

FEDERAL - EPBC Act

1. Referrals open for comment
Residence, Oak Valley near Townsville – comments due Tuesday 6th October
2. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals
Hay Point Coal Terminal Expansion – comments due Wednesday 7th October
3. Wildlife trade and conservation invitations for comment
Importation of two varieties of scarabaeine dungbeetle for release as a biological control agent – comments due Friday 6th November

STATE

Projects open for submissions

Queensland Curtis LNG project – submissions on the EIS by Monday 19th October

Gladstone Steel Making Facility – submissions on the draft Terms of Reference by Monday 12th October

Declared projects with initial advice statements

Kevin's Corner coal mine, Galilee Basin

Great Keppel Island Resort, central Queensland

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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. Referrals open for comment

2009/5096	Laurence J Murphy/Residential development/Oak Valley/QLD/Construct residence and access road on Lot 5 on SP189975 Chisholm Trail	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 6 Oct 2009
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Proposal to build a residence and possibly a swimming pool, sheds and carport on the lower slopes of the property utilising the previously disturbed area to construct an access road. Development footprint of 2.5 Ha within a 20.18 Ha lot size.

The Black Throated Finch, a listed threatened species is found in the area.

2. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals

2009/4759	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd/Transport - Water/Port of Hay Point/QLD/Hay Point Coal Terminal Expansion	Notification of Publication of Preliminary Documentation	Date of notice: 10 Sep 2009
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Located approximately 38km south of Mackay the terminal expansion includes dredging works, offshore blasting, disposal of dredge material, land reclamation and infrastructure construction.

This proposed action is a “controlled action” as it is likely to have a significant impact on five matters of National Environmental Significance.

Assessment of the project will be via preliminary documentation. Members of the public are invited to view the documents and make **comment by 5pm Wednesday 7th October, 2009.**

3. Wildlife trade and conservation invitations for comment

[Draft environment assessment report for the importation of *Onthophagus vacca* \(a scarabaeine dung beetle\) for release as a biological control agent](#)

[Draft environment assessment report for the importation of *Bubas bubalus* \(a scarabaeine dung beetle\) for release as a biological control agent](#)

CSIRO Entomology has prepared draft environment assessment reports to include two varieties of scarabaeine dungbeetle on the live import list for release into the Australian environment to enhance cattle dung burial, and thus limit reproduction of the Australian Bush Fly (*Musca vetustissima*). Comments are invited on the draft report by **Friday 6th November.**

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.

STATE PROJECTS

1. Significant Projects in Northern Queensland

Queensland Curtis LNG project

The project proposes to develop an integrated liquefied natural gas project in Queensland comprising :

- expansion of coal seam gas operations in the Surat Basin
- development of a gas and water pipeline network
- development of the liquefied natural gas processing and export facility on Curtis Island.

On 4 July 2008, the Coordinator-General declared the project to be a 'significant project' for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required in accordance with Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)* (SDPWOA). The Department of Infrastructure and Planning will manage the EIS process on behalf of the Coordinator-General.

Written submissions on the EIS are invited from the public by **5pm Monday 19 October 2009**.

Gladstone Steel Making Facility

Boulder Steel Limited is proposing to construct and operate an integrated steel making plant at a site within the Aldoga Precinct of the Gladstone State Development Area in Central Queensland. The plant will produce high quality steel for export to overseas finishing plants.

On 3 April 2009, the Coordinator-General declared the Gladstone Steel Making Facility to be a significant project for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)*. On 23 June 2009, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts determined the project is not a controlled action and therefore will not require assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)* (EPBC Act).

The draft TOR is available for public review and written comments are due by **5pm Monday 12th October 2009**.

Great Keppel Island Resort

GKI Resort Pty Ltd plans to build a 300 room hotel, 2000 resort apartments/villas, a 560-berth marina, ferry terminal and yacht club, retail village, 18-hole championship golf course, sporting oval, an upgrade to the existing airstrip, and establishing a 545 hectare environmental park. The project was declared a significant project on 28th August, a copy of the initial advice statement is available on the [website](#).

Kevin's Corner Project

Queensland's Coordinator-General declared the new coal mining project a significant project on Thursday 10th September. The project is located adjacent to the Alpha Coal project approximately 360 kilometres south-west of Mackay. Kevin's Corner will be assessed separately, although there is some overlap with the Alpha Coal project rail line and port.

Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd's proposes to establish a 30 million tonne per annum coal mine in the Galilee Basin, central Queensland, to service international export markets for thermal coal.

The first opportunity for public comment will be when the draft terms of reference for the EIS are released in coming months and then more significant opportunity for public comment when the EIS is released. A copy of the Initial advice statement is available from the [website](#).

Regards,

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The EDO-NQ is a Community Legal Centre that specialises in public interest environmental law. For more information see www.edo.org.au/edonq.

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