

07<sup>th</sup> November 2013

## **Background**

This is a second submission which adds to initial comments on a prior document. This background information on the submitter is identical to previous Submission.

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 addendum**

These comments are the result of reading a number of the “non supporting” submissions. I have noticed that some appear to be based on the fact that the T4 project relates to coal industry rather than any specific concern regarding the community benefits or impacts of the T4 project. I feel compelled to comment on this based on my direct experience with the resources industry. Objections based on the T4 projects association with the coal industry should be discounted for the following reasons.

- The T4 expansion, being a port facility will be used almost exclusively for overseas supply.
- The resource industry is a demand driven industry. Resource companies do not by and large develop mining capacity in the hope that demand will follow. The reverse is generally the case and they develop the capacity to supply when the demand is proven.
- Demand once realised will be supplied, the question to address is do we want it to be our community who supplies it or do we wish to bypass the opportunity and leave it to others to fill the demand.
- The coal industry and PWCS as a member of that industry has had a positive impact on the economic well being of the community.

Basing opposition to T4 on the perceived merits or otherwise of the use of coal can be discounted if the above points are accepted based on the following proposition. *“The coal that would be exported from T4 should it be approved will be substituted with coal from a different region or country if it is not approved”*. This leaves my supporting opinion independent of any particular view on the use of coal and based on the project merits alone. These reasons distilling down to:

- Will it be beneficial to the local and wider community? Obviously as a supporter my opinion is yes.
- Will it be constructed to acceptable standards with due consideration to environmental and community impacts? The quality of the PWCS organisation and their capacity to deliver a sound project is covered in my previous supporting comments.

Regards

Doug Lithgow