



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

15 February 2019

### **Response to Black-throated Finch Management Plan Review Panel Draft Report**

Adani Mining has been working through approvals for the Carmichael mine and rail project since 2010. We have received approval of our Environmental Impact Statement from both the Queensland and Australian Governments. We have more than 200 conditions attached to the Carmichael Project and been through numerous public consultation processes. We received our Environmental Authority in 2016, which state the conditions as to how we must operate the mine. We have also been granted our mining leases, water licenses and many other approvals. We have secured finance for the mine, without requiring any taxpayer money.

Management plans that have been under review with the Queensland and Australian Governments now need to be finalised. The purpose of a management plan is to demonstrate how an organization will meet the conditions listed in its Environmental Authority. It is not intended to be a secondary approval process.

On 18 December 2018 the Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Science advised Adani Mining that they were referring the Black-throated Finch Management Plan to an external panel for review, following an assessment process that had already spanned more than 18 months with experts within their own department. Adani Mining was advised of this extraordinary decision on the same day that the Australian Government's Department of Environment and Energy approved the plan.

In the months that have followed Adani Mining has raised its grave concerns with the Queensland Government that this review would be tainted with bias, especially as five out of the six panel members are part of the Threatened Species Recovery Hub. Members of this organisation have made anti-coal and anti-Adani statements in the past. The leader of the review panel is the head of the Threatened Species Recovery Hub. Professor Wintle's leadership of the Hub and personal endorsement of anti-coal propaganda demonstrates that he lacked the necessary impartiality to conduct the review fairly.

The statement below is made in response to the review panel's draft report of our Black-throated Finch Management Plan.

More than 14,500 people have contacted us, eager to work on the Carmichael Project. We're ready and willing to start hiring and begin construction. We are simply asking the Queensland Government for a fair go, and this review process and draft report, is anything but.

**For further information contact:**

Adani Australia Media

E: [ausmedia@adani.com.au](mailto:ausmedia@adani.com.au)



This statement can be attributed to an Adani Mining spokesperson:

*"Our resolve to deliver thousands of jobs for regional Queenslanders desperately in need has never been stronger than it is today. We will see this through and deliver.*

*"The people of Queensland can rest assured that we are not going anywhere and we are in it for the long haul. We are determined to deliver the Carmichael Project for the benefit of Queenslanders and in particular for our fellow regional Queenslanders.*

*"On many occasions we have stated our grave concerns that a person such as Prof. Brendan Wintle who leads an organisation with individuals who have made anti-coal, anti-mining and anti-Adani statements in the past, could not possibly lead a review of our Black-throated Finch Management Plan without such strongly held views prejudicing the contents of the report.*

*"As we anticipated, this draft report reads like an anti-coal, anti-mining, anti-Adani lobbying brochure.*

*"The report even references the work of anti-Adani campaigners, such as April Reside, who has been actively campaigning against the Carmichael Project for years.*

*"This draft report contains false and inaccurate statements about the management plan, includes sections that directly contradict advice from the Queensland Government itself, and even contains unverified opinions regarding climate change and other projects in the Galilee Basin which are completely outside the scope of the Black-throated Finch Management Plan.*

*"The point of a management plan is to demonstrate how a business will meet the conditions of its Environmental Authority. This draft report has strayed so far beyond this requirement that the report is of no value. The draft report represents nothing more than a shopping list of ideas and suggestions that do not correspond with the Environmental Authority conditions or the relevant legislative framework. It also demonstrates the lack of capability of the panel to assess such a management plan, when they have no idea of its purpose in practice.*

*"If the Queensland Government accepts any part of this report, it means their own Department of Environment's work over the past 18 months is at best, incompetent, and at worst, using purposeful delay tactics to slow down the delivery of the Carmichael Project and the thousands of jobs it will provide in the process.*

*"We have written to the Department of Environment and Science today to once again express our serious concerns regarding this review process and the draft report attached to it. We are now waiting to hear from the Department of Environment and Science as to their own feedback on the report. We are still waiting on advice from the Queensland Government on timing to finalise this plan.*

*"The Queensland Government keeps shifting the goal posts for Adani. Adani needs clarity on timing and process from the Queensland Government so it can get on with delivering thousands of jobs for regional Queenslanders who desperately need them. We are simply seeking a fair go."*

ENDS

**For further information contact:**

Adani Australia Media

E: [ausmedia@adani.com.au](mailto:ausmedia@adani.com.au)