

November 2008

Invitation to Public Information Session

A public information session will be held at the Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE on Queens Road, Bowen on Tuesday 25 November from 5 – 7pm. PCQ invites you to attend and meet representatives from the project team who will be available to provide additional information on the project and answer any queries.

Community Involvement

PCQ is committed to keeping the community informed through the distribution of regular newsletters in the Bowen Independent and updates on the project website: www.ghd.com.au/X110Expansion

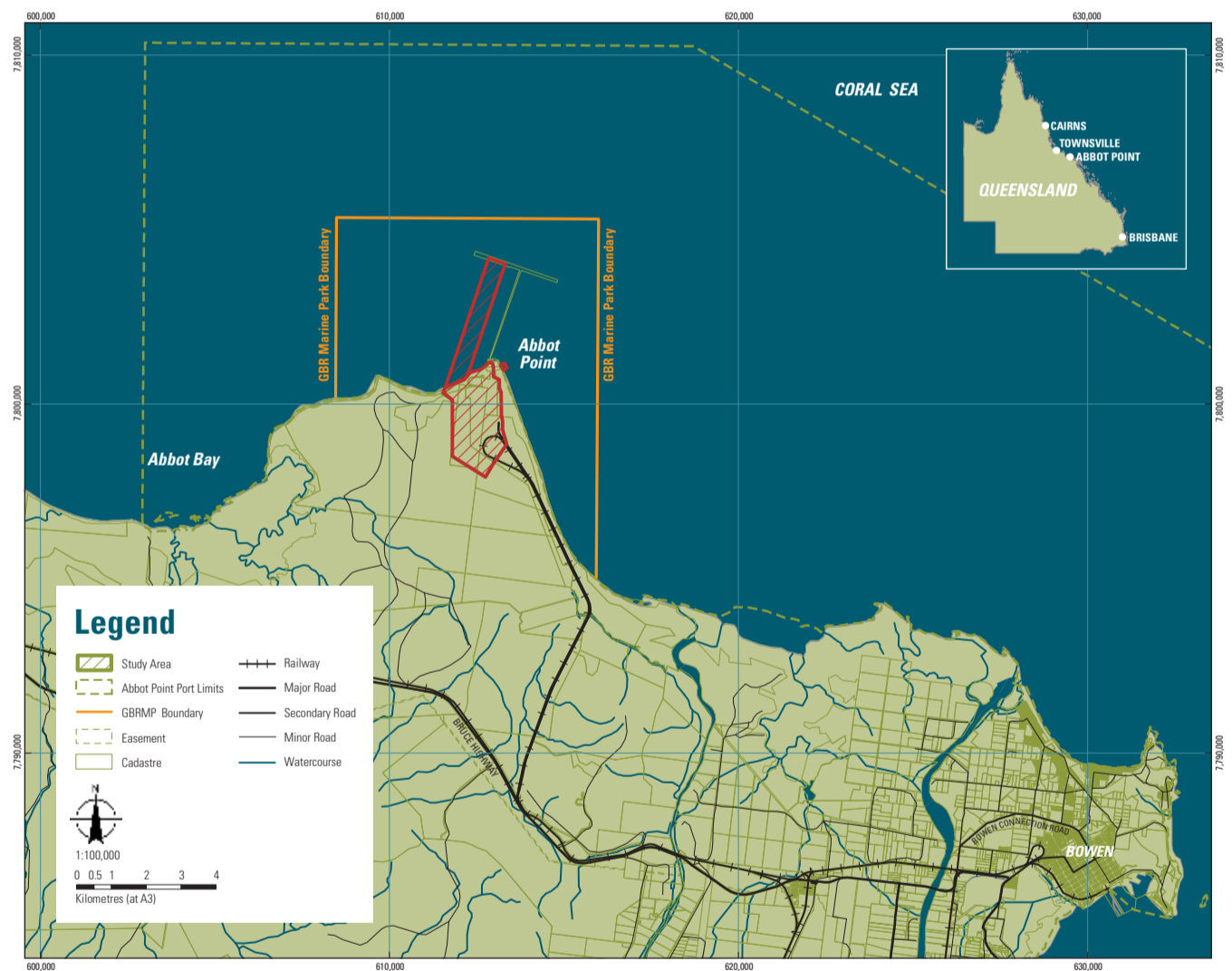
Who to speak to

Should you have any queries regarding the project, please contact PCQ at: communications@pcq.com.au or GHD on 0439 747 346.

Port of Abbot Point X110 Infrastructure Development Project

Ports Corporation of Queensland Limited (PCQ) is the owner of the Abbot Point Coal Terminal (APCT) and the port authority for the Port of Abbot Point. To meet the demands of growth in Queensland's Bowen Basin, the Port of Abbot Point has been identified as a strategic export facility.

Figure 1: Locality Map



The Project

The existing coal terminal has a current capacity of 21 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). PCQ has obtained environmental approvals to expand the terminal to 50 mtpa by 2011 and is currently investigating the potential to increase capacity to 110 mtpa by 2014.

The Port of Abbot Point X110 Infrastructure Development Project includes both onshore and offshore development (refer Figure 1 above). The key infrastructure includes:

- Installation of new stockyard capacity involving up to 14 stockpile rows.
- Installation of up to 15 new stockyard machines.
- Installation of a second offshore jetty structure with two outloading conveyors.
- Two new offshore wharf/berth structures with two new shiploaders.
- Rail receival pits and associated inloading conveyors.

Environmental Assessment

PCQ will be undertaking a voluntary Environmental Assessment (EA) of the project and have appointed GHD Pty Ltd as the independent consultant for this assessment. The purpose of the EA is to assess the potential environmental, cultural, social and economic impacts likely to be associated with the project and to recommend mitigation measures. The information in the EA will be used by Commonwealth and State Government agencies to assess the project and for future management of the port.



Marine Seagrass



Sea Pen



Marine Turtles

Environmental Monitoring so far...

Since March 2008, PCQ have been monitoring the key elements in the marine environment to obtain baseline information in the Port of Abbot Point. Some of the key findings are listed below:

Marine Seagrass

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF) have been undertaking seagrass studies. Surveys have concluded that seagrass exists in the areas of the proposed offshore works. DPIF will continue to monitor the seagrass in the port over the next few months to provide further information to PCQ on this habitat.

Coral Communities

A baseline coral study was undertaken to identify any reef and coral communities which may be impacted by the project. This survey found that no coral of high environmental value were observed within the project area. Of the 300 sites investigated, very low density coral was present at only 41 sites.

Marine Fauna

Monthly surveys for marine turtles, dugongs, dolphins and whales have been conducted offshore and will continue until April 2009. During the turtle nesting season (November – March), monthly surveys will continue along the beaches near the port to identify if turtles are nesting in the area.

Marine Water Quality

Studies of the marine water quality indicates that it is generally good, due to the absence of major influences from agriculture and similar activities.

More Studies

A number of other environmental studies will be conducted to assess potential impact on the natural environment.

Studies will include terrestrial flora and fauna surveys, surface water and groundwater assessment including the Caley Valley Wetland area. Additional social and economic impact assessments will be undertaken as well as air and noise with focus on any presence of coal dust.

Cultural Heritage

Abbot Point is the traditional land of the Juru people. Previous cultural heritage surveys of the port lands identified two sites of significance. PCQ, in consultation with traditional owners, manages these sites through a Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Development is not planned near these sites for the X110 project. PCQ will consult with traditional owners of the area regarding the project and develop management strategies to address any issues of concern.



More Information

Draft Terms of Reference – Public Review

The Environmental Assessment for the project will be undertaken in accordance with the Terms of Reference. The draft Terms of Reference have been developed and are open for a public review period of four (4) weeks.

The draft Terms of Reference are available electronically from: www.pcq.com.au, or www.ghd.com.au/X110Expansion or you can phone GHD on 0439 747 436 to have a hard copy posted to you.

Comments on the draft Terms of Reference will need to be submitted in writing by email or post by 5pm on **Friday 19 December 2008**.

Submissions can be sent to:
GHD Pty Ltd
Attention: Julie Keane
GPO Box 668 Brisbane Qld 4001
Or via email to: julie.keane@ghd.com.au

PCQ will consider all comments when finalising the Terms of Reference.



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