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MEDIA RELEASE

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NQCC on side with Academy of Science and Citibank

The scientists and the bankers have got it right when it comes to the Reef and Abbot Point according to North Queensland Conservation Council (NQCC).

'The Academy of Science has panned the Australian and Queensland governments' Long-Term Sustainability Plan for the Reef to 2050, which basically recommends a 'business as usual' approach for both port development on the GBR coast and the overall management of the whole, seriously threatened, world heritage area', said Ms Tubman.

'On the same day, US Citibank and other major US banks have joined major European banks in walking away from any involvement in development of the proposed mega coal export facility at Abbot Point.

'It has become clear that this is a stranded asset in the making - not the financial boost that governments and resources companies are claiming.

'It is no wonder that Queensland Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney is looking to use Queenslanders' taxes to pay for the white elephant proposed for Abbot Point; no one else will' said Ms Tubman.

'And the Long-Term Sustainability Plan for the Reef to 2050 needs to be based on an open admission that the situation is dire, the potential catastrophic, and our well-intended approach must be re-thought because things are getting worse rather than better'.

'Continuing to do the same things and expecting a different outcome is a sign of madness', said Ms Tubman.

'If the Reef is to be saved, there must be a paradigm shift, a whole re-think of the issue at all levels of government, an approach not bound by earlier, failed, approaches, and there must be the resources and independence needed to take effective action' Ms Tubman said.

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