

FEDERAL - EPBC Act

1. Decisions on Referrals

Roseneath Quarry, near Townsville

Comments not received

Balaclava Island Coal Export Terminal, near Gladstone

Approval required

2. Notices

Queensland Strategic Cropping Land Policy and Planning Framework

Comments due Friday 12th March

Queensland Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery

Comments due Friday 12th March

National Recovery Plans - Northern Quoll and Red Goshawk

Comments due Monday 12th April

National Heritage Listing

Nominations due Friday 5th March**STATE PROJECTS**

ZeroGen Project, southern Bowen Basin area

Comments due Monday 15th March

Connors River Dam and Pipelines, south of Sarina

Comments due Monday 22nd March

Gladstone – Fitzroy Water Pipeline

C-G's evaluation report released

Queensland Curtis Liquefied Natural Gas, Curtis Island and

Supplementary EIS available for

Surat Basin

viewing

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1. Decisions on Referrals

2009/4984	Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd/Mining/Flinders Hwy, Brookhill/QLD/Extension to existing Extractive Industry, Roseneath Quarry	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral/Comments not received	Date of notice: 08 Jul 2009
2009/5158	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd/Mining/Balaclava Island/QLD/Balaclava Island Coal Export Terminal	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	Date of notice: 10 Feb 2010

It has been decided the proposed action, located approximately 40km north of Gladstone, is a controlled and is likely to have a significant impact on World Heritage and National Heritage, Wetlands of International importance, Listed threatened species and communities, Listed migratory species and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

The assessment approach is to be advised.

The Minister found that this was not a controlled action and so approval is not required.

2. Notices still open for comment

Queensland Strategic Cropping Land Policy and Planning Framework

The Queensland Government is seeking to develop a more comprehensive policy that will minimise the loss of strategic cropping land. The proposed framework will consist of four elements:

1. defining strategic cropping land
2. developing a new statutory planning instrument
3. amending resources sector legislation
4. establishing guidelines for development assessment

The Queensland Government has released a discussion paper on the proposed policy and planning framework for public comment. (<http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/croppingland>)

Submissions should be received by **Friday, 12th March**.

Queensland Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery

The current export approval for the Queensland Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery is valid until 29 April 2010 and the fishery is now due for reassessment for ongoing export accreditation. Consideration will be given to:

- declaring the Queensland Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery as managed consistent with the Queensland Fisheries Act 1994, Fisheries Regulation 2008, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983 and Queensland Marine Parks Act 2004 as an Approved Wildlife Trade Operation under section 303FN of the EPBC Act; and
- including on the list of exempt native specimens, specimens harvested in the Queensland Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery under the provisions of the Queensland Fisheries Act 1994, Fisheries Regulation 2008, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983 and Queensland Marine Parks Act 2004.

The submission is available for downloading from [the website](#).

Public comment period closes on Friday, 12th March 2010.

National Recovery Plans

You are invited to comment on these draft recovery plans in accordance with the provisions of section 275 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. At the end of the three month public comment period the plans will be revised, taking into consideration any comments received. The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts will consider the revised plans as well as the comments received when deciding on adoption of the plans.

Species found in Northern Queensland:

[National Recovery Plan for the Northern Quoll *Dasyurus hallucatus*](#) – comments **due 12 April 2010**

[National recovery plan for the red goshawk *Erythrotriorchis radiatus*](#) – comments **due 12 April 2010**

National Heritage Listing

Nominations are invited from members of the public for inclusion in the National Heritage List or in the Commonwealth Heritage List. The National Heritage List contains those places in the Australian jurisdiction of outstanding heritage value to the nation. The Australian jurisdiction includes Australia, the external Territories, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf. The Commonwealth Heritage List contains places that are Commonwealth areas, as defined in section 525 of the EPBC Act, that have significant heritage value.

Further details are available from the [Heritage page of the DEWHA website](#).

Nominations must be received by Friday, 5th March 2010.

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, the inclusion of this information in this newsletter should not be taken to indicate that EDO-NQ supports or has otherwise taken a position about the proposals which are the subject of review.

STATE PROJECTS - Significant Projects in Northern Queensland

1. ZeroGen Project – comments due 15th March

ZeroGen was originally incorporated in March 2006 as a subsidiary of a Queensland Government owned electricity generator, Stanwell Corporation, to facilitate the development and deployment of low emission technologies for coal-based electricity generation. ZeroGen Pty Ltd is proposing to construct and operate a commercial power generation facility fuelled by coal gasification technology in the southern Bowen Basin, that would generate 400 megawatts of low emission base-load electricity to be sold into the National Electricity Market.

Under the EPBC Act 1999 (Cth) it was determined the project is a controlled action with likely significant impacts on Listed threatened species and communities and Listed migratory species and is to be assessed under a bilateral agreement.

The Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) is now available for public consultation and is [available online](#) or by visiting the locations listed below. A factsheet and submission form are also available.

- Central Highlands Regional Council – Customer Service Centre, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald.
- Central Highlands Regional Council – Customer Service Centre, 10 Mackenzie Street, Blackwater
- Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council – Administration Office, 112 Munns Drive, Woorabinda
- Banana Shire Council Chambers, Cnr Kroombit & Prairie Streets, Biloela
- Banana Shire Council – Administration Office, Gillespie Street, Moura
- Rockhampton Regional Council – Customer Service Centre, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton
- Gladstone Regional Council – Administration Office, 101 Goondoon Street, Gladstone
- State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane

2. Connors River Dam and Pipelines – comments due 22nd March

The Connors River dam is located on the Connors River near Mount Bridgett 110 kilometres due east of Moranbah and 70 kilometres south of Sarina. The project involves the construction and operation of the Connors River Dam with a capacity of 373, 662 megalitres and will inundate an area of 5,850 hectares.

Under the EPBC Act, referral number [2008/4429](#), it was decided Approval was required as the project was likely to have a significant impact on:

- World Heritage and National Heritage places;
- Wetlands of international importance;
- Listed threatened species and communities and
- Listed migratory species.

SunWater has prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and it has been released for public comment. The EIS can be viewed [via the DIP website](#) or by visiting:

EIS Display Locations	
Mackay	Mackay City Library Civic Centre Gordon Street, Mackay
Nebo	Nebo Library 10 Reynolds Street, Nebo
Moranbah	Moranbah Town Library Grosvenor Complex Batchelor Parade, Town Square, Moranbah

Submissions to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning and must state the grounds of the submission and the facts and circumstances relied upon to support the grounds. A fact sheet and a template for making submissions are also available via the website.

3. Gladstone – Fitzroy Water Pipeline

The project for an underground pipeline approximately 115 kilometres with an intake pump on the Fitzroy River, water treatment plant, booster pump and reservoirs was declared a significant project in July 2007. The EIS was released for public comment the same year and two local organisations and fourteen advisory agencies provided comments.

On the 2nd February 2010, the Coordinator-General determined that the project can proceed subject to specific recommendations and conditions to manage adverse impacts as outlined in the evaluation report. The [Coordinator-General's evaluation report](#) is available for viewing online.

4. Queensland Curtis Liquefied Natural Gas

The project proposes to develop and expand the coal seam operations in the Surat Basin including a pipeline, natural gas processing and export facility on Curtis Island. On 16 February, the Coordinator-General received further information to support the SEIS, with a revised draft Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP).

The [draft SIMP is available online](#) or the SEIS can be viewed at:

- Chinchilla Customer Service Centre, Western Downs Regional Council, 80-86 Heeney Street, Chinchilla
- Western Downs Regional Council, 107 Drayton Street, Dalby
- Miles Customer Service Centre, 29 Dawson Street, Miles
- Tara Customer Service Centre 19 Fry Street, Tara
- Wandoan Library, 6 Henderson Road, Wandoan

- Eidsvold Library, 36 Moreton Street, Eidsvold
- Monto Library, 50 Newton Street, Monto
- Biloela Library, Cnr Grevillea and Milton St, Biloela
- Calliope Library, Don Cameron Drive, Calliope
- Boyne/Tannum Library, Wyndham Drive, Boyne Island
- Capricorn Lodge, Curtis Island
- QGC, Queensland Curtis LNG Project Office, 172 Goondoon Street, Gladstone

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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