

Cr Jenny Hill, Mayor of the City of Townsville
Mayor@townsville.qld.gov.au

14 September 2016

NQCC urges Council to reject privileges for Adani

Dear Cr. Hill

I am writing to you on behalf of the North Queensland Conservation Council in relation to the Adani Carmichael Mine project. Yesterday the Mackay Conservation Group gathered on Mackay Regional Council grounds to protest Council's discussions with Adani about potential subsidies for their project.

Adani has been unable to secure funding from the Federal or Queensland governments. National and international banks have decided that the Carmichael Mine is too risky an investment and refused funding. The project is not economically viable without subsidies from third parties, and now Adani is desperately trying to get local councils to provide the funds they lack. In court and under oath, an Adani representative admitted the project will create only 1,464 jobs including construction and indirect jobs as opposed to the 10,000 jobs that Adani publicly claimed. Adani also recently admitted that it could only guarantee 20% of the jobs in its rail and port project would be local. The remaining 80% will likely be FIFO workers possibly flown in from India.

It is estimated that at peak production the Carmichael mine will release 300 million tonnes of greenhouse gases annually, representing three percent of total global emissions. Construction of the Carmichael mine puts us in grave danger of exceeding 1.5°C global temperature increase causing long term irreparable damage to the Great Barrier Reef and will lead to sea level rise that would greatly affect our region and threaten the 70,000 jobs that rely on a healthy reef. In addition, the cost to Townsville ratepayers for dykes and levy banks will be significant and probably unaffordable.

The global demand for coal has reduced significantly and this trend will continue as the world transitions to renewable energy. Coal is a poor investment for the future of our economy and for the future of our environment. The North Queensland Conservation Council opposes privilege seeking by Adani and we urge the Townsville City Council to do the same.

Townsville Ratepayers simply cannot afford to subsidise big business for a relatively small number of additional jobs. This project is not the economic lifeline for Townsville that is being portrayed in the media.

North Queensland Conservation Council is happy to meet with you or other council members to discuss this issue further.

Yours faithfully,



Jacob Miller
Community Campaigner