



**Gladstone Ports Corporation**

*Growth, Prosperity, Community.*

Condition 33

Current wording

(b) Determine baseline population characteristics for key species before the start of dredging and develop appropriate indicators to monitor population changes, especially those associated with dredging.

related to the dredging project.

(b) Determine the carrying capacity of nearby suitable habitats for megafauna species.

Proposed changes

Our Ref: 635531

(b) Determine measurable population characteristics for key species before the start of dredging and develop appropriate indicators to monitor population changes, especially those associated with dredging.

Monday 25 July 2011

Barbara Jones  
Assistant Secretary  
Environment Assessment Branch  
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water,  
Population and Communities  
GPO Box 787  
Canberra ACT 2601

Migratory Shorebirds

Current wording

(b) Comprehensive baseline surveys of Port Curtis and Port Alma before the start of dredging, including population censuses of species present, mapping of feeding and roosting sites, investigation of habitat utilisation relative to the lunar/tide cycle and season, and identification of critical characteristics of important habitat.

GPO Box 787

Canberra ACT 2601

Proposed changes

Dear Barbara

**RE: ERMP Condition 26 recommendations**

As the Environmental and Compliance Project Manger of the Western Basin Dredging Project and under advice from Professor Marnie Campbell as Chair of the Port Curtis and Port Alma Ecosystem and Research Monitoring Program Advisory Panel (ERMPAP) I am writing to relay concerns that both GPC and the advisory panel have over several requirements outlined in Conditions 26 and 33 of the Port Of Gladstone Western Basin Strategic Dredging and Disposal Project Approval, dated 22 October 2010 (the Approval).

Under Condition 26 of the Approval ' the person taking the action must provide to the minister , a copy of all the recommendation made by the research advisory panel and an explanation of how these recommendations have, or will be, implemented'. The advisory panel has raised grave concerns over the wording of Condition 33 and have proposed that GPC request changes to the wording as detailed below. The specific items of concern and the changes proposed by GPC are detailed below:



## Marine Megafauna

### Condition 33

#### Current wording

(b) Determine baseline population characteristics (e.g., densities, reproductive capacity, age-class structure) and habitat utilisation, and select appropriate indicators to monitor potential for changes related to the dredging project.

(d) Determine the carrying capacity of nearby suitable habitats for megafauna species.

#### Proposed changes

- b) Determine measurable population characteristics for key species before the start of dredging and develop appropriate indicators to monitor population changes, especially those associated with dredging.
- d) Identify potentially suitable habitats for key megafauna in the region at an ecological scale appropriate for the species.

## Migratory Shorebirds

#### Current wording

(g) Comprehensive baseline surveys of Port Curtis and Port Alma including: population censuses of all species present, mapping of all feeding and roosting sites, investigation of habitat utilisation relative to the lunar/tide cycles and season, and identification of critical characteristics of important habitat.

#### Proposed changes

(g) Comprehensive surveys of Port Curtis and Port Alma before the start of dredging, including: population censuses of species present, mapping of feeding and roosting sites, investigation of habitat utilisation relative to the lunar/tide cycles and season, and identification of critical characteristics of important habitat.

The advisory panel recommends the removal of the word **all** from the paragraph. This is due to the transitory nature of Migratory Shorebirds and while every effort will be made to record each species present there can be no scientific certainty that this has occurred.

## Seagrass

#### Current wording

(l) Annual long term seagrass monitoring surveys of seagrass distribution and abundance in the Western Basin

(m) Monitor survival and recovery of seagrass and other marine communities in the project area during the construction period and for a minimum of five years following completion of dredging."

#### Proposed changes

(l) Annual long term seagrass monitoring surveys of seagrass distribution and abundance in the Western Basin and Port Alma

## Reporting

### Condition 37

#### Current wording

The date of the first Environmental Performance Report must be 12 months from the date of this approval, with each subsequent report 12 months from the date of the previous environmental report. The Environmental Performance Report must include proposed environmental management improvements to be implemented through the DCMP, WQMP and other Plans as relevant.

#### Proposed changes

Twelve (12) months from the date of approval, a report must be submitted outlining the initial environmental activities for that twelve (12) month period. The report is called the Environmental Performance Report ("EPR") and must be submitted within forty two (42) days of the twelve month activity period. The EPR must include proposed environmental management improvements to be implemented through the DCMP, WQMP and other Plans as relevant. Reports are required annually thereafter, not later than 42 days after the end of the relevant anniversary period.

### Condition 46

#### Current wording

Each year the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval the date of the first compliance report must be within twelve months from the dated of this approval with each subsequent report 12 months from the dated of the previous report. The Compliance report must:

- (a) Be endorsed by the CEO of GPC or a person approved in writing by the Department, delegated to sign on behalf of the COE or the person taking the action
- (b) Include a statement as to whether the person taking the action has complied with the conditions;
- (c) Identify any non-compliance and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; and
- (d) Make the compliance report publicly available on the internet within 30 days of it being submitted to the Minister.

#### Proposed wording

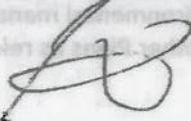
Each year the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. The date of the first compliance report must be within 42 days after the initial twelve months of the approval with each subsequent report 12 months from the date of the previous report. The Compliance report must:

- (e) Be endorsed by the CEO of GPC or a person approved in writing by the Department, delegated to sign on behalf of the COE or the person taking the action
- (f) Include a statement as to whether the person taking the action has complied with the conditions;
- (g) Identify any non-compliance and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; and
- (h) Make the compliance report publicly available on the internet within 30 days of it being submitted to the Minister.

Further to this GPC and the advisory panel wish to receive confirmation of whether corals are to be included in Condition 33 (l) and (m) as part of the ERMP.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the Panels recommendations please do not hesitate to contact me on: (07) 4976 1534.

Yours faithfully



**John Broomhead**  
**Environmental and Approvals Project Manager**  
**Western Basin Strategic Dredging Programme**

Van Meurs, James

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**From:** Stacey Cook [Stacey.Cook@aurecongroup.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 August 2011 2:04 PM  
**To:** Van Meurs, James  
**Cc:** Stephen Cole; broomheadj@gpcl.com.au  
**Subject:** FW: Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Footprint  
**Attachments:** Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Dredge Stages 110811.pdf

**Categories:** Orange Category

Hi James

Please find attached the revised Western Basin Dredge Footprint for the controlled action approval (EPBC 2009/4904). This footprint is based on the most up to date dredge areas.

Please let me know if you have any comments or require changes to this figure.

Regards

Stacey

**Stacey Cook** BSc(MarSc) CEnvP  
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Level 4, 32 Turbot St Brisbane QLD 4001  
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[aurecongroup.com](http://aurecongroup.com)

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**From:** Stacey Cook  
**Sent:** Thursday, 11 August 2011 3:32 PM  
**To:** [broomheadj@gpcl.com.au](mailto:broomheadj@gpcl.com.au)  
**Cc:** Stephen Cole; Mat Harvey  
**Subject:** Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Footprint

Hi John

Please find attached the revised footprint/Staging for the Western Basin Controlled Action Approval. Please note this is a merge of the previous controlled action figure (Controlled Action annexure-1.pdf) and the Western Basin (Onshore/Offshore) DMP Figure 1.2 (Western Basin onoff DMP Figure 1.2.pdf).

Our GIS has overlaid the two figure layouts over the top of each other and then used the largest extent of both layers to create the revised footprint.









Can you please review the attached revised controlled action footprint (Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Dredge Stages 110811.pdf) and let me know if you have any changes?

If there are no changes I'll send the attached pdf onto James Van Meurs at SEWPaC for inclusion in the revised Western Basin Controlled Action.

If you're happy with the layout I'll send through the shape file to you separately. Shape files tend to get caught in the GPC mail marshal system and can take time to process.

Regards

### Legend

-  Fisherman's Landing 153 Reclamation Area
-  Western Basin Reclamation Area
-  Western Basin Dredging Stages
-  Stage 1A - North Chin Bay LNG Precast
-  Stage 1B - Fisherman's Landing LNG
-  Stage 2 - Large Turb LNG
-  Stage 3 - Fisherman's Landing
-  Stage 4 - Hamilton Point

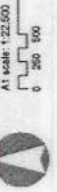
Source:  
Aerial: Bing Maps, 2010.

Date: 11/02/2011

Version: 1



Western Basin Dredging and Disposal (Onshore and Offshore) Project  
Figure 1: Western Basin Dredging Stages



Job No: 31765-5-1  
Coordinate system: GDA\_1984\_MGA\_Zone\_58

Stacey

Van Meurs, James

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 Locked Bag 331 Brisbane QLD 4001  
[aurecongroup.com](http://aurecongroup.com)

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 Subject: FW: Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Footprint  
 Attachments: Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Footprint  
 Category: Orange Category

DISCLAIMER

Please find attached the revised Western Basin Bridge Footprint for the controlled action approval (EPBC 2008/6904). This footprint is based on the most up-to-date design assets.

Please let me know if you have any comments or require changes to this figure.

Regards,

Stacey

Stacey Cook BSc(MarSc) CEnvP  
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From: Stacey Cook  
 Sent: Thursday, 11 August 2011 3:35 PM  
 To: [vanmeurs@bca.com.au](mailto:vanmeurs@bca.com.au)  
 Cc: Stephen Cole; Hal Harvey  
 Subject: Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Footprint

Hi John,

Please find attached the revised footprint/staging for the Western Basin Controlled Action Approval. Please note this is a merge of the previous controlled action figure (Controlled Action annexure-1.pdf) and the Western Basin (Onshore/Offshore) OWP Figure 1.2 (Western Basin draft OWP Figure 1.2.pdf).

Our GIS has overlaid the two figure layouts over the top of each other and then used the largest extent of both layers to create the revised footprint.

Can you please review the attached revised controlled action footprint (Western Basin Controlled Action Revised Orange Stages 110811.pdf) and let me know if you have any changes?

If there are no changes I'll send the attached but onto James Van Meurs at SEWPA for inclusion in the revised Western Basin Controlled Action.

If you happy with the layout I'll send through the shape file to you separately. Shape files tend to get caught in the OPC mail marshal system and can take time to process.

Regards,





Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Our reference: 2009/4904

Contact Officer: James van Meurs  
Telephone: 02 6274 1496 Facsimile: (02) 6274 1878  
Email: [post.approvals@environment.gov.au](mailto:post.approvals@environment.gov.au)

Mr John Broomhead  
Environmental and Approvals Project Manager  
Gladstone Ports Corporation Ltd  
PO Box 259  
GLADSTONE QLD 4680

Dear Mr Broomhead

**Port of Gladstone Western Basin Strategic Dredging and Disposal Project  
(EPBC 2009/4904)**

I refer to your letter of 25 July 2011 requesting a variation to the conditions of the approval dated 22 October 2010.

As delegate of the Minister, I have decided to approve your request of 25 July 2011 to vary the conditions of the approval in accordance with the provisions of the National Environment Law, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The proposal must now be undertaken in accordance with the varied conditions specified in the variation to conditions, which has been attached for your information.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please contact James van Meurs on 02 6274 1496.

Yours sincerely

Rose Webb  
Assistant Secretary  
Compliance & Enforcement Branch  
Approvals and Wildlife Division

26 August 2011



GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601 Telephone 02 6274 1111 Facsimile 02 6274 1666  
[www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)







**VARIATION TO CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO APPROVAL**

**Port of Gladstone Western Basin Strategic Dredging and Disposal Project,  
Gladstone, Qld <2009/4904>**

This decision to vary a condition of approval is made under section 143 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

**Proposed action**

Person to whom the approval is granted Gladstone Ports Corporation Ltd

Proposed action To undertake the Port of Gladstone Western Basin Strategic Dredging Project as described in the referral received on 20 May 2009 (EPBC2009/4904)

**Variation**

Variation of conditions of approval The variation is:  
Delete conditions 33 b), d), g), l), 37, 46 and Annexure 1 attached to the approval dated 22 November 2009 and substitute the conditions and revised Annexure 1 specified below.

Date of effect This variation has effect from the date the instrument is signed.

**Person authorised to make decision**

Name and position Rose Webb  
Assistant Secretary  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch

Signature

Date of decision

26 August 2011

**Conditions attached to the approval**

33. The ERMP must include, but not be limited to, the following:

*Marine Megafauna*

- b) Determine measurable population characteristics for key species before the start of dredging and develop appropriate indicators to monitor population changes, especially those associated with dredging project.
- d) Identify potentially suitable habitats for key megafauna in the region at an ecological scale appropriate for megafauna species.

*Migratory Shorebirds*

- g) Comprehensive surveys of Port Curtis and Port Alma prior to the start of dredging including: population censuses of species present, mapping of feeding and roosting sites, investigation of habitat utilisation relative to the lunar/tide cycles and season, and identification of critical characteristics of important habitat.

*Seagrass*

- l) Annual long term seagrass monitoring surveys of seagrass distribution and abundance in the Western Basin and Port Alma.

37. 12 months from the date of approval, a report must be submitted outlining the initial environmental activities for the 12 month period. The report is to be called the Environmental Performance Report and must be submitted within 42 days of the 12 month activity period. The Environmental Performance Report must include proposed environmental management improvements to be implemented through the DCMP, WQMP and other Plans as relevant. Reports are required annually from thereafter.

46. Each year the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. The date of the first compliance report must be within 42 days after the initial twelve months of the date of approval with each subsequent report 12 months from the date of the previous report. The Compliance report must:

- a) be endorsed by the CEO of GPC or a person approved in writing by the Department, delegated to sign on behalf of the CEO or the person taking the action;
- b) include a statement as to whether the person taking the action has complied with the conditions;
- c) identify any non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; and
- d) make the compliance report publicly available on the internet within 30 days of it being submitted to the Minister.

Map by: by: PIC P:\GIS\Projects\202708\_GPC\WB\_Combined\_Action\_Dredging\_5Stages\_001.mxd 11/06/2011 14:59

At scale 1:22,500  
 0 250 500 1000 1500 2000 METERS  
 Job No. 2174692-1  
 Consider system: GDA\_1984\_MGA\_Coords\_24



- Legend**
- Fishermen's Landing 153 Remediation Area
  - Western Basin Remediation Area
  - Western Basin Dredging Stages
  - Stage 1A - North Crane Bay LNG Project
  - Stage 1B - Fishermen's Landing LNG
  - Stage 2 - Land Fertilizer LNG
  - Stage 3 - Fishermen's Landing
  - Stage 4 - Hamlyn Point

Source:  
Aerial Imagery 2010

Date: 11/06/2011 Version: 1

Western Basin Dredging and Disposal (Onshore and Offshore) Project  
 Figure 1: Western Basin Dredging Stages

