jpg>](#)

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[<250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.docx>](#)

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 12/05/2019 3:53:06 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "Media DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : RE: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP
Attachment : 120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx;

Thanks Dean

As requested, I have amended as per attached, and will progress to the DG.

Kieran

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 3:45 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; MERRICK Jamie; Pamela Frost; DLO DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Re: Dean - for approval - response to The Australian re Adani GDEMP

Looks ok, just remove:

The department has not requested CSIRO or GeoScience Australia to further review the GDEMP.

And then remove the first word 'However,' from next para.

If you can put words around "DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO sand GA.

Dean Ellwood
Deputy Director-General
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment and Science
[Level 7, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)
GPO [Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

On 12 May 2019, at 3:36 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Dean

For your approval, please.

Attached is a suggested response to The Australian re the Adani GDEMP. The journalist has confirmed with me that he would like a response today for a story being run overnight.

Content for the response has come from Friday's media statement, with additional highlighted paragraphs to address the journalist's specific questions. We have public statement before that we will not be seeking an independent scientific review of the GDEMP, but would rely on the advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 12 May 2019 2:33 PM
To: Media DES
Cc: Pamela Frost
Subject: Adani groundwater

Hi,

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say

DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Regards,

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

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<120519 - Adani GDEMP - The Australian.docx>

Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Charles Peel
The Australian
3666 6172 / [redacted] Personal information
peelc1@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

Date: 12 May 2019

Questions

Adani have claimed that DES is "engaging in a secretive and non-transparent additional review process". Adani representatives say DES has sought a review on its groundwater management plan from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia. Adani claims DES has refused to say what it has queried and how long the review process is expected to take.

In February, DES stated: "Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case."

Does DES's request for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to review the plan mean that this is no longer the case?

What clarification has DES sought from CSIRO and GA?

How long is the process expected to take?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) confirms its earlier public statements that it will not seek its own independent scientific review of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) but will instead rely on the advice given by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia to the Commonwealth Government.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version 10) in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES only received the latest version of the GDEMP (version 11) on the same day, following its approval by the Department of Environment and Energy.

DES has now reviewed the GDEMP (version 11) and the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report.

The department has sought updated advice from CSIRO and GeoScience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP, which is not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES has not sought advice on issues outside those that were covered in the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report of February 2019.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

While there is no statutory timeframe for the GDEMP to be approved, DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO and GeoScience Australia.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact
Ph:
Date:

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 3/05/2019 12:56:25 PM
From : "LEWIS Kieran"
To : "ELLWOOD Dean"
Cc : "Media DES" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"
Subject : RE: Dean - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Thanks Dean, another one coming your way very shortly.

K

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 12:54 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: Media DES; ESR; BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Subject: Re: Dean - for approval please - Response to Townsville Bulletin re Adani

Looks fine

On 3 May 2019, at 12:46 pm, LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Dean

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has approved the attached response to the Townsville Bulletin re Adani. Melissa Wells is travelling and may not get to see this response prior to deadline.

Townsville Bulletin's deadline is 4pm today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform
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From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?
- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

h4p4(6) Personal informati

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

Townsville Bulletin

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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<030519 - Adani BTFMP - Townsville Bulletin.docx>

Date : 22/03/2019 12:35:00 PM
From : "MCCOSKER Juliana"
To : "LEWIS Kieran" , "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Dear all - heads up - Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;

Hi Kieran,

The groundwater data on which the GDEMP is based from a wider timeframe than 2013 to 2015. As the department has not received the CSIRO/GA review to date, cannot comment on the questions 3 to 5.

Ciao for now

Juliana

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 12:17 PM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: MCCOSKER Juliana; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Dear all - heads up - Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Hi all

Just a heads up that we've just received the below questions from the Brisbane Times re groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine. I have answers for Questions 6,7,8,9 and will get a response to you as soon as I can. I assume we wouldn't comment on the other questions as these matters are currently being reviewed by the Commonwealth.

Mr Moore's Monday deadline effectively means we need to have this response to him today.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 12:05 PM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: GRANT Andrea
Subject: FW: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Hi team, this is very technical – can I please leave it with you.

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Anthony Moore <tony.moore@brisbanetimes.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 11:55 AM
To: Media <media@environment.gov.au>; Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Brisbane Times enquiry about groundwater testing and Adani's Carmichael Mine

Questions to both the Queensland and Australian governments please.

Good morning.

I am trying to learn exactly what are the facts behind the latest groundwater testing of Adani's Carmichael Mine in Queensland's Galilee Basin.

I have looked and read the November 2018 groundwater study of the impact on groundwater by the Carmichael Mine that was prepared for Adani by Eco Logical and finished in November 2018.

In very broad terms it shows some small reduction in bore hole water flow at the ecologically significant, Doongmabulla Spings.

This area is important because it needs separate approval to go ahead because of its possible impact on the Great Artesian Basin.

However, aquifer hydrologist Professor Matt Curnow has told me the data used by Eco Logical to asses the impact on borehole flow is old - 2015 data.

He says the impact will be more intensive.

Question 1 Is Eco Logical's groundwater inferences based on 2013-15 data?

Professor Curnow told me that The federal Dept of Env is now evaluating the data from Eco Logical against a second set set of groundwater testing done by CSIRO and given to the federal department in January 2019.

Quest 2 To what degree is that true?

Question 3 - Does the 2019 CSIRO groundwater data gathered by the CSIRO and given to the federal government's department of environment in January 2019 show a more significant impact on the Doongmabulla Springs area than the inferences drawn by Eco Logical in their November 2018 study.

Question 4 - If so, to what degree?

Question 5 - What exactly is happening with the evaluation now?

Question 6 - Can I confirm this please

- a) Does Adani Mining need to be able to satisfy the federal department of environment and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science that it has identified the source of the Doongmabulla Springs for the mining project to get approval?
- b) Does Adani need to separately **ALSO** need to prove that the Carmichael Mine operation will not impact the groundwater flow (from the Great Artesian Basin) to the Doongmabulla Springs?

Question 7: Has the federal government's evaluation of these two issues been finalised yet?
Has the Queensland Government's evaluation of these groundwater issues been completed?

Question 8: What is the latest status of the latest study into the impact on the black-throated finch by the Queensland Government?

Question 9 : Is it still correct to say that all three of these areas need to be approved by both the federal and Queensland governments before approval is given to the Carmichael Mine project?

Tony Moore
(07) 3835 7518.

I am writing this story for Monday.

Could I please have responses in time for this publication date.

Thank you.

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Date : 10/05/2019 2:48:16 PM

From : "DLO DES"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : RE: DLOs - for advice - Townsville Bulletin request for information on today's Adani meeting.

Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;

Thanks Kieran – will check; however, the holding statement is still with the DG for approval. I will follow-up with him first.
thanks



Peta Johnston

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3087 8407

Peta.Johnston@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane



We will make a difference
Let's end domestic and family violence

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 2:47 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa; BENNINK Kate; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: DLOs - for advice - Townsville Bulletin request for information on today's Adani meeting.

Good afternoon DLOs

Can you check with the Min's Office please.

The Townsville Bulletin has enquired about today's Adani meeting. They have a 4.30 pm deadline.

Can we provide the attached holding statement, which has been departmentally approved to DDG level, as a response to this journalist and any others that may enquire in the short-term.

The is the updated holding statement sent to you at 1.02 pm.

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

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From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 2:41 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani meeting

Good afternoon,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

I understand DES and Adani met today for ongoing discussion on the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

- 1) Can the DES confirm what the outcome of this meeting was?
- 2) Have any compromises or agreements been made in relation to the BTFMP?
- 3) Have any decisions been made in relation to the GDEMP?

It would be great to grab a response by 4.30pm although I realise the hour of this request.

Let me know. Call me anytime on 14p4(6) Personal informati

Cheers,
Madura

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 17/04/2019 4:19:55 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "DLO DES"
Cc : "Media DES", "ELLWOOD Dean", "ESR"
Subject : RE: DLOs - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Attachment : 170419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - Courier Mail.docx;

Apols DLOs

Our ED for Adani has just asked for a very minor change in this response. Please see a Track Change in the attached.

Thanks

Kieran

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 4:18 PM
To: DLO DES
Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR
Subject: DLOs - for approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani approvals
Importance: High

Good afternoon DLOs

The attached response to the Courier Mail re Carmichael Mine approvals (the GDEMP and BTFMP) has been approved to DDG level.

Note that the response is the same as that which went to The Australian last night, with the addition of the highlighted paragraph: **On 16 April, DES officers met with representatives from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to discuss their review.**

Background:

The additional line is to address Domanii Cameron's specific question: "Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?". My understanding is that yesterday's meeting, in Canberra, was a "briefing" rather than specifically "seeking clarification".

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 April 2019 2:21 PM
To: Pamela Frost
Cc: Media DES
Subject: Courier Mail - Adani inquiry

Hi Pam,

I am chasing an update around Adani's groundwater management plan and the black-throated finch management plan.

1. Has DES finished going through the groundwater management plan? Where is this process currently at? Has it sought any clarifications from CSIRO or GeoScience?
2. Does DES know when it will finish with the BTFMP? Where is this process currently at?
3. Any further comments you wish to add.

My deadline is COB today.

Thank you,

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T (6) Personal info 07 3666 6826

E domanii.cameron@news.com.au W www.couriermail.com.au

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Date : 25/03/2019 2:47:28 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "LOWE Trinity" , "GRANT Andrea" , "Pamela Frost"

Subject : RE: DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Attachment : 250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning

Bulletin.docx;image001.png;image003.png;image004.jpg;image005.png;image006.png;

Hi again Ali

Thanks for your call. The attached now includes the recently approved lines about the Doongmabulla Springs complex. They are highlighted in the attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 4(6) Personal information

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: LEWIS Kieran

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 1:37 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa; ESR; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea; Pamela Frost

Subject: RE: DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Hello Ali

Thanks for your phone call. I've reinserted the line re the GDEMP also being with the Commonwealth Government for approval, as per the second last paragraph in the attached. I have confirmed with ED Melissa Wells that this is correct.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

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www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: LEWIS Kieran

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 1:18 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa; ESR; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea; Pamela Frost

Subject: DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Good afternoon DLOs

For ODG and MO approval, please.

The attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani BTFMP and GDEMP has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

19-503

File D

Page 319 of 375

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 11:22 AM
To: Media DES; DLO DES
Cc: GRANT Andrea
Subject: FW: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Hi team, can you please get some lines together that cover off on the timeline/deadline questions. Perhaps some of the lines that went to Tony Moore on Friday would suffice (unless they need updating)? Can you please also check **urgently** if there is any update CSIRO report (if DES has received it?) and let me know this advice **ASAP (before midday would be good)**.

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal inform
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?
Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?
What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?
Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?
Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

LEIGHTON SMITH
Political Reporter
220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700
T +61 7 4930 4228 M (6) Personal inform
E Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au
W NewsCorpAustralia.com
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The Bulletin

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Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Leighton Smith
Rockhampton Morning Bulletin
4930 4228 / sch4p4(6) Personal information
Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au

Enquiry received: 11.22 am, Monday 25 March 2019 (via M.O.)

Media deadline: 2pm, Monday 25 March 2019

Date: 25 March 2019

Questions

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report? Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?

What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?

Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?

Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Two environmental management plans need to be approved by the Department of Environment and Science (DES) before significant mining activities can commence at the Carmichael coal mine.

These are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

The plans are required under Adani's environmental authority (EA) for the mine.

The Commonwealth Government obtained an independent scientific review of the GDEMP by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES has requested that the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy provide a copy of the independent scientific review by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

To ensure the decision on the GDEMP is made using the best available science, DES has committed to taking the review findings into consideration before making its decision on approval of the GDEMP.

Accordingly, DES cannot make a decision on the GDEMP in the absence of the independent scientific review.

Adani is required to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs complex prior to the approval of the GDEMP for the project.

The Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) is listed as an endangered species in Queensland and nationally.

The Carmichael mine site is the location of the most significant known population of the Black-throated Finch (southern subspecies) in Australia.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised. It is important to note that the panel's report is advice to DES and DES will consider the panel's report and any other relevant information in making a decision on the BTFMP.

DES has not yet approved the BTFMP or the GDEMP and there are no statutory timeframes associated with approving these plans. The Commonwealth Government approved the BTFMP in December 2018 and the GDEMP is also with the Commonwealth Government for approval.

For details of "significant mining activities", refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf>.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 25 March 2019

Endorsed: [Name and Position] relevant DDG
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: [Date]

Date : 25/03/2019 1:37:30 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "DLO DES"

Cc : "Media DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "LOWE Trinity" , "GRANT Andrea" , "Pamela Frost"

Subject : RE: DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Attachment : 250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning

Bulletin.docx;image001.png;image002.png;image004.jpg;image005.png;image006.png;

Hello Ali

Thanks for your phone call. I've reinserted the line re the GDEMP also being with the Commonwealth Government for approval, as per the second last paragraph in the attached. I have confirmed with ED Melissa Wells that this is correct.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: LEWIS Kieran

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 1:18 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; WELLS Melissa; ESR; LOWE Trinity; GRANT Andrea; Pamela Frost

Subject: DLOs - for approval - Response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re Adani GDEMP / BTFMP

Importance: High

Good afternoon DLOs

For ODG and MO approval, please.

The attached response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re the Adani BTFMP and GDEMP has been departmentally approved to DDG level.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 11:22 AM

To: Media DES; DLO DES

Cc: GRANT Andrea

Subject: FW: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Hi team, can you please get some lines together that cover off on the timeline/deadline questions.

Perhaps some of the lines that went to Tony Moore on Friday would suffice (unless they need updating)?

Can you please also check **urgently** if there is any update CSIRO report (if DES has received it?) and let me know this advice **ASAP (before midday would be good)**.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM
To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?
Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?
What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?
Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?
Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

LEIGHTON SMITH

Political Reporter

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Date : 10/04/2019 5:47:23 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : RE: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Yes, thanks Dean. K

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 5:47 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: ESR; LOWE Trinity; BENNINK Kate

Subject: Re: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

That's fine

If we can be sent the final pls

On 10 Apr 2019, at 5:44 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Dean

Can you please check if you are OK with these changes.

Kieran

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 5:36 PM

To: DLO DES

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES; TONES Peter

Subject: RE: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Hi, we've made some changes to this.

The DG is happy with these changes.

Can you please send this back to ESR for checking, and then it can go back to the journalist.

<image001.png> **Pamela Frost**

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal info

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 4:53 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: FW: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Importance: High

Hi Pam and Ros – the Department has advised that Domanii has phoned them chasing our response.

Thanks Raylene

<image002.png> Raylene Orellana

Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Director-General

Department of Environment and Science

Ph: 3330 6271

raylene.orellana@des.qld.gov.au | Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane

<image009.png>

From: DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 2:13 PM

To: Pamela Frost; Rosalyn Lye

Cc: DLO DES

Subject: FW: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP

Importance: High

Hi Pam/Ros

Please find attached the Adani GDEMP response for the CM. Due today.

Thanks
Regula

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 2:01 PM
To: DLO DES
Cc: Media DES; TONES Peter; ELLWOOD Dean; CAGNEY Justin; BENNINK Kate; ESR
Subject: DLOs - For Min's Office approval - response to Courier Mail re Adani GDEMP
Importance: High

Good afternoon DLOs

For Ministerial Office approval please.

The attached response to the Courier Mail's question last night about the Adani GDEMP has been provided by, and approved by the Director-General.

On M.O. approval we will provide to the journalist.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 1:48 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: MERRICK Jamie; DLO DES; Media DES; GRANT Andrea
Subject: RE: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February

Hi Kieran

Please see below DG approved response

To qualify the DES media release of 18 February – *Adani BTFMP review report finalised*, as Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided advice, in its February 2019 report on the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan version 10a dated January 21, 2019 (GDEMP), DES reserves the right to seek advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO as necessary on the latest and current version of the GDEMP provided to DES by Adani.

Kind regards

<image004.png>

Peter Tones
Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3199 7524 M
Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
E peter.tones@des.qld.gov.au

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:38 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Re: DES media request

Hi guys,
19-503

Just following up with this to see when you can respond this morning?

Thanks,
Domanii

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:59, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Domanii, we will check on this for you but not sure if we'll be able to get more info tonight.

Regards,

Media team DES

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfrmp-review-report-finalised.htm>)

--

DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T + (6) Personal info x07 3666 6826

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

<100419 - Adani GDEMP - Courier Mail.docx>

Date : 7/05/2019 10:38:08 AM

From : "BENNINK Kate"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Re: Kate / Melissa - for approval - general statement re Adani to address ABC and Country Life enquiries

Hi Kieran,

The attached provided doesn't appear include the final words that were prepared on Friday night regarding the qualifications.

Can you please attach the final/s that were sent on Friday so we can confirm that we are being consistent?

Cheers

Kate

Kate Bennink

Director | Business Centre Coal

Department of Environment and Science

P 4987 9338 | M p4(6) Personal informa

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

On 7 May 2019, at 10:31 am, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Kate and Melissa

For your approval, please.

We've received the attached media enquiries from ABC and Country Life re Adani and I've combined our most recent statements into one. Note Country Life has also asked about the GDEMP.

Is the attached OK to progress.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal informa

www.des.qld.gov.au

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<mime-attachment>

<mime-attachment>

<070519 - Carmichael mine approvals.docx>

Date : 30/04/2019 12:42:47 PM
From : "BENNINK Kate"
To : "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina"
Subject : RE: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP
Attachment : 300419 - Adani GDEMP - Guardian Australia KB.docx;image001.png;

Hi Kieran,

Edits in tracked changes to additional paragraph at the end.

Cheers
Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 11:27 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate and Melissa

For approval please.

Attached is a suggested response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP. The response is the same that went to the Townsville Bulletin last night, with an additional highlighted paragraph at the end.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal info
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Ben Smees <ben.smees@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 10:56 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi guys,

I have a question regarding Adani approvals that I'm hoping you can answer.

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for

management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Thanks. Happy to chat this through should you need.

Keen for a response by the end of the day if possible.

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia

+ch4p4(6) Personal information
ben.smee@theguardian.com

twitter: [@bensmee](https://twitter.com/bensmee)

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Media response

Re: Adani GDEMP

For: Ben Smee
The Guardian | Australia
n4(6) Personal inform
ben.smee@theguardian.com

Enquiry received: 10.56 am, Tuesday 30 April 2019

Guardian deadline: COB, Tuesday 30 April 2019

Date: 30 April 2019

Questions

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

These are the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version10a) in early March.



DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP (version11b).

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES on 09 April.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority ~~conditions~~requirements.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

Based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES continues to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress the GDEMP.

~~Any change in the scale of the proposed Carmichael coal mine would be reflected in the Adani's Plan of Operations, which it is required to submit to DES when operational areas change. The Carmichael Coal Mine approval is for a project up to 60Mtpa product coal as described in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). While no additional approvals may be required for a smaller mine, certain matters, such as financial assurance~~surety, may vary.

Commented [BK1]: Plans of operations don't exist anymore after the legislation change that commenced on 1 April 2019.

~~The environmental authority contains over 140 conditions for the regulation of the mine, including requirements to review groundwater modelling and management plans after operations commence.~~
INSERT THE LINE ABOUT WHERE THE EA IS AVAILABLE.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: (07) 4987 9338
Date: 30 April 2019

Endorsed:
Ph: 07
Date:



Date : 3/05/2019 12:27:37 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "BENNINK Kate" , "Media DES"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "ESR" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : RE: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Attachment : image001.png;

Thanks Kate, has this been approved by Melissa?

I have just sent you another response for Rockhampton Morning Bulletin. You may wish to insert the par about academic qualifications in that one too.

Kieran

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 12:26 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran; Media DES

Cc: WELLS Melissa; MCCOSKER Juliana; ESR; ELLWOOD Dean; DAUNT Bettina

Subject: RE: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Kieran,

Proposed response:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it cannot approve its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) in its current form because it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority. This position is based on the best available science.

The consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, received by the department on 15th March 2019, itself acknowledged that the plan could be strengthened.

Adani's own consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, reported that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch habitat in that area.

With respect to academic qualifications, the department advised that "the BTFMP must provide a commitment that the research will be undertaken by personnel with experience in analysis, design and interpretation of survey and research. A high level of expertise such as post-doctoral experience is critical in order to ensure that the research deliver scientifically robust results in a timely manner that informs effective management actions."

(THESE ARE THE EXACT WORDS FROM THE LETTER)

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland

Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:47 AM

To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa

Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Hi Kate and Melissa

Can you please provide dot points asap to help us write a response to the questions below from the Townsville Bulletin about Adani. The

Bulletin requires our approved response by 4pm today at the latest.

I have highlighted the journalist's specific requirements, below.

Many thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
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- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
- Does the DES know when it will next meet with Adani to discuss the GDEMP or when it expects to either make a decision or make recommendations for change on this plan?

Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

p4(6) Personal inform

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

[Townsville Bulletin](#)



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News Corp Australia

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RTI Act 2009

Date : 3/05/2019 12:26:14 PM
From : "BENNINK Kate"
To : "LEWIS Kieran" , "Media DES"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "ESR" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "DAUNT Bettina"
Subject : RE: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin
Attachment : image001.png;

Kieran,

Proposed response:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it cannot approve its Black-throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) in its current form because it does not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority. This position is based on the best available science.

The consultant report on the BTFMP, commissioned by Adani, received by the department on 15th March 2019, itself acknowledged that the plan could be strengthened.

Adani's own consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, reported that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
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(THESE ARE THE EXACT WORDS FROM THE LETTER)

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani.

Adani needs to consider DES's advice and make appropriate amendments to the BTFMP before submitting a revised version for the department to assess.

Cheers
Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:47 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Hi Kate and Melissa

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I have highlighted the journalist's specific requirements, below.

Many thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
19-503

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

Good morning guys,

Madura here from the Townsville Bulletin.

In relation to the recent decision by DES re: Adani's BTFMP, I am wondering if the Department would be able to provide more detail or the entire list of commitments it is seeking from Adani.

This is of course on top of the detail already provided from the DES statement.

"This includes gathering more accurate population information, which is vital to effectively manage and monitor the impacts of the project on the Black-throated Finch and essential habitats in the project area. DES invites Adani to make a clear commitment to a limited grazing regime in the project area, and to provide sufficient detail of research that will determine seed availability throughout the year. Both actions are vital to sustaining the Black-throated Finch population."

It would be good to get this in the spirit of transparency.

Adani has said the DES has specified the "academic qualifications required" namely;

"Our conditions require an experienced ecologist and yet the Department of Environment and Science is now trying to specify the academic qualifications required such as insisting on post graduate qualifications for certain activities. This is clearly beyond the scope of the requirement that we are obligated to meet."

- Can DES confirm that it is trying to specify the academic qualifications of Adani's ecologists?
- Is this beyond the scope, as Adani claims, of requirements?
- What is the specific wording of the request by DES and what does it apply to?

- While we are focusing on the BTFMP, is the DES also working through the GDEMP?
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Would be great to grab a response as soon as possible or by 4pm today at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards,
Madura

4p4(6) Personal informa

MADURA MCCORMACK
Reporter

[Townsville Bulletin](#)

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Date : 3/05/2019 12:36:12 PM

From : "MCCOSKER Juliana"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "BENNINK Kate" , "WELLS Melissa" , "ESR" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : Re: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

Attachment : image001.png;

Last dot point should be BTF population not habitat

Sent from my iPhone

On 3 May 2019, at 12:27 pm, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Thanks Kate, has this been approved by Melissa?

I have just sent you another response for Rockhampton Morning Bulletin. You may wish to insert the par about academic qualifications in that one too.

Kieran

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 12:26 PM

To: LEWIS Kieran; Media DES

Cc: WELLS Melissa; MCCOSKER Juliana; ESR; ELLWOOD Dean; DAUNT Bettina

Subject: RE: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

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(THESE ARE THE EXACT WORDS FROM THE LETTER)

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Cheers

Kate

<image001.png>

Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:47 AM
19-503

File D

Page 338 of 375

To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Kate / Melissa - For urgent advice - Adani response to Townsville Bulletin

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I have highlighted the journalist's specific requirements, below.

Many thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 (4/6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: McCormack, Madura <madura.mccormack@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:39 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Townsville Bulletin: Adani BTFMP

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Thank you.

Regards,
19-503

Madura

h4p4(6) Personal informatio

MADURA MCCORMACK

Reporter

Townsville Bulletin

538 Flinders Street Townsville QLD 4810

E madura.mccormack@news.com.au W www.townsvillebulletin.com.au

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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 9/05/2019 12:11:13 PM
From : "BENNINK Kate"
To : "Media DES"
Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "LEWIS Kieran"
Subject : RE: Kate - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting
Attachment : 090519 - HS - DES continues to meet with Adani KB.docx;image001.png;
Kieran,

Suggested edits in tracked changes attached.

Cheers
Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal information
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 11:52 AM
To: BENNINK Kate
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Kate - for approval - holding statement re Adani meeting

Kate

For approval / amendment please.

I've been asked to draft a holding statement for tomorrow's meeting with Adani.

Please see attached, based on earlier statements.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

Draft holding statement

Deadline: ASAP	Briefing officer: Kate Bennink
Media Services contact: Kieran Lewis	Phone: 4987 9338
Phone: 3339 5884 / 4p4(6) Personal informa	DDG:
Approved:	Phone:
Geographical area/s of interest: Statewide	

DES continues to meet with Adani to progress environmental plans

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to meet with Adani to progress the two outstanding environmental plans for the Carmichael mine site.

The most recent meeting was today (Friday 10 May).

The outstanding plans are the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP) and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP).

While there are no statutory timeframes for the approval of these plans, DES will continue to work with the company to have the plans finalised.

DES advised Adani on 2 May 2019 that it could not yet approve the BTFMP in its current form because it did not meet the requirements of the company's environmental authority.

Adani's own environmental consultants, BAAM Ecological Consultants, acknowledged that the BTFMP could be strengthened, reporting that:

- the BTFMP had not established an understanding of the Black-throated Finch population in the project area
- the BTFMP did not include monitoring protocols that allow for analysis of Black-throated Finch population over time, and
- the BTFMP did not include a commitment to manage the Ten Mile Bore area and surrounds in a manner that protects the Black-throated Finch population in that area.

Timeframes associated with the approval of the BTFMP now rest with Adani, who need to consider the department's advice, make appropriate amendments and submit a revised version to DES.-

In relation to the GDEMP, DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.-

This week DES has requested clarification from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia about the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES is now assessing/continuing to assess whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions/requirements.

Significant mining activities cannot commence until DES approves the BTFMP and the GDEMP.

(Refer to Appendix 1 – Definitions of the EA for the Carmichael mine, available at <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/epml01470513.pdf> for further information on significant mining activities.)

ENDS

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 15/04/2019 10:52:35 AM

From : "BENNINK Kate"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "WELLS Melissa" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "CAGNEY Justin"

Subject : RE: Kate - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re GDEMP approval

Attachment : 150419 - Carmichael mine approvals - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin KB.docx;image002.png;

Hi Kieran,

See proposed edits in tracked changes in the attached.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland

Compliance

Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 15 April 2019 9:56 AM

To: BENNINK Kate

Cc: WELLS Melissa; Media DES; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; CAGNEY Justin

Subject: Kate - for approval - response to Rockhampton Morning Bulletin re GDEMP approval

Importance: High

Hello Kate

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin's latest questions re the GDEMP approval. It's the same response as went to the Bulletin last week (Friday); but re-worded slightly at the end to address the journalist's specific question.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal info

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 15 April 2019 9:03 AM

To: Jack Evans

Cc: Rosalyn Lye; Media DES

Subject: Re: GDEMP

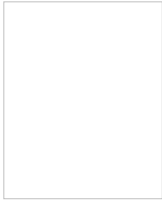
Hi Jack,

Yes this one would be best directed to DES.

I have cc-ed in the media team who will be able to assist.

Thanks,

Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 04(6) Personal inform

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

On 15 Apr 2019, at 8:29 am, Jack Evans <Jack.Evans@capnews.com.au> wrote:

Good Morning Pam,

I Hope you're well.

I am seeking some more information regarding this statement received last week;

'Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from DES is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.'

I'm wondering what the other uncertainties are, and whether a conclusion has been reached regarding identifying the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs.

Let me know if this is one to send to the DES instead.

Look Forward to hearing from you,

Thanks,

JACKEVANS

Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4930 4234

E jack.evans@capnews.com.au

W NewsCorpAustralia.com

<image001.jpg>

Follow us
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<image004.jpg>

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Media response

Re: Carmichael Mine approvals

For: Jack Evans
Rockhampton Morning Bulletin
4930 4234
jack.evans@capnews.com.au

Enquiry received: 9.03 am, Monday 15 April 2019

Media deadline: TBA

Date: Monday 15 April 2019

Questions

I am seeking some more information regarding this statement received last week;

'Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from DES is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.'

I'm wondering what the other uncertainties are, and whether a conclusion has been reached regarding identifying the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs.

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

While information is still required from Adani on other projects that involve other Government agencies (e.g. the rail line), two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site.

That includes the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP).

There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP.

As DES was previously ~~working assessing on~~ an earlier version of the GDEMP (and one which was different from the GDEMP ~~provided to approved by~~ the Commonwealth), DES is now working through the most recent version of the document ~~to compare~~ received last week.

~~In terms of "uncertainties", the~~ department is ~~specifically~~ assessing whether the most recent version of the GDEMP ~~that it has to hand~~ addresses the ~~mine operator's~~ environmental authority conditions, and considering the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review report.

The department has been clear since last year, that it would await the outcome of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia review, which was released last week, before making a decision on the GDEMP.

Given the complex and technical nature of these matters, the department will take the time necessary to thoroughly and comprehensively assess the information received before deciding whether the plan is sufficient in its current form, or whether further information is required from Adani.

While the department continues to examine last week's submissions, Based on a preliminary review review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP definitively ~~it would appear the current GDEMP is still to definitively~~ identify esy the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

ENDS

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

AGENCY BACKGROUND – NOT FOR PUBLICATION (do not include in response to media)

Contact: Kate Bennink
Ph: 4987 9338
Date: 15 April 2019

Endorsed: [Name and Position] relevant DDG
Ph: 07 [Phone]
Date: [Date]

Date : 16/04/2019 11:58:50 AM
From : "BENNINK Kate"
To : "Media DES"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "CAGNEY Justin" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina"
Subject : Re: Kate - for approval - response to The Australian re BTFMP and GDEMP
Hi Kieran,

I'm happy with the response you've prepared.

Cheers
Kate

Kate Bennink
Director | Business Centre Coal
Department of Environment and Science
P 4987 9338 | M p4(6) Personal inform
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

On 16 Apr 2019, at 11:53 am, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Kate

For your approval, please.

Attached response to The Australian re the GDEMP and the BTFMP is a direct cut and paste from yesterday's and Friday's responses to The Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / p4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Owens, Jared <owensj@theaustralian.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 April 2019 11:21 AM
To: Media DES
Subject: Adani Carmichael -- The Australian

Hello,

I'm seeking updated info on Adani Carmichael.

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's GDEMP?

What is DES doing to assess Adani Carmichael's BTFMP?

Thanks,
Jared

--

JARED OWENS
Reporter

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
T +61 7 36666655 M p4(6) Personal inform
E owensj@theaustralian.com.au W theaustralian.com.au

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<160419 - Carmichael Mine approvals - The Australian.docx>

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 24/04/2019 4:11:53 PM

From : s.73

To : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "WELLS Melissa" , "MCCOSKER Juliana"

Cc : " s.73

Subject : RE: Meeting with Adani Australia

Attachment : image001.jpg;

Melissa

I have just read your letter to Lucas Dow to which we will respond.

I write to reinforce my request for a meeting this Friday involving Adani and relevant officers of DES. If required we are prepared to travel to Emerald.

I would be appreciated if you could advise me this afternoon of a suitable meeting time on Friday.

Regards

s.73

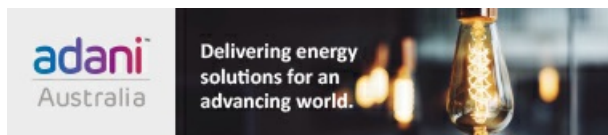
E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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From: s.73

Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 2:13 PM

To: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>; WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>; MCCOSKER Juliana <Juliana.Mccosker@des.qld.gov.au>

Cc: s.73 @adani.com.au> s.73 @adani.com.au> s.73

s.73 @adani.com.au>

Subject: Meeting with Adani Australia

Dean

Following on from our telephone conversation this morning and consistent with the email I sent to you last week, Adani Australia requests a meeting with relevant DES officers this coming Friday 26 April, to recommence discussions associated with the approval of our outstanding environment management plans.

Can you please confirm a suitable time and venue.

You indicated in the telephone conversations that DES is sending letters to Adani relating to the BTFMP, GDEMP & GMMP. We would be grateful if you can send these letters before Friday's meeting.

Regards

s.73

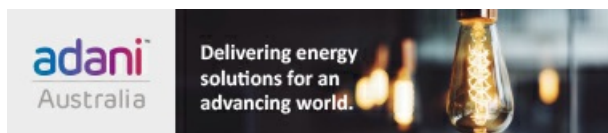
E s.73 @adani.com.au

P office: +61 7 3223 4800 | direct: s.73

A Level 25, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

P GPO Box 2569, Brisbane, QLD, 4001

W adaniaustralia.com



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Date : 30/04/2019 1:14:04 PM

From : "BENNINK Kate"

To : "Media DES" , "WELLS Melissa"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "ESR" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "LEWIS Kieran" , "TRACEY Ben"

Subject : RE: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Attachment : 300419 - Adani GDEMP - Guardian Australia (003) KB2.docx;image003.png;image004.png;image002.png;

Thanks for adding that sentence, Kieran.

Tiny edit from me on the new EA sentence.



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:07 PM

To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; LEWIS Kieran; TRACEY Ben; Media DES

Subject: Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Melissa,

Clean version with edits and approval from Kate attached. For your approval please.

Kate- I've added that link to the EA as you requested at the bottom- can you please double check that's what you were after?

Thanks very much,

Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 12:43 PM

To: Media DES; WELLS Melissa

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina

Subject: RE: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kieran,

Edits in tracked changes to additional paragraph at the end.

Cheers

Kate



Kate Bennink
Director
Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland
Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal info
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 11:27 AM
To: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Kate / Melissa - for approval - response to Guardian Australia re Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate and Melissa

For approval please.

Attached is a suggested response to the Guardian Australia re the Adani GDEMP. The response is the same that went to the Townsville Bulletin last night, with an additional highlighted paragraph at the end.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: Ben Smee <ben.smee@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 10:56 AM
To: Media DES
Subject:

Hi guys,

I have a question regarding Adani approvals that I'm hoping you can answer.

Adani has confirmed to me it has conducted no additional studies or modelling upon deciding to reduce the size of the Carmichael coalmine; that it would rely on modelling in the EIS, which was predicated on the construction / operation of a 60MTPA coalmine.

In addition to that, when asked to commit to "a particular mine plan and a particular amount of coal" by the CSIRO, Adani refused. The company supplied a map (attached) with very little specific detail.

While it is clear Adani would be limited by the scope of its approval, conditions, and items contained in the EIS, it is also effectively asking for management plans for specific impacts to be approved despite being unable / unwilling to say what the extent of those impacts will be.

Does the department believe it can approve any management plan - particularly for groundwater - when the approval authority remains essentially in the dark about the mine's scope and likely impacts?

Has the department sought any additional information from Adani to gain a firmer understanding of what the company's detailed current plans are for the Carmichael site?

Will the department require Adani to complete updated modelling / studies / research to ensure that information reflects its actual mine plan, not the initial larger plan, before approving relevant management plans?

Is Adani able to proceed to build a smaller mine, despite its approval being based on 60MTPA, without any additional approval, provided it stays within the footprint and scope of the initial approval?

Thanks. Happy to chat this through should you need.

Keen for a response by the end of the day if possible.

Ben Smee
Queensland Correspondent
The Guardian | Australia
19-503

+ sch4p4(6) Personal information
ben.smee@theguardian.com

twitter: [@bensmee](https://twitter.com/bensmee)



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Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

Date : 1/05/2019 3:11:16 PM

From : "LEWIS Kieran"

To : "WELLS Melissa" , "BROWN Glen"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "HOPE Lindsay" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LOVEDAY Chris" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "DLO DES" , "LEWIS Kieran"

Subject : RE: Melissa and Glen - for approval - response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;

Thanks Melissa

In this case the Minister's Office requested our draft urgently and it was sent to them. What was sent to you has been sent to the DG by the DLOs. We understand the DG's office may be making changes and these will be provided to Min's Office. Note that we had already changed "significant project" to "coordinated project" under Chris Loveday's instruction.

But as always, we appreciated everyone's time and effort in helping us put together a response.

With best regards.

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 4(6) Personal information
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: WELLS Melissa <Melissa.Wells@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 3:07 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran; BROWN Glen
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; HOPE Lindsay; ESR; BENNINK Kate; LOVEDAY Chris; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES; DLO DES
Subject: RE: Melissa and Glen - for approval - response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

'Significant' needs to be coordinated and last sentence should read DES continues



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 2:35 PM
To: WELLS Melissa; BROWN Glen
Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; HOPE Lindsay; ESR; BENNINK Kate; LOVEDAY Chris; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran; DLO DES
Subject: Melissa and Glen - for approval - response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Melissa and Glen

Seeking your ED approvals for the attached response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP. The Minister's Office and the DLOs are chasing this response.

Information re the Byerwen project has come from the content prepared for a similar query for the Courier Mail yesterday, while the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP information has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Channel 7's deadline is 3pm.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
19-503

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information

www.des.qld.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 1:23 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: LEWIS Kieran; WELLS Melissa

Subject: RE: Chris - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Kieran,

Some edits in tracked changes to Adani info.

Cheers

Kate

Kate Bennink

Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland Compliance Environmental Services and Regulation Department of Environment and Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M (6) Personal information

E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720

PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 12:49 PM

To: LOVEDAY Chris

Cc: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran

Subject: Chris - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Chris

For your approval, please.

Kate Bennink has advised that you would be the person to check off the Byerwen coal mine-related information in the attached response to Channel 7 Mackay. This information is taken from the holding statement Megan Lutz worked on last night. Channel 7 has a 3pm deadline for this, so any advice soonest will be appreciated.

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 / (6) Personal information www.des.qld.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 11:13 AM

To: BENNINK Kate
19-503

Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Kate - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to Channel 7 Mackay re black throated finches as they relate to both Adani and QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine - and traditional owner views on Adani's GDEMP.

The information on Byerwen is a cut and paste from last night's holding statement on this matter.

The information on Adani is from our approved responses, with the highlighted section to address the question about whether we're considering traditional owner concerns.

Channel 7's deadline is 3pm today.

Thanks!

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information www.des.qld.gov.au

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Simpson, Amelia <AmSimpson@Seven.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 10:34 AM
To: Media DES
Cc: Moss, Elisabeth; Bailey, Sophie
Subject: Seven News Mackay request

Morning,

Amelia here from Seven Mackay. We're following up a story on Adani's Black throated Finch management plan and how the Queensland co-ordinator-general approved an Environmental Impact statement mentioning the presence of the same bird in 2014 for QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine.

We're also including the fact that traditional owners are concerned about the wetlands surrounding the Carmichael site, namely the Doongmabulla springs.

Can we request a statement detailing:

- Are traditional owners' concerns on the wetlands being considered?
- Why the Qcoal mine was approved, but not Adani, with its Black throated Finch management plan.
- Is there an expected date Adani will know an answer on both Black throated Finch and groundwater management plans?

I have a 3pm deadline.

Any questions, I'm on 4(6) Personal information

Cheers,
Amelia

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Date : 1/05/2019 3:07:03 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "LEWIS Kieran" , "BROWN Glen"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "HOPE Lindsay" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LOVEDAY Chris" , "DAUNT Bettina" , "Media DES" , "DLO DES"

Subject : RE: Melissa and Glen - for approval - response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;

'Significant' needs to be coordinated and last sentence should read DES continues



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 2:35 PM

To: WELLS Melissa; BROWN Glen

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; HOPE Lindsay; ESR; BENNINK Kate; LOVEDAY Chris; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran; DLO DES

Subject: Melissa and Glen - for approval - response to Channel 7 Mackay re Black-throated Finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Melissa and Glen

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Information re the Byerwen project has come from the content prepared for a similar query for the Courier Mail yesterday, while the Adani GDEMP and BTFMP information has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Channel 7's deadline is 3pm.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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www.des.qld.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: BENNINK Kate <Kate.Bennink@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 1:23 PM

To: Media DES

Cc: LEWIS Kieran; WELLS Melissa

Subject: RE: Chris - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Kieran,

Some edits in tracked changes to Adani info.

Cheers
Kate

Kate Bennink
Director

Business Centre Coal | Coal and Central Queensland Compliance Environmental Services and Regulation Department of Environment and Science

Science

P (07) 4987 9338 | M 4(6) Personal information
E kate.bennink@des.qld.gov.au
99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 12:49 PM
To: LOVEDAY Chris
Cc: BENNINK Kate; WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; Media DES; LEWIS Kieran
Subject: Chris - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Chris

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Kieran

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information www.des.qld.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 11:13 AM
To: BENNINK Kate
Cc: WELLS Melissa; ELLWOOD Dean; ESR; DAUNT Bettina; Media DES
Subject: Kate - for approval - response to channel 7 Mackay re Black throated finches, Byerwen, and Adani GDEMP

Hi Kate

For your approval please.

Attached is a response to Channel 7 Mackay re black throated finches as they relate to both Adani and QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine - and traditional owner views on Adani's GDEMP.

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Channel 7's deadline is 3pm today.

Thanks!

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal information www.des.qld.gov.au

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Simpson, Amelia <AmSimpson@Seven.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 10:34 AM
To: Media DES
Cc: Moss, Elisabeth; Bailey, Sophie
Subject: Seven News Mackay request

Morning,

Amelia here from Seven Mackay. We're following up a story on Adani's Black throated Finch management plan and how the Queensland co-ordinator-general approved an Environmental Impact statement mentioning the presence of the same bird in 2014 for QCoal's Byerwen open-cut Coal mine.

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- Is there an expected date Adani will know an answer on both Black throated Finch and groundwater management plans?

I have a 3pm deadline.

Any questions, I'm on (6) Personal info

Cheers,
Amelia

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Date : 20/05/2019 3:25:17 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "TRACEY Ben" , "ELLWOOD Dean"

Cc : "MCCOSKER Juliana" , "Media DES" , "LOWE Trinity" , "ESR" , "BENNINK Kate" , "LAWRENCE Rob" , "DAUNT Bettina"

Subject : RE: Melissa/Rob - new media response for approval - latest on Adani - SMH - URGENT

Attachment : image001.png;image007.png;image002.png;image003.png;image006.png;image009.png;

Hi Dean - suggested amendments for your consideration. My preference is for the first highlighted statement below as the reference to the GMMP may confuse matters. Thanks, Melissa.

The Department of Environment and Science **has sought updated advice** from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Regarding the Black Throated Finch Management Plan, the department has asked Adani to make a number of commitments to enable this plan to be finalised.

Departmental representatives met with Adani today. This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the plans and negotiations are continuing.

OR

Departmental representatives met with Adani today and had a positive meeting to discuss its Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP). This is a continuation of a series of meetings held between the department and the company to progress the plans and negotiations are continuing.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: TRACEY Ben <Ben.Tracey@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 3:02 PM

To: WELLS Melissa; LAWRENCE Rob

Cc: MCCOSKER Juliana; Media DES; LOWE Trinity; ESR; BENNINK Kate; ELLWOOD Dean; DAUNT Bettina

Subject: Melissa/Rob - new media response for approval - latest on Adani - SMH - URGENT

Importance: High

Hi Melissa/Rob,

Please see below a draft media response for the SMH: (they have asked the MO for the "latest").

This has been approved by Kate Bennink.

Apologies for sending this to both of you, the MO would like to see our draft now:

The Department of Environment and Science is awaiting advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

Regarding the Black Throated Finch Management Plan, the department has asked Adani to make a number of commitments to enable

this plan to be finalised.

Departmental representatives are today meeting with Adani representatives.



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: TRACEY Ben
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 2:16 PM
To: BENNINK Kate
Cc: WELLS Melissa; MCCOSKER Juliana; LAWRENCE Rob; Media DES; TRACEY Ben; LOWE Trinity; ESR
Subject: Kate - new media query - latest on Adani - SMH - URGENT
Importance: High

Hi Kate,

Please see below a new media query.

As discussed, are we able to edit the below statement with a line advising there is/was a meeting today? (Im waiting to hear back from my director about the HS for today's meeting).

Thanks
Ben



Ben Tracey
A/Principal Media Officer
Media Services | Corporate Services
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5845
media@des.qld.gov.au
400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Media response

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) confirms its earlier public statements that it will not seek its own independent scientific review of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) but will instead rely on the advice given by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to the Commonwealth Government.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP (version 10) in early March, but did not receive a copy until 9 April 2019.

DES only received the latest version of the GDEMP (version 11) on the same day, following its approval by the Department of Environment and Energy.

DES has now reviewed the GDEMP (version 11) and the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report.

The department has sought updated advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia on the latest version of the GDEMP, which is not the version that was reviewed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

This includes further clarification around the evidence to support identification of the source aquifer(s) of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

DES has not sought advice on issues outside those that were covered in the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report of February 2019.

This advice will be important in assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority requirements.

While there is no statutory timeframe for the GDEMP to be approved, DES has expressed urgency in receiving the advice from CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

DES is meeting with Adani today and set out the timeframes for CSIRO and Geoscience Australia to update their review following analysis of the latest version of the GDEMP, once this timeframe has been confirmed by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia.

From: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2019 10:16 AM
To: DLO DES; Media DES
Cc: Rosalyn Lye
Subject: Latest on Adani

Hi team,

I have received an inquiry from the Sydney Morning Herald.
The journalist, Peter Hannam phannam@smh.com.au, is seeking the latest information on Adani approvals.

Can you please get a statement together with the latest information?

Thanks,
Pam



Pamela Frost
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7149 M (6) Personal infor
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

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Date : 1/05/2019 5:25:14 PM

From : "Pamela Frost"

To : "Media DES"

Cc : "Rosalyn Lye" , "DLO DES" , "ELLWOOD Dean" , "GRANT Andrea" , "WATSON Matthew"

Subject : RE: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

Attachment : image002.png;image005.png;image007.jpg;image008.jpg;image001.png;image004.png;

We suggest adding these lines, as I've highlighted below.

But they will need to be checked by DG and DDG.

(Please note the rest of the response remains the same, except for having moved the line "DES continues to work with Adani..." from down the bottom to be now the third line. Have also removed the two details of GDEMP versions ("version 11b" etc) to avoid confusion).

Please attribute to a Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokesperson:

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) is meeting with the proponent tomorrow to discuss their outstanding management plans.

This meeting has been scheduled for the past week.

DES continues to work with Adani, as it would with any proponent, to progress its environmental approvals.

Two environmental approvals are still required from DES before significant disturbance can commence at the Carmichael mine site. These are the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan (BTFMP). There are no statutory timeframes for these approvals.

DES originally asked the Federal Government for a copy of the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia's report of their review into Adani's GDEMP in early March.

DES was provided a copy of this report on Tuesday, 09 April. On the same morning, Adani also provided DES a copy of their updated GDEMP.

DES had been assessing the earlier version of the GDEMP.

The department is now working through the most recent version of the document, being the one approved by the Commonwealth and provided to DES on 09 April.

DES is assessing whether the latest version of the GDEMP addresses the longstanding conditions set out in the environmental authority conditions.

In doing so, DES will consider the issues and recommendations set out by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia in their review.

Based on a preliminary review of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia report, it is still to be determined if the GDEMP identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex.

This identification has always been a requirement for state approval.

DES engaged an independent expert panel review of Adani's BTFMP to ensure that the plan contains the best scientific advice to successfully manage and mitigate mining impacts on this population of Black-Throated Finch.

This review has now been finalised and DES is considering the final report and any other relevant information.

Under Queensland's *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, approvals for the GDEMP and the BTFMP rest with the Department of Environment and Science, as the State's environmental regulator, not with the Environment Minister.



Pamela Frost

Senior Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science, Minister for the Arts

P 07 3719 7149 M 4(6) Personal info
1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000 GPO Box 5078 Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:18 PM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Rosalyn Lye <Rosalyn.Lye@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au>; DLO DES <DLO.DES@des.qld.gov.au>; ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>; GRANT Andrea <Andrea.Grant@des.qld.gov.au>; WATSON Matthew <Matthew.Watson@des.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Pam re: Adani management plans - enquiry from The Australian

Pam

Are you happy for us to give The Australian the same response as went to the Fin Review today (attached)?

Andrea



Andrea Dobbyn

Senior Media Officer

Media Services| Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3339 5848 or ext 74848 M 6(6) Personal info
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001
If it's a media matter, please include the group email media@des.qld.gov.au
Website www.des.qld.gov.au



From: Peel, Charlie <peelc1@theaustralian.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 5:04 PM

To: Media DES

Subject: Adani management plans

Hi,

As discussed, Adani (see below) claims to have been seeking clarity from DES for the past fortnight with no response. I'm chasing a comment from DES.

Cheers 19-503

"The Queensland Department of Environment and Science is required to finalise two outstanding management plans, the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan and the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan, so that we can start construction on the Carmichael Project.

"Adani Mining has been asking for advice from the Department of Environment and Science for two weeks now to understand what is required to finalise the outstanding management plans so that construction can commence on the Carmichael Project.

"On numerous occasions we have requested meetings with the Premier and Deputy Premier, to date all requests have been declined. We have repeatedly met with officials from the Department of Environment and Science, with no additional details provided on what is required to finalise these plans.

"All we've ever asked for is a fair go and to be treated like any other mining company, yet this is far from what we've experienced."

CHARLIE PEEL

Journalist

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T +61 7 3666 6172 M 4(6) Personal inform

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Date : 10/04/2019 1:51:37 PM
From : "Media DES"
To : "TONES Peter"
Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "Media DES"
Subject : RE: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February
Attachment : image001.png;image003.png;

Thank-you Peter. I'll close off the process by seeking Min's official approval and then provide to the journalist, Domanii Cameron.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5887 s4(6) Personal inform
www.des.qld.gov.au

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From: TONES Peter <Peter.Tones@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 1:48 PM
To: LEWIS Kieran
Cc: MERRICK Jamie; DLO DES; Media DES; GRANT Andrea
Subject: RE: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February

Hi Kieran

Please see below DG approved response

To qualify the DES media release of 18 February – *Adani BTFMP review report finalised*, as Geoscience Australia and CSIRO provided advice, in its February 2019 report on the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan version 10a dated January 21, 2019 (GDEMP), DES reserves the right to seek advice from Geoscience Australia and CSIRO as necessary on the latest and current version of the GDEMP provided to DES by Adani.

Kind regards



Peter Tones
Director
Office of the Director-General
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 3199 7524 s4(6) Personal inform
Level 32, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
[E peter.tones@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:peter.tones@des.qld.gov.au)

From: LEWIS Kieran <Kieran.Lewis@des.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 12:04 PM
To: TONES Peter
Subject: Peter - re Courier Mail enquiry about Adani media release from February
Importance: High

Hi Peter

I'll give you a call about this one.

Regards

Kieran Lewis
Media Services
Department of Environment and Science
media@des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Media DES

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:44 AM

To: CAGNEY Justin; BENNINK Kate

Cc: ELLWOOD Dean; Media DES; ESR; WELLS Melissa

Subject: Justin / Kate - for advice - is our February media release re GDEMP still current

Importance: High

Hi Justin (for Melissa) and Kate

For advice please.

The Courier Mail's Domanni Cameron wants an answer this morning as to whether these lines in a media release on our website (<https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btfmp-review-report-finalised.html>) dated 18 February 2019 remain correct.

Recent media reports have suggested the Queensland Government could require its own review of the GDEMP, however this is not the case.

DES will be satisfied to consider the scientific advice of CSIRO and GeoScience Australia in relation to the GDEMP prior to making a decision on the plan.

If yes, please let me know and we can advise the journalist. If they are not correct, we need to edit the media release online, or perhaps remove it.

Thanks

Kieran

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5887 / 4(6) Personal inform

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Cameron, Domanii <domanii.cameron@news.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 9:38 AM

To: Media DES

Subject: Re: DES media request

Hi guys,

Just following up with this to see when you can respond this morning?

Thanks,

Domani

On Tue, 9 Apr 2019 at 17:59, Media DES <Media@des.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Domani, we will check on this for you but not sure if we'll be able to get more info tonight.

Regards,

Media team DES

Thanks guys.

So you won't be requiring a review of the GDEMP? (Second last line in this; <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/mediareleases/2019-02-18-adani-btffmp-review-report-finalised.html>)

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--
DOMANII CAMERON
Journalist

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Date : 25/03/2019 3:18:17 PM

From : "Media DES"

To : "Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au"

Cc : "Media DES"

Subject : Re: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Attachment : 250319 - Adani GDEMP - Rockhampton Morning Bulletin.pdf;image004.jpg;image005.png;image006.png;

Hi Leighton

Thanks for your enquiry. A departmental response is attached.

Regards

Kieran Lewis

Media Services

Department of Environment and Science

media@des.qld.gov.au

Level 31 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5831

www.des.qld.gov.au

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

From: Leighton Smith <Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 9:59 AM

To: Pamela Frost <Pamela.Frost@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Environment <Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Request for comment RE: Adani water report

Dear Pamela and Leeanne,

Given the federal government's representatives in Central Queensland are very keen to see the Adani project receive the green light, and have pressured the Queensland government to allow it to happen, I find it unusual that the feds are holding up this issue by not passing on the groundwater report to the CSIRO.

Could you please explain to me the background behind what's going on with this water report?

Why has it not been released to the CSIRO to allow the state to get on with the job of approving Adani?

What else are we waiting on before Adani can go ahead?

Do we have an estimated timeline for when a decision was expected?

Can you please provide me with as much information as possible regarding this situation?

If I could get a response by 2pm, that would be appreciated.

Regards,

LEIGHTON SMITH

Political Reporter

220 Bolsover Street Rockhampton QLD 4700

T +61 7 4930 4228 M [b4\(6\) Personal inform](tel:+61749304228)

E Leighton.Smith@capnews.com.au

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Date : 9/04/2019 3:06:31 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "ELLWOOD Dean"

Subject : RE: URGENT - Draft media statement

Attachment : carmichael-mine-summary-environmental-approvals.pdf;image002.png;image005.png;image004.png;image006.png;

Dean I believe the attached confirms the below statement. This is published on the DoEE website and appears current as it refers to today's approval of the GDMEP and GMMP. It refers to outstanding plans required by the Commonwealth before box cut. Let me know if you are comfortable with this information. Alternatively, we can confirm the table with the Commonwealth although this will require more time.

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/cb8a9e41-eba5-47a4-8b72-154d0a5a6956/files/carmichael-mine-summary-environmental-approvals.pdf>



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

From: ELLWOOD Dean <Dean.Ellwood@des.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 1:56 PM

To: Hannah Jackson; MERRICK Jamie

Cc: DLO DES; Pamela Frost; WELLS Melissa

Subject: RE: URGENT - Draft media statement

The below statement looks ok. We will get some background info on the 'other conditions of approvals' asap.

Regards
Dean

From: Hannah Jackson <Hannah.Jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 1:38 PM

To: MERRICK Jamie; ELLWOOD Dean

Cc: DLO DES; Pamela Frost

Subject: URGENT - Draft media statement

Importance: High

Below is a proposed media statement from the Minister. Can we get clarity around the highlighted line please, which reflects Minister Price's statement.

Other feedback also welcome.

From Minister for Environment:

After a month of multiple requests, the Queensland Government received the CSIRO report 30 minutes before the Federal Minister's statement.

The Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) will be considered against Queensland's own environmental conditions.

Queensland decisions will be made by the independent environmental regulator, free from political interference.

Initial advice from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (DES) is that a number of uncertainties remain, including whether the GDEMP definitively identifies the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval.

I also note Minister Price's statement that the project must meet further stringent conditions of approval from the Commonwealth before it can begin producing coal.

Under the Palaszczuk Government, resources companies have committed to more than \$20 billion worth of mining projects in Queensland.



Hannah Jackson

Acting Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef

Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

P 3719 7163 M (6) Personal info E hannah.jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au

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Date : 5/03/2019 1:17:45 PM

From : "WELLS Melissa"

To : "Dean.Knudson@environment.gov.au"

Cc : "ELLWOOD Dean" , "John.Foster@environment.gov.au" , "MCCOSKER Juliana"

Subject : Request for Commonwealth CSIRO and Geoscience Australia expert scientific review (Final) of GDEMP and GMMP

Attachment : Letter to Commonwealth Re CSIRO-GA review 050319.pdf;image001.png;image002.png;

Good Afternoon Dean,

Please find attached correspondence requesting final CSIRO/GA review report on GDEMP and GMMP.

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Melissa.



Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Qld Compliance
Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4987 9343

99 Hospital Road, Emerald QLD 4720
PO Box 3028, Emerald QLD 4720

Published on DES Disclosure Log
RTI Act 2009

5 March 2019

Mr Dean Knudson
Deputy Secretary
Environment Protection Group
Department of the Environment and Energy
John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace
Parkes Canberra ACT 2600

Email: dean.knudson@environment.gov.au

Dear Mr Knudson,

I understand the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy has received the final report from the independent scientific review by CSIRO and GeoScience Australia of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP) and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP).

As co-regulator for the Adani project, and taking into consideration the Bilateral arrangements the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (the department) has with the Commonwealth, including any Administrative Access Policy, I request a copy of the independent scientific review report.

This will enable the delegate to consider the report in the assessment of the GDEMP and GMMP with respect to the relevant environmental authority condition requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

I look forward to the continued successful cooperation between our departments to ensure a robust scientific approach supports both the State and Commonwealth approval processes.

Any questions in relation to this correspondence please don't hesitate to contact me on (07) 4987 9343 or melissa.wells@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Melissa Wells
Executive Director
Coal and Central Queensland Compliance



Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

Our Ref: CTS 06677/19

12 March 2019

The Honourable Melissa Price MP
Minister for the Environment
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

On behalf of the Department of Environment and Science (the department), which is the Queensland regulator, I write to seek urgent release to the department of a copy of the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia Report on the Adani Mining Pty Ltd's (Adani) Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDEMP), commissioned by the Commonwealth Government.

The department has been working closely with the Commonwealth's Department of the Environment and Energy throughout the assessment and approval process of the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project, and formally requested a copy of the report on 5 March 2019 (see attached). While the department has been assured that it will receive a copy of that report, neither the report nor a formal response to the attached letter has been received.

As you are aware the GDEMP requires approval by both the Commonwealth and the department prior to the commencement of significant mining activities on site. The present failure to provide a copy of that report is impacting on the timely assessment of the GDEMP and Groundwater Management and Monitoring Program (GMMP).

I formally request a copy of the full independent scientific review report on behalf of the department as co-regulator for the Adani project, and taking into consideration the Bilateral arrangements the Queensland Government has with the Commonwealth, including any Administrative Access Policy.

The timely provision of the final report will enable the delegate to consider the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia recommendations in the assessment of the GDEMP and GMMP with respect to the relevant environmental authority condition requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* based on the best scientific advice available.

If your office requires any further information, please contact Ms Hannah Jackson, Chief of Staff, on telephone (07) 3719 7140 or by email at hannah.jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leeanne', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

(Enc)

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Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

s.73

29 APR 2019

GPO Box 5078 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7110
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Adani
GPO Box 2569
BRISBANE QLD 4001

s.73

Dear

Thank you for your letter today, 29 April 2019, regarding finalisation of Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Management Plan (GDMP) with the Department of Environment and Science (the department).

On 9 April 2019, I provided a statement to media which said (in part):

"Based on the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, initial advice from the Department of Environment and Science is that a number of uncertainties remain. This includes whether the GDMP definitively identifies the source aquifers of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, which has always been a requirement for state approval."

I made that comment based on advice from the department regarding the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report ("*Advice on Carmichael Coal Project draft research plans to the Department of Environment and Energy*") which expresses concerns such as: "It is not plausible and reasonable to state unequivocally that the Clematis Sandstone is the sole source aquifer for the DSC..." (Doongmabulla Springs Complex).

I am further advised by the department that it has communicated to you that it is reviewing the CSIRO and GeoScience Australia report, including aspects relating to the identification of source aquifers for the Springs and that this has been the subject of recent correspondence.

The process for finalising the GDMP is a matter for you to raise directly with the department as the regulator. I remain committed to ensuring Adani's environmental conditions are assessed without political interference.

I understand that a meeting between yourself and the department is taking place on Thursday 2 May 2019. I encourage you to continue to liaise directly with the department, as the regulator.

Yours sincerely

Leeanne Enoch MP

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts