

## Media Release

17 April 2015

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### **Cairns Shipping Development Project draft EIS released for comment**

Ports North today welcomed the Queensland Co-ordinator General's release of the draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Cairns Shipping Development Project.

The draft EIS includes more than 3000 pages of scientific data and analysis on various project options and impacts and follows a two-year investigation and consultation process.

Ports North Chairman Brett Moller said the EIS responded to the Terms of Reference provided by the Co-ordinator General and was prepared in order to assist government to make a decision about the project's future.

"Ports North undertook this project on behalf of government and on the basis that it would need to be fully funded by government if it was to proceed," Mr Moller said.

"The EIS makes it clear that the cost of the project would have been well in excess of any funds that had been committed.

"The Queensland Government today has indicated that it will not be funding the project.

"The Port of Cairns is a critical economic driver for this region, providing essential infrastructure for tourism and trade.

"Ports North look forward to working with the State Government to ensure growth of our region's economy and that Ports North can continue to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the Port of Cairns.

"We are pleased that the EIS has been released for the public to view and provide feedback," Mr Moller concluded.

***Please refer to the attached Fact Sheet for information on the EIS findings and conclusions.***

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