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## **Groups want explanation from Queensland Premier about Adani project declaration**

A letter signed by a wide range of organisations and individuals has been sent to Queensland Premier Palaszczuk, expressing dismay at her government's decision to fast-track the controversial Carmichael coal mine. Mines Minister Dr Anthony Lynham recently invoked special powers in an attempt to progress the proposed mine by declaring components of the Adani Combined Project as 'critical infrastructure'.

Signatories of the letter include representatives of international, national, Queensland and regional conservation and climate change action groups, Great Barrier Reef dive groups, church organisations and others. The letter highlights the impacts of burning coal and climate change on people's health, the Great Barrier Reef, extreme weather events, and security.

The signatories have sought an explanation from the Premier about why her government is now providing direct assistance to and the Adani Combined Project via this declaration, instead of backing renewable energy projects.

"This decision by Mines Minister Anthony Lynham needs to be explained and reversed," said Queensland Conservation Council head Dr Tim Seelig on behalf of the signatories.

"We believe that the actions of Dr Lynham, in going beyond an official 'assistance-neutral' stance to one which quite deliberately seeks to fast-track the Adani project. is reckless and indefensible.

"The claims that the project will lead to thousands of jobs and a large revenue stream have since repudiated in court by Adani's own expert.

"But what we do know is that burning the coal from this mine will add to carbon pollution and climate change, just when the world needs to reduce and replace its use of fossil fuels.

"We call upon the Minister and the Palaszczuk government to get their priorities right and support genuine climate change action in this State.

"If the government wishes to declare 'critical infrastructure', and create thousands of new, long term and sustainable jobs, it should be prioritising the rapid development of renewable energy in Queensland."

The letter can be viewed or downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/2ejHrpE>

**For further information or comment contact:  
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