



AUSTRALIAN PARENTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Australian Parents for Climate Action
c/o Environmental Leadership Australia
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1 December 2021

The Hon. Steven Miles
Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

c/- Director, Development Assessment Services
Development Assessment Division
Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Email: ministerial.callin@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister Miles,

Re: Waratah Coal Power Station - Call In

Australian Parents for Climate Action represents over 16,000 parents, grandparents and carers from across Australia, including over 3,000 residents of Queensland. We are Australia's leading organisation for parents advocating for a safe climate. Our supporters are from across the political spectrum, across all Australian electorates, and from varied socio-economic positions. We seek non-partisan responses to climate change and its impacts.

We advocate for Australian governments and businesses to take urgent action to cut Australia's carbon emissions to net zero as quickly as possible. We encourage Australia to take a leadership role on the world stage, leading by example and calling for other nations to take the necessary action to protect our children's futures.

We welcome the Minister's proposal to call in the Galilee Power Station development application and the opportunity to comment.

The proposed development involves potential impacts to many state interests, as defined in the Planning Act. We contend that it is appropriate and necessary that the Minister exercise his powers to call in the development application. It is unacceptable that the proponent has attempted to sidestep due process, consultation and scrutiny by attempting to have a local government authority approve a project of such size and impact.

We agree with the justification as set out in the Proposed Call in Notice including the importance of ensuring that the purpose of the Planning Act is achieved. Of particular note, the proposed development clearly involves state economic and environmental interests including impacts to:

1. The supply and pricing of electricity, which is of economic interest to the State;
2. The State's commitment to achieve net zero by 2050, its renewable energy target and ten-year Energy Plan; and
3. Environmental matters potentially of State and national significance, including greenhouse gas emissions, groundwater, air quality, and biodiversity.

Further, **we urge the Minister to refuse the proposal** on the grounds that it is uneconomic and unnecessary given the availability of cheap renewables and storage, and the extensive rehabilitation costs associated with the project's end of life.

Given the project's proposed lifespan, approving it would make achievement of the net zero target substantially more difficult, particularly if the State's interim emissions reduction targets are strengthened. It will likely lead to increases in Queensland electricity prices, and will inevitably harm the local environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely



Nic Seton
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Parents for Climate Action