

s22

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 25 June 2018 1:58 PM
To: s22
Subject: FW: ACF letter to Minister Frydenberg [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]
Attachments: 180622 Minister Frydenberg.pdf; 2018-8191 Referral-talking points relating to Carmichael and water trigger.docx

From: Barker, James
Sent: Monday, 25 June 2018 1:57 PM
To: s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; Knudson, Dean ; Tregurtha, James ; Tregurtha, Margaret ; s22 ; s22 ; Manning, Gregory
Subject: RE: ACF letter to Minister Frydenberg [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Hi s22

I've enclosed some previous TPs on this that we previously forwarded through the media team, which are relevant to the issue that ACF has raised. This referral from Adani is open for public comment, closing today. s22
The referral decision is due on 6 July, not 9 July as stated by ACF.

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s47C
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Thanks
James

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 25 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Barker, James <James.Barker@environment.gov.au>
Subject: FW: ACF letter to Minister Frydenberg [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi James

See ACF position.

Can we please have some points in response to the issues they raise.

Not sure yet when meeting will be scheduled.

Email is fine.

s22

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 25 June 2018 10:13 AM
To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>
Subject: FW: ACF letter to Minister Frydenberg [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

s22 – attached letter requests meeting with Min or Advisor – can you pls advise.

Thx

s22

From: Kelly OShanassy [<mailto:Kelly.OShanassy@acf.org.au>]
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Frydenberg, Josh (MP) <Josh.Frydenberg.MP@aph.gov.au>
Cc: Christian Slattery <Christian.Slattery@acf.org.au>
Subject: ACF letter to Minister Frydenberg

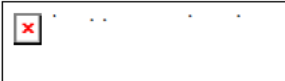
Dear Minister,

Please find attached a letter from the Australian Conservation Foundation regarding Adani Infrastructure's referral application for its North Galilee Water Scheme.

Kind regards

KELLY OSHANASSY | Chief Executive Officer

Australian Conservation Foundation | www.acf.org.au
p | +61 3 9345 1234 m | +61 421 054 402 t | [@AusConservation](https://twitter.com/AusConservation)



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*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this country and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.
We pay respect to their elders past and present and to the pivotal role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play in caring for country across Australia.*

ADANI – NORTH GALILEE WATER SCHEME – TALKING POINTS

Key Points

- Adani Infrastructure Pty Ltd has referred a proposal under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, to construct and operate a water pipeline (the 'North Galilee Water Scheme') to provide a water supply under a commercial agreement to the proposed Carmichael Coal Mine and potentially in the future, other resource projects in the northern Galilee Basin.
 - The proposal involves the construction of a pump station, water storage infrastructure, 110 km of buried pipe line, and upgrading an existing storage dam from 2.2 gigalitres to 10 gigalitres (see map at Attachment 1).
- The referral has been published for a 10 day public comment period until 25 June 2018.
- After that public comment period, a decision will be made on whether the proposal requires further detailed assessment under the EPBC Act.
- Under the EPBC Act, proposals are required to undergo an environmental impact assessment if they are likely to have a significant impact on defined matters of national environmental significance.
- The EPBC Act process is separate to any approvals required by the State.

If asked - is Adani avoiding federal scrutiny of water-related impacts?

- Under the EPBC Act, large coal mines that have a significant impact on a water resource (the 'water trigger') must undergo an environmental assessment of those impacts.
- The North Galilee Water Scheme proposal has been referred separately to the approval under the EPBC Act for the Carmichael coal mine.
- A decision is due by 6 July 2018 on whether the proposed North Galilee Water Scheme requires further detailed assessment under national environment law and, if so, which nationally protected matters will be required to be considered during the assessment process, including whether the water trigger applies to this proposal.
- The water related impacts of the Carmichael coal mine itself have already been subject to a detailed assessment under the EPBC Act.
 - The Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project was approved on 14 October 2015 under the EPBC Act.
 - The approval of the Carmichael Mine Project includes strict conditions that address advice from the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development. The conditions of approval fully respond to the recommendations in this advice.
 - The Carmichael Mine Project approval includes conditions for the protection of water, including a requirement for comprehensive groundwater management plans and strategies to be prepared and approved by the

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Minister before mining can commence and a requirement for Adani to offset the predicted annual water take of the mine. This will be achieved by reducing extraction from the Great Artesian Basin by 3 650 megalitres per year, to be implemented over the first five years after coal mining commences.

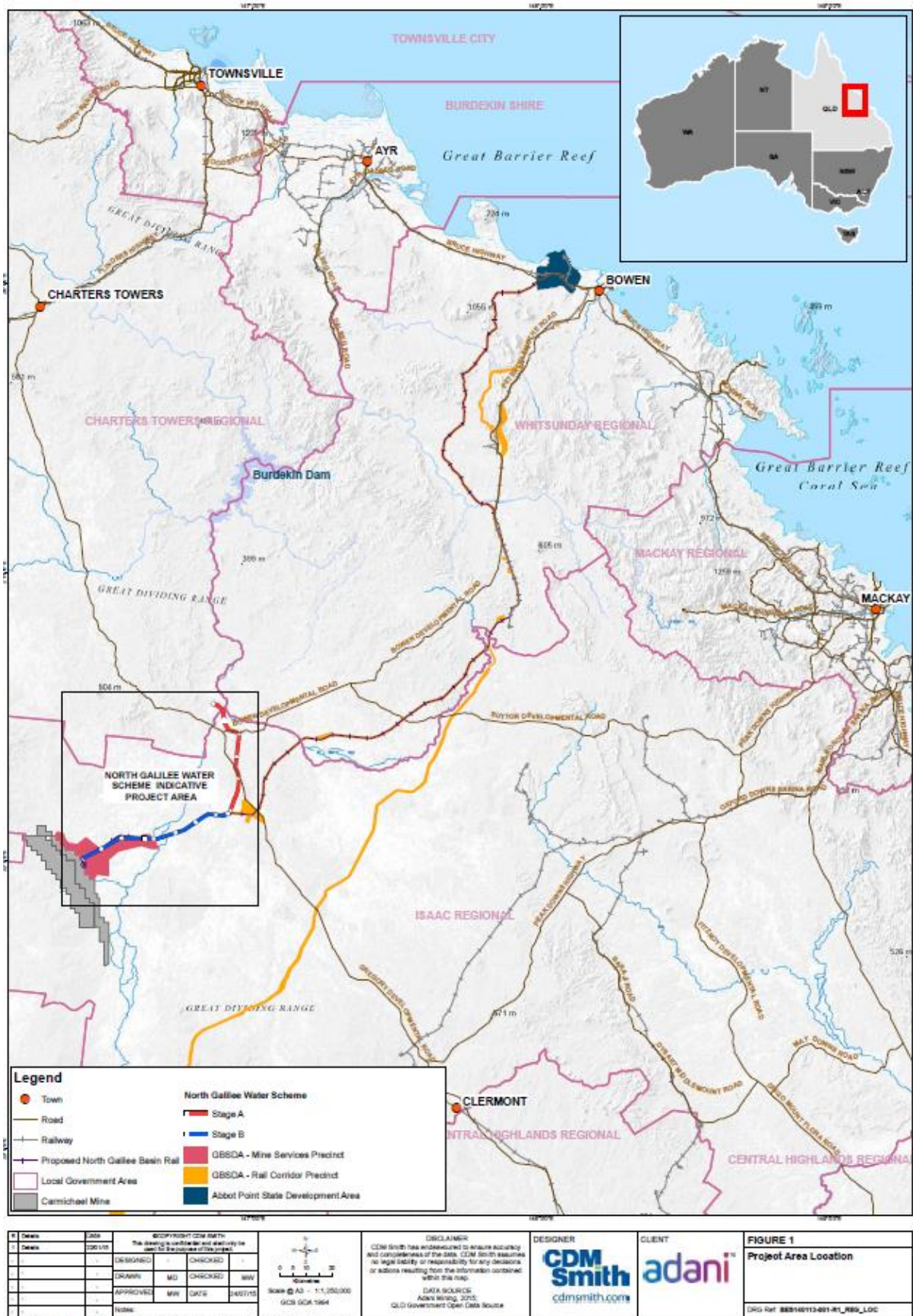
If asked - how does the water trigger work under national environmental law?

- The water trigger allows the impacts of proposed coal seam gas and large coal mining developments on water resources to be comprehensively assessed at a national level.
 - Such a proposal may have a significant impact on a water resource if there is the possibility that it will directly or indirectly result in a change to the hydrology or the water quality of a water resource.
- Stand-alone proposals which involve only associated infrastructure, such as processing, pipelines, rail lines and other transportation facilities, would not be captured by the water trigger, as these are non-extractive activities.

Background

- The North Galilee Water Scheme is located approximately 160 kilometres north-west of Clermont in Central Queensland.
- The proposal will harvest a portion of the flood waters from the Suttor River and pump it via a pipeline to a water storage dam for use in resource-extraction projects in the northern Galilee Basin.
- The proposed disturbance footprint of the proposal is approximately 500 hectares.
- The Queensland Government has already issued Adani a water licence to extract up to 12.5 billion litres (12.5 gegalitres) of surface water a year, in addition to a groundwater licence to dewater the mine.

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Attachment 1 Regional Location

Contact: James Barker, ESD, m 522

13 June 2018



EPBC Ref: 2018/8191

Mr Hamish Manzi
Adani Infrastructure Pty Ltd
GPO Box 2569
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Manzi

**Request for additional information
North Galilee Water Scheme, Galilee Basin, Qld**

Thank you for submitting a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) concerning the above proposed action.

An initial examination of your referral indicates that there is insufficient information to allow the Department to consider all the relevant issues.

Could you please provide the following further information:

- details of how the proposed action relates to water supply infrastructure approved under EPBC 2010/5736, including but not limited to the proportion of water harvesting that will occur from the Belyando River and the Suttor River;
- provide data to show the seasonal flow regime for the Suttor River at the proposed harvest location;
- a description of geomorphological conditions downstream of the proposed water harvest site. This should include the location of any permanent or semi-permanent pools that may support habitat for matters of national environmental significance;
- details of how the proposed action is likely to impact species and ecological communities downstream of the proposed harvest location. Species that must be considered include, but are not limited to, Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant and co-dominant) ecological community, Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), Squatter Pigeon (*Geophaps scripta scripta*), and Ornamental Snake (*Denisonia maculate*); and
- a copy of the Queensland Water Licence (reference 617268) including any conditions.

In any correspondence with the Department please quote the title of the action and EPBC reference, as shown at the beginning of this letter.

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Please note that the timing to make a decision on your referral stops on the date of this letter, and restarts once the Department has received satisfactory information and, if not exempt or waived, the invoice has been paid. In the event that the project is determined to be a controlled action, the timing to make a decision on an assessment approach also stops on the date of this letter.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact the project manager, s22 [redacted] by email to s22 [redacted]@environment.gov.au, or telephone 02 s22 [redacted] and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter

Yours sincerely



James Barker
Assistant Secretary
Assessments and Governance Branch
2 July 2018