



WHITSUNDAY CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Caring for the future is in our nature

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Contact: Secretary 0407 207 441

The Hon Dr Steven Miles

26 November 2021

Deputy Premier

Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

Email: ministerial.callin@dasilgp.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister Miles,

On behalf of the Whitsunday Conservation Council (WCC), please accept this submission regarding Mr. Clive Palmer's Waratah Coal's Galilee Power Station proposal.

We urgently ask you to call in the Galilee Power Station development application and take the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Our concern is twofold:

1. Irregular and unsatisfactory planning process
2. Unacceptable and avoidable environmental impacts

1. IRREGULAR AND UNSATISFACTORY PLANNING PROCESS

We agree with the economic and environmental interests of the State identified in the Proposed Call in Notice. We also agree that the proposal should be called in to ensure that the purpose of the Planning Act is achieved and for this application to be properly assessed and refused, as it is clearly incompatible with these state interests.

We believe that the proposed development does in fact involve the following economic and environmental interests of the State identified by the Proposed Call in Notice:

1. The application will have a bearing on the supply and pricing of electricity which is a matter of economic interest to the State
2. The proposal will have a bearing on the State's renewable energy target, the ten-year Energy Plan and the state commitments to achieve net zero by 2050.
3. The proposed development will impact on matters of state and potentially national environmental significance, including groundwater, air quality, threatened species and greenhouse gas emissions

We also strongly agree that the application is being assessed against planning instruments and assessment criteria that are deficient and inadequate for a power station of this type and scale.

2. UNACCEPTABLE AND AVOIDABLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The environmental impacts of a coal-fired power station are well documented and include:

- adverse impacts to aquifers, farmers, townships and groundwater dependent ecosystems
- the burning of coal will only increase the impacts of climate change on our environment, in particularly the health of the Great Barrier Reef
- the burning of coal will increase the health impacts of air pollution

In summary, we urge the Minister to call this proposal in and refuse it on the grounds that it:

- is incompatible with Queensland's climate ambition
- will endanger Queensland's renewable energy transition and renewable energy targets
- will drive up Queensland's electricity prices
- has gone through an irregular and unsatisfactory planning process
- will cause adverse impacts to aquifers, farmers, townships and groundwater dependent ecosystems
- has potentially unacceptable impacts on local ecosystems and species.

Yours faithfully,



Faye Chapman
Secretary
Whitsunday Conservation Council

