

STATEMENT FROM ADANI MINING

8 March 2019

It would seem that anti-coal and anti-Adani group Lock the Gate doesn't want the public to know the truth about Adani's Carmichael Project.

Lock the Gate has now resorted to making unfounded complaints about how we communicate using such things as advertising and media statements.

Lock the Gate doesn't want Queenslanders to know that the State Government has shifted the goal posts and is standing in the way of jobs.

We've been provided with letters of complaint that Lock the Gate has sent to ACCC and ASIC about our media statements and advertisements that call on the Queensland Government to stop shifting the goal posts for Adani's Carmichael Project and to give us a fair go like they would any other Queensland mining company.

For the avoidance of doubt - Adani's advertising and media statements comply with the law.

This is simply another tactic from Lock the Gate in its long-running campaign to prevent Adani from delivering the thousands of jobs that the Carmichael Mine and Rail Project will create for people in North and Central Queensland.

We have faced intense public, legal and regulatory scrutiny – and we have not shied away at any step of the way. But when an individual, group or organisation falsely accuses us of breaching the law – we will not simply sit back and let such patently false allegations go unchallenged.

Our following statement in response to Lock the Gate's complaints is lengthy, but explains in detail why the claims are false and unfounded.

The following statement can be attributed to an Adani Mining spokesperson:

Response from Adani Mining to Lock the Gate complaints

"Adani Mining stands by its recent communication and advertising campaign run in Queensland. Lock the Gate's complaints to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) are false and unfounded. These allegations attempt to damage the reputation of Adani Mining.

"Lock the Gate's letters incorrectly claim we have breached sections of Australian Consumer Law and the Corporations Act. We have not breached such laws and we would also point out that these two pieces of legislation are not relevant to advertising.

"We have not received any advice from the relevant agencies advising that our communication or advertising is under investigation, nor advising it is in breach of legislation or regulation.

"We are not engaged in political advertising.

"The intent of our communication campaign is to inform the people of Queensland about the true status of our project, cutting through the lies often spread by anti-coal activists, including Lock the Gate.

"Lock the Gate's claims that we have engaged in misleading conduct are entirely false. We do not need the rail line, the North Galilee Water Project, or the royalties agreement in place to start mining. We've made this clear in the past that these matters can be finalised in parallel to construction and with mining having commenced.

"We have repeatedly said that certainty as to process and timing exists at the Federal and Local Government levels as it pertains to the requirements for us to commence construction of the mine.

"What we need is for the Queensland Government to stop shifting the goal posts and give us clarity on timing and process of what's required to finalise these two outstanding management plans. The Queensland Government's Department of Environment has repeatedly publicly stated that they will not commit to a timeline for approvals on these plans.

"The two outstanding management plans have been under review by the Queensland Government for more than 18 months. We have provided numerous revisions at their request and attended countless meetings with Department officials in an attempt to finalise the plans.

"Lock the Gate's false allegations also accuse Adani of using 'legal strategy' based on pages of a marketing document, which Adani has never even received and that was published by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"Anti-coal groups do not want Adani or the coal industry to have a voice. They do not want Adani to correct false and misleading claims. They want to stop debate based on facts because it hinders their efforts to shut down Queensland's coal industry and destroy the thousands of jobs and livelihoods that depend upon coal mining.

"We will continue to correct false claims and do everything we can to ensure the Carmichael Project gets a fair go, along with the people of regional Queensland who desperately want and need the jobs and economic contribution it will provide."

ENDS