



114 Boundary Street
Railway Estate, Townsville
PO Box 364, Townsville
Qld, 4810
Ph: 61 07 47716226
Mob: 0428 987 535
office@nqcc.org.au
www.nqcc.org.au
ABN: 55 903 033 286

MEDIA RELEASE

28 November 2014

Claims of resources' contribution to the north disputed

Claims by the Queensland Resources Council that the resources industry is a major contributor to the Northern Region of Queensland are misleading according to North Queensland Conservation Council (NQCC) Coordinator Wendy Tubman.

Using the QRC's own report, Ms Tubman noted:

1. According to the QRC's own study, mining companies employ only 3% of workers in the Northern Queensland region (3,855 out of 112,000).

In other words, 97% of Northern Queensland workers do *not* work in the mining industry.

2. The QRC's employment data are derived from 'input:output' modeling, a technique that the ABS says is "biased" and the Productivity Commission says is "abused".

Even so, according to the QRC's own study, "indirect" employment is down from 20,000 to 12,000 on last year even though direct employment has gone from 3,100 to 3,855.

3. QRC says royalties from Northern Queensland are worth \$131 million - that's just *one fifth of one per cent* of Queensland state revenue (total around \$50 billion).

4. The Queensland mining is heavily subsidised. The Australia Institute estimates Queensland has spent \$9.5 billion subsidising the mining industry over the last 6 years.

Just last week, the Newman government said it would subsidise Galilee Basin development to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Queensland's Treasury says subsidising the mining industry reduces spending on schools and hospitals.

Contact: Wendy Tubman 0428 987 535