

## MEDIA STATEMENT

16 OCTOBER 2018

### North Galilee Water Project

In 2015 Adani received Queensland and Australian Government approvals on its Environmental Impact Statement to build the Carmichael mine in the Galilee Basin, located more than 300km west of the Queensland Coast line.

Part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process included assessment of a flood harvesting plan, by which water from the Belyando/Suttor River catchment can be used for the Carmichael Project. This was considered a Matter of National Environmental Significance, requiring assessment against the water trigger. The Carmichael Project was assessed and approved against these parameters by both the Queensland and Australian Governments as part of a full Environmental Impact Statement.

The dam which will be used to store the water harvested holds an additional approval, which was granted in 2015 under Queensland Government planning legislation (*Sustainable Planning Act 2009*).

In order to transfer this water from the storage dam to the mine site, a pipeline is required to be built. This pipeline and supporting infrastructure is called the North Galilee Water Project.

Adani has submitted a referral to the Australian Government for the construction and operation of this 110km water supply pipeline for the Carmichael mine. This referral relates only to the pipeline and supporting infrastructure – not the operation of the mine. The volume of water to be pumped from the Belyando/Suttor River catchment has already been assessed and approved as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process in 2015, and through the granting of the water licence by the Queensland Government in 2017.

The North Galilee Water Project is still being assessed by the Australian Government.

Importantly, the North Galilee Water Project does not activate the 'water trigger', a Matter of National Environmental Significance, because:

- The North Galilee Water Project is not a coal seam gas or large coal mining development. The definition of 'large coal mining development' relates to impacts on water resources activities that form part of the process to extract coal. This assessment already occurred in 2015 through the Environmental Impact Statement process.
- The pipeline is considered associated infrastructure which is not part of the coal extraction process, and therefore does not require assessment under the 'water trigger'.

The Australian Government's Department of Environment and Energy website defines Matters of National Environmental Significance that relate to water resources, and the North Galilee Water Project does not fit this definition. You can read about these definitions here:

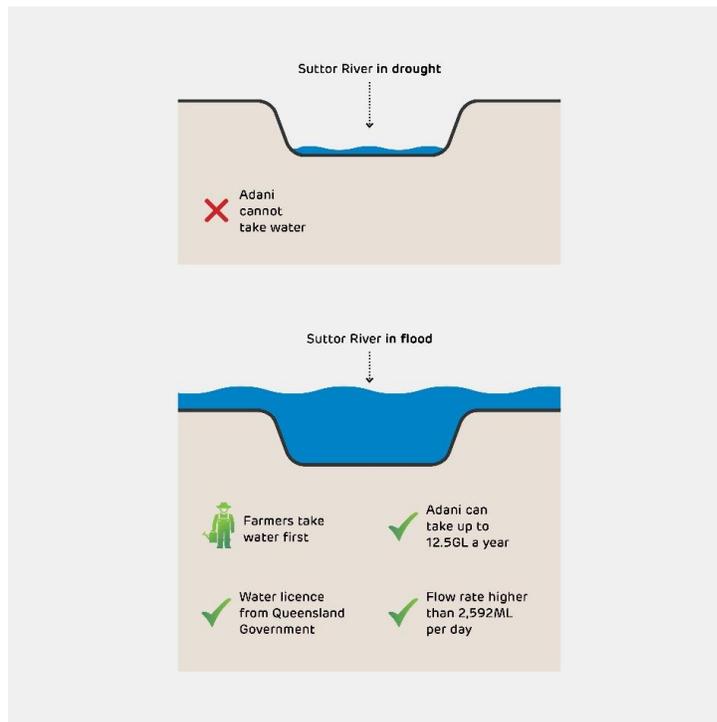
<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/d078caf3-3923-4416-a743-0988ac3f1ee1/files/sig-water-resources.pdf>

The water that will be transported through the pipeline is required for safe mining operations. It equates to 12.5GL of water or less than 1% of the annual water flow available in the Belyando/Suttor River catchment. This water can only be taken when the river system is in flood, after other users, like farmers, have taken their share, and only when the river is flowing at a rate of 2,592 megalitres per day. Furthermore, Adani must pay upfront for this water at a similar rate to other industrial water users. These are some of the conditions of Adani's water licence, which was granted in 2017.

Adani is committed to protecting the environment in line with legislation, regulation and standards.

For further information on Adani's water management plans please visit:

[https://issuu.com/adaniaustralia/docs/adi0012\\_mine\\_water\\_factsheet\\_v12\\_we](https://issuu.com/adaniaustralia/docs/adi0012_mine_water_factsheet_v12_we)



**ENDS**

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