

EDO-NQ Alert!

21st January

New referrals:

Oak Valley, Townsville planned residential community – comments due 3rd February

Decisions on referral:

Alpha Coal Project at Abbott Point – approval required

Previous Notices:

1. Queensland East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery – submissions due 30th January
2. Commonwealth National Heritage List – nominations due by 3rd February
3. Draft environment assessment report for the importation of common eggfly butterflies (*Hypolimnna bolina*) – comments due 6th March
4. Consultation Draft of the Policy for Biodiversity Offsets – submissions due 13th March

Environmental Impact Statements open for comment:

Wandoan Coal Project – comments due 2nd February

Gladstone Nickel Refinery Project – approved 16th January

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

2009/4711	Oak Valley Lands Pty Ltd/Residential development/Lot RP735647 Flinders Highway Oak Valley Townsville/QLD/Planned Residential Community	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	03 Feb 2009
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The proposed action is the development of a master planned community including areas of rural, park and standard residential lots, a community centre and sporting ground. Also included in the layout is a central habitat area which connects to several wildlife corridors that branch across the site.

The action to develop 'The Oaks' on Lot 3 RP735647 in Oak Valley is a controlled action for the potential impact the action will have on the Black-throated finch that is known from locations in proximity to the site. The site provides floristic communities that are in proximity to water resources and provide the habitat requirements for this species.

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

2008/3976	Kailag Enterprises P/L/Aquaculture/Adjacent to Masig & Kodal Island (Yorke Island)/QLD/Yorke Island Sponge Farm, Torres Straits	Decision on approval of action: Approved with conditions	13 Jan 2009
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As this has impacts on listed threatened species and communities and listed migratory species conditions apply.

3. Previous Notices

[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**.

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](#)

[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**.

Consultation Draft of the Policy for Biodiversity Offsets

The Environmental Protection Agency has released the draft Policy for Biodiversity Offsets for consultation and invites written submissions from individuals and organisations by the final date of 13th March 2009. The draft Policy on Biodiversity Offsets is available for downloading from the [EPA website](#) or request a copy by emailing offsets@epa.qld.gov.au or phoning (07) 3227 7783.

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**.

Gladstone Pacific Nickel refinery – Coordinator-General's Report 15th January 2009

The Coordinator-General's Report has been completed and was approved on 15 January 2009.

The Coordinator-General decided that the project can proceed subject to certain conditions and recommendations contained in the Report.

Regards,

EDO-NQ

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