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05 May 2016

Chief Executive Officer  
Attention: Planning and Development  
Townsville City Council  
PO Box 1268  
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

To the Assessment Manager,

**Re: Development Application MI16/0007 Renewable Energy Facility - Ross River Solar Farm**

The North Queensland Conservation Council (NQCC) is in support of this development application.

NQCC is the regional conservation council for the area from Cardwell to Bowen, and from the Reef to the Northern Territory border. Established in 1974, it falls under the broad umbrella of the Queensland Conservation Council and focuses on education, advocacy and policy development.

As the coordinator of the Council, I represent a body of members and volunteers that are committed to seeing renewable energy uptake in our region. With 320 days a year of sunshine, we are perfectly positioned to become a solar leader of Australia. NQCC supports this project because it indicates a move away from fossil fuel dependence and a transition towards more sustainable and renewable energy sources.

Building the 100 mW project at Clare is commencing soon, with expected operational commencement in early 2017. We find the idea of not just one but two major, utility-scale solar farm projects in our region very promising, and exactly the right kind of action required to see the renewable energy sector grow. Within years, Townsville could be achieving energy independence and have a vastly reduced emissions profile.

What an exciting prospect!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maree Dibella', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Maree Dibella  
Acting Coordinator