



Hon Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

Our Ref: CTS 24481/17

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5 October 2017

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 6 September 2017 concerning Petition No. 2788-17 received by the House on 5 September 2017 regarding the privatisation of Lindeman Islands National Park (the National Park).

The petitioners have requested the House to reject revocation of any part of the National Park; and to ensure that the National Park is properly managed so as to protect its exceptional values.

I can advise that there is no revocation of the National Park currently before the House relating to the proposed \$583 million redevelopment of the existing resort on Lindeman Island (the project). I can also confirm that the National Park is managed consistent with the management principles of national parks set out in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, which includes preservation of the area's natural condition and protection of the area's cultural resources and values.

I understand that the Coordinator-General, Department of State Development (DSD) has declared the resort re-development a coordinated project requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS). The proponent, White Horse Australia Lindeman Pty Ltd, prepared a draft EIS which was released for comment by the Coordinator-General in July 2017. The public consultation period closed on 4 September 2017.


The Office of the Coordinator-General manages the assessment of the project and EIS process. A wide range of government agencies will contribute to the assessment of the EIS, including the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR), the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Australian Government's Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. The involvement of these agencies will ensure the natural, cultural, and social values of the national park and surrounding marine parks are considered.

A range of tenure matters will need to be resolved before the development can proceed. The proponent is required to address any desired tenure modifications and/or boundary realignments or proposed revocation matters as part of the EIS process and demonstrate a clear net environmental benefit. Correspondence between the proponent and my portfolio has been ongoing since the initial concept phase of the project and has affirmed with the proponent that:

- revocation of national park would only be considered if it meets the test of 'net conservation benefit' and would not proceed unless NPSR has negotiated and agreed to a compensation package; and
- any support for revocation would be conditional on the proponent satisfying the compensation requirements detailed in NPSR's Operational Procedure: *Revocation of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) Managed Areas*.

I trust that this information has been of assistance to the petitioners and I would be grateful if you would please arrange for the tabling of this letter in response to Petition No. 2788-17 in accordance with Standing Order 31.

Yours sincerely



DR STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
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