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Submission No. 006 11.1.14

Dr Jacqueline Dewar Research Director Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources committee Parliament House George Street

Brisbane Qld 4000

By Email: ipnrc@parliament.gld.gov.au

Dear Dr Dewar

On behalf of our Destination Brisbane Consortium partners, The Star Entertainment Group Limited is pleased to make a submission to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee in relation to the *Queen's Wharf Brisbane Bill 2015*.

This Bill helps facilitate a vital redevelopment project, and what will be an iconic world-class Integrated Resort and entertainment precinct to be built adjacent to the Brisbane CBD and riverfront, and connected to South Bank.

Destination Brisbane Consortium (**DBC**) is delighted to have been selected as proponent for this development, which we truly believe will be a game changer for Brisbane. It will bring a new dimension to tourism and economic growth in Queensland, with more than 2000 jobs during construction; more than 8000 jobs once operational; a \$1.69 billion annual increase in tourism; 1.39 million additional tourists each year; and \$4 billion to Gross State Product.

It is a project that will deliver investments in improved connectivity for the city. We consulted widely with stakeholders as we prepared our vision for Queen's Wharf Brisbane (QWB), working with local firms with home-grown expertise in Brisbane who could help us achieve a design that locals will embrace, and tourists will love. As such the *Queen's Wharf Brisbane Bill 2015* will help us deliver something for everyone, with 50 new bars and restaurants; 12 football fields of public space, most notably a revitalisation of the river front; five new hotels; significant retail facilities including local and international brands; and repurposed and restored heritage buildings that will be accessible to all ages.

As one of the three DBC partners, The Star Entertainment Group is a large, well-established employer and corporate citizen in South East Queensland, as well as in Sydney. Across our Treasury Casino & Hotel in Brisbane and Jupiters Gold Coast, we employ more than 3500 people and this number is growing. We strive to support and promote initiatives that benefit people and visitors within the communities in which our properties operate. For Brisbane, this means building its reputation as an events destination, a cultural hotspot, and a contributor to local community groups.

Brisbane's close proximity to Asia, its ease of reach to other major regional centres with attractions of their own, along with its safe environment and enviable climate, made for a compelling investment opportunity for us and our Hong Kong-based consortium partners, Chow Tai Fook and Far East Consortium. Both Asian partners are bringing their expansive knowledge and experience in the premium hotel and retail industries, which will enhance Destination Brisbane Consortium's ability to leverage growth opportunities in inbound international tourism to Queensland.

DBC supports the Bill's objective to facilitate the redevelopment of the QWB precinct by establishing an appropriate property and planning legislative regime for such a large scale development being delivered pursuant to robust agreements between DBC and the State of Queensland.

DBC further supports the Bill's additional objectives to:

- provide a process for the ratification of a proposed QWB Casino Agreement;
- maintain the integrity of casino operations and those involved or associated with the conduct of casino operations
- give effect to a range of casino regulatory matters.

The Star Entertainment Group supports a transparent regulatory framework that provides for the ongoing integrity and probity of casino operations, and which is appropriate to support world class Integrated Resort operations. As an operator of casinos in Queensland for over 20 years in Brisbane and approximately 30 years on the Gold Coast, The Star Entertainment Group has a proud and proven ability as a responsible casino operator of high standards. The Star Entertainment Group is committed to continuing to provide a safe and responsible environment for gaming and entertainment.

We look forward to the opportunity that the *Queen's Wharf Brisbane Bill 2015* provides us, to create a new world class Integrated Resort Development with a local spirit, where we will continue to partner with our communities to create a world of opportunities and entertainment excellence.

Yours Sincerely

Matt Bekier

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

The Star Entertainment Group Limited