

EDO-NQ Alert!

12th February

New referrals:

1. 2D Marine Seismic survey – comments due Thursday, 19th February
2. Drinking water storage reservoirs in Wooroonooran National Park – comments due Friday 20th February

Decisions on referral:

1. Eaglefield expansion of open-cut coal mine – Notification of Assessment under Bilateral Agreement
2. Port Hinchinbrook maintenance dredging – Additional documents required

Previous Notices:

1. Coral Sea Fishery – environmental assessment – submissions due Wednesday, 25th February
2. Draft environment assessment report for the importation of common eggfly butterflies (*Hypolimnas bolina*) – comments due 6th March
3. Consultation Draft of the Policy for Biodiversity Offsets – submissions due 13th March

Queensland Infrastructure and Projects notices:

1. **Connors River Dam** – terms of reference open for comment due Monday 9th March

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

2009/4728	Petroleum Geo-Services/Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)/Bonaparte Gulf and Timor and Arafura Seas/Commonwealth Marine/2D Marine Seismic Survey	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 19 Feb 2009
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The area ranges from near Cartier Island and Ashmore Reef in the west to Elcho Island near the eastern coast of Arnhem Land in the east. The 2D seismic survey is likely to start 1st March 2009 and take approximately 100-120 days to complete.

2009/4731	Cairns Regional Council/Water management and use/Majuba and Junction Creeks, North Queensland/QLD/Drinking water storage reservoirs	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 20 Feb 2009
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The Cairns Regional Council is proposing to build two 1 megalitre (ML) concrete water storage reservoirs (tanks) associated with existing drinking water intakes. One site is associated with the Majuba Creek intake which supplies water to the Bartle Frere and Woopan Creek communities. The other site is associated with the Junction Creek intake which supplies water to the Bellenden Ker community.

The proposed sites are within or adjacent to the footprint of existing water infrastructure in previously disturbed sites within the Wooroonooran National Park. The referral concludes the proposed action is not a controlled action.

2. Decisions on referrals

2009/4682	Peabody Pacific Pty Ltd/Mining/ML 6949, 36 km north of Moranbah/QLD/Eaglefield Expansion Project - Open-Cut Coal Mine	Notification of Assessment under Bilateral Agreement/QLD: Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EIS)	09 Feb 2009
2009/4682	Peabody Pacific Pty Ltd/Mining/ML 6949, 36 km north of Moranbah/QLD/Eaglefield Expansion Project - Open-Cut Coal Mine	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	05 Feb 2009

The proposed Eaglefield Expansion located west of Mackay is likely to have significant impact on listed threatened species and communities. Assessment will be under the bilateral agreement with the Queensland Government.

2009/4696	Port Hinchinbrook Services Ltd/Transport - water/Port Hinchinbrook and Hinchinbrook Channel, Cardwell/QLD/Maintenance Dredging and Offshore Disposal	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	05 Feb 2009
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The proposal was found to have likely significant impact on World Heritage properties, National Heritage places, threatened species and communities and listed migratory species and is a controlled action. The project will be assessed by Preliminary Documentation.

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.

3. Previous Notices

[Coral Sea Fishery](#)

The current export approval for the Coral Sea Fishery is valid until 19 March 2009 and the fishery is now due for assessment for ongoing export accreditation. – Comments are invited on the submission for environmental assessment - **due Wednesday, 25th February**.

[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

Connors River Dam – terms of reference open for comment

The preparation of terms of reference for an EIS is the first stage of the EIS process. Terms of reference control what is discussed in an EIS and covers social, economic and environmental impacts of a project.

Draft terms of reference for the Connors River Dam EIS were released for public comment on 31 January 2009. **Comments due by 5 pm 9th March 2009.**

Regards,

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