

New referrals:

1. Kuranda Range Road minor safety works – comments due 23rd December

Decisions on referral

1. Clean Coal Gasification Plant at Felton - approval required

Invitation for submissions from the public:

1. Threatened species – Windswept Helmut Orchid and Patagonian Toothfish – comments due 23rd January 2009
2. Commonwealth National Heritage List – nominations due by 3rd February 2009

Previous notices still open for comment:

1. Independent review of the EPBC Act – comments due 19th December
2. Water buyback in the Murray-Darling Basin region – applications due 19th December

Environmental Impact Statements open for comment:

1. Gladstone – Fitzroy Pipeline – comments by 15th December
2. Shute Harbour Marina Development – comments by 15th December

This is a new section included in our regular alerts, notices are drawn from the Department of Infrastructure and Planning website. See below for an explanation.

All of the information below is drawn directly from the Commonwealth Government's website (www.environment.gov.au/epbc/index.html) and is provided for information and summary purposes only; EDO-NQ does not warrant or guarantee its accuracy or correctness. In addition, EDO-NQ does not support the various proposals which are the subject of the EPBC Act referrals below.

1. Invitation on public comment on referral

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|----------------------|
| 2008/4642 | Queensland Government Department of Main Roads/Transport - land/Smithfield to Kuranda/QLD/Kuranda Range Road Safety Works | Invitation for Public Comment on Referral | Deadline 23 Dec 2008 |
|-----------|---|---|----------------------|

Main Roads propose to undertake minor safety works on the Kuranda Range Road. The works involve curve widening including earthworks and pavement extension, rehabilitation and installation of five canopy rope bridges for arboreal fauna. The proposed works are within the road reserve of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area and the referral concludes there is not likely to be significant impacts.

For further information on how to comment refer to the Invitations for public comment section of the [help document](#) provided by the Department of the Environment and Water Resources.

2. Decisions on Referrals

| | | | |
|-----------|--|--|-------------|
| 2008/4580 | Ambre Energy Limited/Energy generation and supply (non-renewable)/Felton/QLD/Clean Coal Gasification Plant | Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required | 04 Dec 2008 |
| 2008/4580 | Ambre Energy Limited/Energy generation and supply (non-renewable)/Felton/QLD/Clean Coal Gasification Plant | Decision on Assessment Approach: Bilateral Agreement | 04 Dec 2008 |

The proposed action is a controlled action as it is likely to have significant impact on Listed threatened species and communities. It will be assessed under the bilateral agreement with the Queensland Government.

3. Threatened Species and ecological communities

The public are invited to comment on Nominations put to the Committee. Comments are due 23rd January 2009.

| | | | |
|------|--|--|-------------------|
| S281 | Windswept Helmet Orchid (<i>Nematoceras dienemum</i>) | Nominated category: endangered | Qld |
| S277 | Patagonian Toothfish (<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>) | Nominated category: conservation dependent | Australian waters |

4. Heritage Public Notices

Nominations for places for inclusion in the National Heritage List of Commonwealth Heritage List are invited from the Public – closes 3rd February 2009. [For further details](#)

5. Previous notices still open

Independent review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

During this first stage of the review written submissions from the community are invited. [Further details](#) are available on the EPBC Act website. Submissions are due by Friday, **19th December 2008**.

Restoring the Balance in the Murray-Darling Basin Program (water buyback)

The 2008-09 Northern basin water entitlement purchase round is now open to willing sellers of water entitlements in the Queensland and northern New South Wales areas of the Murray-Darling Basin. Applications are due by **19 December 2008**.

A proposed action that has been referred under the EPBC Act may be declared by Queensland's Coordinator-General to be a "state significant project" under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld) and an Environmental Impact Statement may be required by the Queensland Government under that Act. The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments have entered into a Bilateral Agreement which allows Queensland to carry out the Commonwealth's environmental assessments in certain circumstances. The community are entitled to make submissions in relation to the environmental assessments, whether at Commonwealth or Queensland level.

All of the information below is drawn directly from the Queensland Government's website (www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects) and is provided for information and summary purposes only; EDO-NQ does not warrant or guarantee its accuracy or correctness. In addition, EDO-NQ does not support the various proposals which are the subject of review.

1. Environmental Impact Statements for Significant Projects

Gladstone – Fitzroy Pipeline

The Gladstone Area Water Board proposes to construct a pipeline between the Fitzroy river to Gladstone Area. The project was found to be a controlled action with likely impact on Listed threatened species and communities.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) is available for public review, further details and how to access the EIS are on the website. Comments due Monday, **15th December 2008**.

Shute Harbour Marina Development

Proposal to construct an integrated marina, resort hotel and residential community at Shute Harbour. This was deemed a "significant project" and requires an Environmental Impact Statement. The EIS is open for comments which are due Monday, **15th December 2008**.

Regards,

EDO-NQ

Environmental Defender's Office of NQ Inc.

Level 1, 96-98 Lake Street

Cairns QLD 4870

Ph: 07 4031 4766

Fax: 07 4041 4535

Email: edonq@edo.org.au

Internet: www.edo.org.au

If you no longer wish to receive EDONQ Bulletins and Alerts, please send an email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line to edonq@edo.org.au