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MEDIA RELEASE

Reef funding no substitute for climate change action

North Queensland Conservation Council (NQCC) acknowledges the important step that is the Turnbull Government's federal budget funding package of \$500 million for the Great Barrier Reef.

"This funding is an important investment in water quality improvements, research and crown of thorns eradication, but the Great Barrier Reef needs Australia to make cuts in our annual carbon emissions', said NQCC's Campaigns Manager, Tarquin Moon.

"Climate change caused by human-induced carbon emissions are the greatest threat to the reef. Australia needs to do its bit in the international effort to reduce global carbon emissions.

"Currently, Australia is responsible for the release of 531.9 million tonnes of carbon emissions per year.

"We need to pursue economic opportunities that complement our natural wealth and lifestyle otherwise we are in danger of losing it all.

"Mr Turnbull's reef funding package is a great start but now we ask that his Government prevent the Carmichael mine, and the further eight huge coal mines from being allowed to go ahead. The emissions from the coal produced by these mines are a danger to our reef and the world's climate, as a whole."

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NQCC is the voice for the environment in North Queensland, campaigning as the peak non-government environmental organisation in our region since 1974.

We protect the environment through advocacy and education, promote the values of the natural environment, and engage with policy and planning processes to advocate ecologically sustainable development.