



Subject:

Submission for changes in Sustainable Port Development Bill

Date:

Thursday, 25 June 2015 10:34:31 AM

Dear Member of Committee,

The below sums up my feelings on the Future of the Reef. We need to get this right now or it will be too late. If aspects are left off or watered down, the loopholes will be exploited and you won't be able to undo the damage.

The Great Barrier Reef is special to me, and to all Australians, and it deserves strong legal protection. That's why I'm pleased to support the steps taken in the Sustainable Port Development Bill to:

- Ban sea-dumping of dredge spoil from new port developments.
- Prevent new ports being built on undeveloped parts of the Reef coast.
- Restrict dredging for new port facilities to the four major port areas.

But there's a few things missing! We urge you to amend the draft laws to close these loopholes and fulfil the promises that Premier Palaszczuk made to Queenslanders before the state election:

- Ban trans-shipping in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- Reduce the impacts of maintenance dredging and dumping.
- Limit dredging and dumping for developments outside ports, like marinas or boat ramps.

Yours Sincerely,

Stuart Heath

