

To the independent expert panel,

Dear Panel

As a support and Trustee of the Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation I am acutely aware of the importance of the Great Barrier Reef to Australia. We are thoughtlessly utilising and damaging to this precious marine environment.

I consider that the environmental damage, disease in marine life, depletion of fisheries and damage to the Great Barrier Reef Marine life at Gladstone Harbour is completely unacceptable. I support the Independent Review and hope that it leads to urgent action to stop the damage which is still occurring and leads to independent management of the area.

I strongly urge the panel to recommend Governments move to:

- Stop dumping of dredge waste into the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area or marine environment;
- Reject the fourth gas plant and efficiently use existing infrastructure rather than building a fourth gas plant in the World Heritage Area Curtis Island;
- Reject the Gatcombe and Golding Cutting Channel duplication. Gladstone already has one shipping channel and the impacts of dredging inside Gladstone Harbour (which is still occurring) has been suggested as the cause of serious environmental damage in the area;
- Monitor all activities of industries, including dredging, independently of the Ports Corporation and ensure all impacts are assessed collectively rather than monitoring small parts of Gladstone or one industry at a time. All monitoring and assessment work should be made publicly available;
- Insist there is no shale oil industry in the area. It's a dirty industry and past shale oil ventures have been environmental disasters.

The Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is a global treasure, it directly employs more than 60,000 Australian's in tourism alone, not to mention the fishing industry, please ensure it is properly protected.

Sincerely,