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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**[for immediate release]**  
**'Adani should need licence to use 12 billion litres of Queensland water'**

The North Queensland Conservation Council (NQCC) backs Minister Anthony Lynham's resistance to blocking public input to the water licence process.

"It's undemocratic to silence community concerns" says NQCC Coordinator Maree Dibella.

"A project using 12 billion litres of water each year<sup>1</sup> absolutely should be required to go through the correct approval process, including community consultation.

"They need a water licence now, just like they always have.

"Adani took a gamble and didn't apply for the water licence earlier, hoping that Newman government legislation that dropped the water licence requirement would become law and they would fly under the radar.

"The current Queensland government recognises that it's irresponsible to not regulate the use of our State's most precious resource. So now Adani needs an associated water licence to transition into the new water laws as they are already advanced in their environmental assessment.

"It's critical that the public is able to participate in the associated water licence consultation process because no one project should have preferential treatment over other water users such as farmers, communities and land-holders", says Ms Dibella.

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*NQCC is the voice for the environment in North Queensland, campaigning as the peak non-government environmental organisation in our region since 1974.*

*We protect the environment through advocacy and education, promote the values of the natural environment, and engage with policy and planning processes to advocate ecologically sustainable development.*

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<sup>1</sup> Adani (2013) Report for Water Balance, Appendix K2, Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project SEIS, 22 October 2013