Environment and Infrastructure Legislation Amendment (Stop Adani) Bill 2017 Submission 20

From: office@greens.org.au
To: Committee, EC (SEN)

Subject: Submission from Nicola Chirlian

Date: Friday, 14 July 2017 12:32:50 PM

To the Secretariat of the Standing Committees on Environment and Communications

Please find attached my submission to the senate inquiry into the Environment and Infrastructure Legislation Amendment (Stop Adani) Bill 2017. This submission is being lodged via the Australian Greens website at greens.org.au/citizenship-inquiry

My Details:

Nicola Chirlian

My Submission

Dear Sir

I am writing in support of the The Greens 'Stop Adani' Bill.

I understand the essence would create a 'suitable person' test to clearly evaluate whether Mr Adani and his company have the appropriate environmental and tax history to substantiate the proposed subsidy of \$1 billion of the their proposed mine in the Gallilee Basin.

In my opinion, this Bill would ensure that appropriate due diligence process is applied in this case - surely not too much to ask as should be required in all contractual relationships. I also understand that Mr Adani is under investigation for a range of unsavory business practices such as money laundering, fraud, and corruption, in addition to a poor track record in environmental practices.

I would remind you that the proposed funding is to be drawn from the public purse i.e. it is taxpayers money. We should have a say on this through appropriate; process and assessment by an impartial body. I simply cannot understand why Government can make a unilateral decision to support an international billionaire who I imagine, could well afford to spend this money from his own coffers.

As a rural person, I well understand concern about the difficulties of regional job creation. However, there has been clear information provided to the public about the overstatement of the number of jobs to be created by this mine, and Mr Adani himself has celebrated the increased level of automation he proposes for this mine.

The fact that both Queensland and Federal Government would ignore scientific advice regarding the flow on effects and increasing risk to the Great Barrier Reef (already in extreme danger with latest figures estimating 90% is damaged) astounds me. Job numbers related to tourism on the Great Barrier Reef far outweigh proposed mining jobs - where is the sense in this proposal?

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And if financial institutions have the sense to NOT back the Adani mine, why should our Governments be taking an opposite stance.

Again - I strongly support this Bill to trigger an automatic review of all existing approvals for this mine, and, I would hope, others by other companies in the future.

If I have uploaded a submission, it will be attached to this email.

Thank you Nicola Chirlian

Submitted on Friday, July 14, 2017 - 12:32pm