



9 November 2012

Mr Ted Malone MP
Chair
The State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: sdiic@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Malone,

Economic Development Bill 2012

Enclosed is our submission in relation to the Economic Development Bill 2012.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Guy Gibson".

Guy Gibson
General Manager Queensland, Communities
Lend Lease

Submission in relation to the Economic Development Bill 2012



General

Lend Lease strongly supports the introduction of the Economic Development Bill 2012 and considers it is an appropriate, pragmatic and sensible initiative of the State Government.

Lend Lease considers the Bill will assist in the facilitation of economic development and development for community purposes in Queensland.

The Bill is balanced in its approach to planning in that the State Government must consult with Local Government regarding the planning and development of land in priority development areas.

The Bill will allow planning schemes to be put in place expeditiously for key developments where there is an overriding economic or community need to start the development quickly. This in turn will permit development to commence more quickly than would otherwise be the case under existing planning legislation, which will assist in stimulating the Queensland economy, including in particular, the property and construction industries.

The Bill will provide a sound statutory framework to support, in a comprehensive manner, the planning and delivery of major projects including the Yarrabilba urban development in south east Queensland.

Delegation of functions

Under the Bill, the Minister for Economic Development Queensland (MEDQ) is prescribed certain functions.

The Bill appropriately provides MEDQ with broad power to delegate its functions to a variety of entities and persons. This is a sensible initiative as it should result in the functions of the MEDQ being actioned in a responsive and timely manner using the resources that are available to the MEDQ.

However, it is not clear from the Bill which specific functions will be delegated and to which entity or person. It would be helpful to understand what the State Government has in mind in this regard, particularly, whether the assessment and approval of development applications will be delegated and to whom.

While the delegation of functions is important to ensure responsiveness and timeliness, it is equally important to delegate to the appropriate entity or person in order to ensure consistency of approach and certainty of outcome. This in turn should lead to better accountability and transparency of process.

It is submitted that further clarity should be provided in the Bill about the delegation of functions of the MEDQ.