

EDO-NQ Alert!

15th January 2009

New referrals:

1. Expansion of Eaglefield Open-cut Coal Mine located west of Mackay – comments due 22nd January
2. Port Hinchinbrook maintenance dredging and offshore disposal – comments due 22nd January

Decisions on referral:

Alpha Coal Project at Abbott Point – approval required

Previous Notices:

1. Queensland River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery – submissions due 16th January
2. Queensland East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery – submissions due 30th January
3. Threatened species – Windswept Helmut Orchid and Patagonian Toothfish – comments due 23rd January
4. Commonwealth National Heritage List – nominations due by 3rd February

Other Notices:

1. Draft environment assessment report for the importation of common eggfly butterflies (*Hypolimnas bolina*)
2. Expressions of interest are being sought for membership of [the Australian State of the Environment \(SoE\) 2011 committee](#) – submissions close 18th January

Environmental Impact Statements open for comment:

Wandoan Coal Project – comments due 2nd February

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 for public comment on referral

2009/4682	Peabody Pacific Pty Ltd/Mining/ML 6949, 36 km north of Moranbah/QLD/Eaglefield Expansion Project - Open-Cut Coal Mine	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due 22 Jan 2009
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The Eaglefield Coal Mine, located west of Mackay, is an existing open-cut coal mine, operated by Peabody Energy Australia Coal Pty Limited (PEAC). The proposal is to expand the Eaglefield Coal Mine by establishing a new open-cut pit within the existing project Mining Lease (ML), No. 6949. Listed threatened species and ecological communities, migratory species have been identified within the area and the referral notice concluded that the action would not have significant impacts.

2009/4696	Port Hinchinbrook Services Ltd/Transport - water/Port Hinchinbrook and Hinchinbrook Channel, Cardwell/QLD/Maintenance Dredging and Offshore Disposal	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due 22 Jan 2009
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The proposal is maintenance dredging of Port Hinchinbrook, 75,000 m3 per year for two years and then up to 40,000 m3 annually. The proposal is cutter suction dredging to a disposal site in Hinchinbrook Channel 1300 m seaward of the breakwaters in a depth of 7-12 m. The proposed spoil disposal site is within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. The referral concluded the proposed action is not a controlled action.

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 and Notices on Referrals

2008/4648	Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd/Mining/Near Alpha, Clermont and Mackay/QLD/Alpha Coal Project - Mine and Rail Development	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	13 Jan 2009
2008/4647	Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd/Energy generation and supply (non-renewable)/Abbott Point, north of Bowen, or Dudgeon, south of Mackay/QLD/Alpha Coal Project - Port Options Development	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	13 Jan 2009

The project was found to be likely to have a significant impact on World Heritage properties, National Heritage places, listed threatened species and communities and listed migratory species. The project will require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed.

3. Previous Notices

Fisheries assessments open for public comment

[Queensland River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery](#)

The current export approval for the Queensland River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery is valid until 15 February 2009 and the fishery is now due for assessment for ongoing export accreditation. Closing date for comments **Friday 16th January 2009**.

[Queensland East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery](#)

The current export approval for the East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery is valid until 28 February 2009 and the fishery is now due for assessment for ongoing export accreditation. Closing date for comments **Friday 30th January 2009**.

Nominations of threatened or endangered species

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

National Heritage List

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](#)

4. Other Notices

[Draft environment assessment report for the importation of common eggfly butterflies \(*Hypolimnas bolina*\) for laboratory research.](#)

Comments are invited on The University of Queensland's draft report to amend the live import list to include the Common Eggfly Butterfly – **comments by 6th March.**

Expressions of interest are being sought for membership of the Australian **State of the Environment (SoE) 2011 committee.** The 2011 report will be produced independently by a committee of experts appointed by the Minister. For further details on submitting an expression of interest refer to [the Department website](#) – **submissions close on 18 January 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

[Wadoan Coal Project](#)

Located in central Queensland the project would comprise a number of open-cut coal mines. The coal will be crushed, processed and blended on site before being transported by rail to a possible new coal terminal at Port Alma or the Port of Gladstone. The Coordinator-General has now approved the EIS for the project and it is available for public review, further details and how to access the EIS are on the website. Comments due **Monday, 2nd February 2009.**

Regards,

EDO-NQ

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