

Friday 23 October 2020

Submission to City of Darwin Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Draft Masterplan

Emailed to: darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

The Environment Centre NT (ECNT) is the peak community sector environment organisation in the Northern Territory, Australia raising awareness amongst community, government, business and industry about environmental issues.

COOLmob began in 2002 as part of the national Cool Communities project, which was a partnership between community groups, environmental organisations and the Australian Government. COOLmob is the sustainable living initiative of the Environment Centre NT (ECNT) with a mission “to help and inspire our community to live sustainable and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.”

The Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre Draft Masterplan details the project will be a \$25 million commitment from City of Darwin. It has also been designed to suit the Darwin community and it’s needs for the next 50 years.

ECNT and COOLmob are strongly concerned that there is no mention of energy efficiency and solar PV, both significant features that would ensure the pool is cheaper to run and have a smaller environmental footprint.

City of Darwin declared a Climate Emergency, and is currently developing its strategy and policies to ensure the City of Darwin is operating in accordance with the significance of the climate crisis.

It is City of Darwin’s responsibility to ensure that new developments are designed to be net zero emissions. There are existing innovations and design examples operating around Australia and internationally which demonstrate how large-scale aquatic centers are able to be run 100% on solar power and City of Darwin should be aiming to achieve this.

ECNT and COOLmob strongly recommend that City of Darwin design and develop the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre with best practice energy efficiency in mind. This would include:

- Pumping, filtration and heating/cooling infrastructure should be high efficiency, variable speed and designed, commissioned and operated to respond to partial occupancy
- Solar PV
- Lighting should be LED with automated controls to respond to occupancy and daylight



- An energy management plan should be compiled including benchmarking against available industry standards, electricity sub-metering of key systems, monthly energy targets and a program of monitoring and tuning the facility to achieve the monthly targets
- Target NetZero emissions via ensuring lowest possible energy consumption of the site, self-generation of Solar PV, storage of excess PV in on-site batteries and offsetting remaining emissions via carbon-offset purchases

COOLmob Commercial is the business arm of COOLmob that helps Northern Territory businesses and institutions reduce their carbon footprint via energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that also reduce energy expenditure. Our aim is to provide a cost-competitive consulting service to identify energy saving solutions for sites within the NT.

Our Darwin-based engineering team is widely experienced in the field of energy efficiency, having served facilities across Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific for over 10 years, at facilities including office buildings, shopping centres, hospitals, universities, airports, hotels, casinos, manufacturing sites, cold-storage warehouses and agricultural processing facilities.

COOLmob Commercial was recently approached by City of Darwin to quote for an energy efficiency audit of the Parap Pool. We recommend City of Darwin consult with COOLmob Commercial or other energy efficiency experts to ensure the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre is designed to operate with minimal greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Darwin Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre Draft Masterplan.

Regards,

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