

Background

I am a long time resident of Newcastle however I am currently living in Mackay. I have worked at PWCS at irregular intervals over a 20 year period as an employee of service providers (contractors) and more recently as a part owner of a company that has provided services to PWCS. I am still associated with that company which could potentially provide services to PWCS in the future or even possibly on the T4 project.

Submission

The above exposure to PWCS could be argued to provide a bias towards motivation based on some future potential for personal opportunity rather than one of public interest. This is not the case. The exposure has however provided me an opportunity to observe PWCS culture and behaviours in a way that most of the community would not have. I have observed the following in all dealings with PWCS.

- I have observed an organisation that has genuine commitment to its obligations as a good corporate citizen.
- I have observed an organisation that takes great care to observe its environmental obligations.
- I have observed an organisation that takes great care and pride in providing a safe and secure place of work.
- In every interaction with PWCS these obligations have been stressed as has the need for honesty and disclosure should any breaches of licence conditions be observed which in my case no such observation has ever been made.
- In summary I have never seen evidence of anything other than a company determined to behave in an ethical and responsible way.

I have little knowledge of the T4 project other than the public submission however my past exposure to, and knowledge of PWCS gives me confidence that PWCS will continue behaving in the manner I have come to expect and would provide a safe project with community concerns and values properly considered. I therefore have no hesitation in supporting the T4 project in a community in which my children and grandchildren live and to which I intend to return.

PWCS would effectively be providing the required infrastructure to support Australian industry, Australian jobs and provide international access to a commodity for which there is considerable world demand. Not only do I support the project I would consider it a failure of public policy if the T4 project were not permitted to proceed. If a company like PWCS is overlooked for such a project then it is difficult to imagine what organisation would be considered acceptable.

Regard

Doug Lithgow