



## USEFUL CONTACTS and ACCESS TO INFORMATION

### Pollution or breach of Environmental Protection Act (“EP Act”)

- To report an act of pollution, contact your local Council as they may have responsibility: EP Regulation 2008, Chapter 7, Pt 1. Alternatively, contact the Pollution Hotline of the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) on 1300 130 372 and select option 2. Pollution enquiries may also sent to [pollutionhotline@derm.qld.gov.au](mailto:pollutionhotline@derm.qld.gov.au)
- Right to access documents s 542 EP Act: Search for environmental authorities, development approvals and EIS materials at your local DERM business centre after paying a prescribed fee. For locations phone 13 13 04 or visit <http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/businesscentres.html#bclist>

### EPBC Act (federal environmental law) referrals, compliance or queries:

- The Department of the Environment, Heritage and the Arts (Cth) administers the EPBC Act. Contact DEWHA for EPBC referral queries on 1800 803 772 or email [epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au](mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au). Alternatively, for breaches of the EPBC Act phone 1800 110 395 or (02) 6274 2384 or email [compliance@environment.gov.au](mailto:compliance@environment.gov.au)
- DEWHA also maintains a list of referred “actions”: public submission rights may apply <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/notices/index.html>

### Vegetation clearing queries

- To report illegal vegetation clearing or other vegetation management incidents contact DERM on 13 74 68. Alternatively, visit [http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/vegetation\\_management.html](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/vegetation_management.html) for a list of contact numbers for local DERM business centres around the State who may also assist with the vegetation clearing or management query.
- Current vegetation clearing applications may be accessed at <http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/vegetation/search.php?type=Vegetation+Clearing+Application>

### Water queries

- Contact DERM on 13 13 04 or visit [http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/water\\_management.html](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/water_management.html) for specific water query contact numbers (for example, water management, water licensing, water reform)
- Right to access applications and other materials s 1009 of the Water Act 2000: Search the water allocations register and water authorisations register at your local DERM business centre after paying a prescribed fee. For locations phone 13 13 04 or visit: <http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/contactus/businesscentres.html#bclist>

### Town planning and development queries

- For planning scheme approval processes, Ministerial call-in and other planning matters under planning legislation, contact the Department of Infrastructure Planning (DIP) on (07) 3237 1809 or visit <http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/>
- Development applications, supporting material and Council correspondence (for example, an information request) are available for inspection and purchase from your local government until the appeal period expires. After that time only the final decision notice will be available to the public: ss 3.2.8, 5.7.5 *Integrated Planning Act* 1997; ss 724-742 *Sustainable Planning Act* 2009

It is fastest to obtain documents through the rights set out above, try those first!! but other useful documents may be obtained through the **Right to Information Act 2009 (Qld)** <http://www.rti.qld.gov.au/rti/default.asp> that has replaced the *Freedom of Information Act* 1992