

WHAT SHOULD I ASK MY MP TO DO IN THE WEEK OF ACTION?

My MP is Coalition

Goal: Get your Coalition MP to publicly oppose public money to subsidise Adani's Carmichael coal and rail, port project.

It doesn't matter if your MP is not a Minister, backbenchers play an important role in setting the agenda of a government. If we get enough backbenchers saying no to public funding for Adani, the PM will be forced to respond. They can oppose it in the local media, on social media or in Parliament but they need to do it publicly.

It's hard to believe but only last year [Malcolm Turnbull](#) was saying no public money would be spent on Adani's Carmichael coal mine.

A good step is to ask your MP to raise it in the Coalition party room. That is really impactful but make sure you keep pushing for a public statement ruling out funding. Governments react when there is public disagreement in their ranks.

Make sure you share /reportback what your MP said on social media, in local media, with your networks and with us so we can share it with the ACF community. Regardless of whether they said yes or no to your demands, it's still important to share that publicly. To shift our MPs we need to hold them publicly accountable.

My MP is ALP

Goal: Get your ALP MP to state their opposition to public money for Adani in the local media, social media or in Parliament and put pressure on the government to rule out the loan.

The ALP's party position opposes public money for Adani. Even though they are in opposition they still have an important role to play in putting pressure on the government. Recently former ALP treasurer, Wayne Swan, made a speech in Parliament and spoke to the media about his opposition to public money for Adani and the "dodgy" links between the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund and the coal industry.

Others ways they can put pressure on the government is by questioning the government on the loan in Parliament and in the media at question time.

The ALP does oppose public money for Adani so it's important to recognise their good policy on this BUT they still support building Adani's Carmichael coal mine. Use the opportunity to talk to them about opposing the project as a whole, not just public money for it.

My MP is Greens

Goal: Get your Greens MP to state their opposition to public money for Adani in the local media, social media or in Parliament and put pressure on the government to rule out the loan.

The Greens oppose Adani's mine all together including public funding.

It's great to have elected representatives speaking out against the mine. Use the opportunity to capture their opposition and share it.

My MP is another party or an independent

Goal: Find out what your MP's position is and follow the relevant steps outlined above.

RESOURCES

- Download #StopAdani posters, banners, placards and flyers [here](#).
- Download the *Power to Win* toolkit for tips on how to run a local group, build and escalate pressure on your MP [here](#).

USEFUL FACTS AND TALKING POINTS

Remember to speak in your own words. You want your MP to know they're dealing with a real person – facts and figures don't win hearts and minds but personal stories do. Local MPs are interested in what's going on in their local community, so let them know what you or your group is doing on this issue. The most important thing you can do is convey that you and your community are deeply concerned about your issue, that you or your group will be active in the community and want your MP to listen and act. A powerful personal story can really pack a punch! Below are some facts and talking points to help you understand the issue better.

What is NAIF?

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) was established by the federal government in 2016 and endowed with \$5 billion of public money to provide concessional loans for major infrastructure. NAIF is considering providing up to a \$1 billion subsidy for a rail line to transport coal from the proposed Carmichael mine to the Abbot Point port. Two NAIF loan applications for a coal export rail link to service the Adani's Carmichael coal mine, and the open up the Galilee coal basin, have been reported in the media, [one application from Adani](#) and [one application from Aurizon](#).

In December 2016 Minister for Northern Australia, Matt Canavan announced that Adani had 'applied' for a concessional loan from the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) for the rail link connecting Adani's Carmichael coal mine to Abbot Point Port. \$1 billion of the \$5 billion NAIF fund was earmarked for the loan.

In March this year Aurizon CEO, Andrew Harding, announced Aurizon had submitted to NAIF a \$1.25 billion proposal to build a coal export rail link to service the Galilee coal basin.

But NAIF has an independent board who are going to make the loan decision, what can my MP do?

- It is true NAIF has a board which makes the decision to provide the loan but the Minister for Northern Australia can reject any proposed loan and the Minister is answerable to his fellow MP's and Senators, and the Australian public.
- The Government has writes the mandate under which the NAIF Board makes its decisions. No loan has so far been offered by NAIF and the government could write a mandate for NAIF which stops them loaning money to coal mines and instead put it towards infrastructure projects Australians need and want. Banks all around the world are changing their investments mandates away from fossil fuel projects that are incompatible with a 2 degrees world e.g. [Deutsche Bank](#)

- NAIF itself has been very secretive about what it will consider in making its decision so Australian's don't know how the loan will be decided. NAIF has refused to release policies and decision-making guidelines such as how it intends to consider the public benefit of a proposal (public benefit policy) or how much risk it is willing to place onto the Australian taxpayer (Risk appetite statement). In contrast the Clean Energy Finance Corporation has several well developed publicly available policies including a risk management framework. NAIF CEO has also refused to name the Adani company which has applied for the loan or rule out providing a loan to company based in the Cayman Islands.

How could the NAIF mandate be improved?

- Lots of different ways, NAIF could for example have a mandate not to finance infrastructure for fossil fuel projects or projects that are incompatible with a world below 2 degrees.
- NAIF could prioritise investment in infrastructure that provides long term community benefits, including adding new small/medium scale infrastructure grant facility to better support tourism related infrastructure.

Why are we so concerned about this loan?

- Firstly, because public money shouldn't be used to subsidise such environmentally destructive project.
- Secondly because public money is limited and there are literally thousands that this money could be spent on i.e. future industries like renewable energy or the environment. What are your ideas? Bring them along to the meeting.
- Finally, because Australians public money should not be underwriting the financial risk for a project 14 global & Australian financial institution have ruled out already. The global transition to a low-carbon economy risks stranding this project leaving Australian taxpayer on the hook.
- Importantly NAIF has also refused to comment or release publicly critical decision making policies meaning we know almost nothing about how NAIF is making decisions.

But isn't this money for Northern Australia so it shouldn't it be spent in up there to help provide jobs?

- It is true Northern Australia needs infrastructure and NAIF is an important way of making that happen, but Northern Australia also needs a healthy and thriving Great Barrier Reef which provides thousands of jobs.
- The government's own reports, such as the Developing Northern Australia white paper, point out many other infrastructure needs that would help Northern Australia including Communications infrastructure, renewable energy projects and all weather roads, bridges and related transport for tourism. These infrastructure projects would not only help industries but also the local communities.