

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid [Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 8 January 2013 2:17 PM

To: Davies Emma

CC: Sharpe Dean; Wake Chris; media

Subject: 1-KEEPER-1962460-Media_response__Yabulu_refinery_update_-_ABC (2).doc

Attachments: 1-KEEPER-1962460-Media_response__Yabulu_refinery_update_-_ABC (2).doc

Hi Emma

attached a changed version.

I will ring you now

cheers

Ingrid

RTI DL Release

DRAFT media response

Enquiry received at:	Briefing officer:
Deadline:	Phone:
Media Unit contact: Emma Davies	DDG:
Media Unit phone: 3224 2389	Phone:
Approved by:	

Date: 8 January 2013

For: ABC
Sam Burgess

Deadline: COB Tuesday 8 January 2013

Issue: Yabulu refinery update

Questions:

Has the refinery applied for a TEP?

Has a corrective action plan had been approved/sanctioned by EHP – if so, what are the details?

Draft response: Please attribute the following to Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma, Acting Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is continuing to engage with Queensland Nickel to address ~~the significant accumulated~~ water management issues at ~~the~~ Queensland Nickel's Yabulu Refinery.

Queensland Nickel has submitted a corrective action plan to EHP to address ~~the the accumulated~~ water management issues at the on-site by use of its ocean outfall pipeline. In accordance with the site's development approval and, EHP reviewed the corrective action this plan has been reviewed and has provided a range of comments have been provided back to Queensland Nickel.

~~Queensland Nickel also requires a permit from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) to use its ocean outfall pipeline.~~

On 24 December 2012 Queensland Nickel submitted a draft Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) to the ~~department~~ EHP which proposed ~~additional storage to be built at the Yabulu site during the next dry season and various~~ actions to manage the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility during the current wet season. In addition the TEP details actions to be taken during the next dry season to address water management issues on site to reduce the risk of contaminated water releases from the tailings storage facility into the future.-

EHP officers met with Queensland Nickel representatives on 3 January 2013 to discuss the draft TEP and provided feedback on the ~~document~~ draft TEP.

Queensland Nickel ~~is expected to will~~ submit a revised TEP this week, once submitted EHP will make a decision in relation to the TEP within 2 weeks.-

DRAFT media response

ENDS

Agency background: (Department of Environment and Heritage Protection only – non media)

RTI DL Release

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid [Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 4 March 2013 1:37 PM
To: Wake Chris
CC: Butler Hamish
Subject: FW: Yabulu dam level
Attachments: 2-KEEPER-1972519-Media_response__Queensland_Nickel_Yabulu_TEP_approved_-_Townsville_Bulletin.doc

Chris - can you ring me re this?

Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma
Acting Regional Manager Mining and Compliance
Northern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
5b Sheridan Street
GPO Box 937
Cairns QLD 4870
Telephone: 07 4222 5337
Facsimile: 07 4222 5070
Email: Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au
You can visit us online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Monday, 4 March 2013 12:42 PM
To: Lawrence Rob
Cc: Sharpe Dean; media; Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid
Subject: FW: Yabulu dam level

Hi Rob,

The minister's office has asked if we can send the attached response to ABC.

Can you confirm that the attached is still accurate and you are happy for the response to be in your name?

Thanks,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5830
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Brooke Hargraves [<mailto:Brooke.Hargraves@ministerial.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Monday, 4 March 2013 12:34 PM
To: Michaels Paul
Cc: media
Subject: FW: Yabulu dam level

Hi Paul,

Can you send this response through to Steph Smail smail.stephanie@abc.net.au

Thanks,
See you in 2 mins!

Cheers,
Brooke

From: Davies Emma [<mailto:Emma.Davies@ehp.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Monday, 14 January 2013 2:31 PM
To: Bateman, Daniel
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Yabulu dam level

Hi Daniel,

Please find attached a media response regarding Queensland Nickel's Yabulu refinery.

Regards,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5830
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this message

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2013 5:31 PM
To: Bateman, Daniel
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Yabulu dam level

Hi Dan,

Please find attached a media response from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection regarding Queensland Nickel's Yabulu refinery.

Regards,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5830

Please consider the environment before printing this message

From: Bateman, Daniel [<mailto:daniel.bateman@news.com.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2013 3:01 PM
To: media
Subject: Yabulu dam level

G'day,

Queensland Nickel Yabulu refinery owner Clive Palmer has issued a media statement today claiming the level of contaminated wastewater in the tailings dams has been decreased by 22 per cent.
I'm hoping to find out whether the department is aware of this, and if so, whether there are still any concerns about a potential spill this wet season?

Cheers

Dan

Daniel Bateman | Journalist



Townsville Bulletin

198-238 Ogden Street (PO Box 587), Townsville, QLD, 4810

Phone: +61 7 4722 4433 | Mobile: +61 protection of an i | Fax: +61 7 4722 4559

Email: daniel.bateman@news.com.au | Web: www.townsvillebulletin.com.au



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RTI DL Release

Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Yabulu refinery

For: Daniel Bateman
Townsville Bulletin

Date: Monday, 14 January 2013

**Please attribute the following to Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma, Acting Executive Director,
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection**

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has approved Queensland Nickel's Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

These actions include diverting stormwater away from the tailings storage facility and constructing additional contaminated water storage capacity on site to reduce the spill risk to less than one percent by 1 November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Lutz Megan [Megan.Lutz@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2013 2:43 PM
To: Wake Chris
CC: Davies Emma
Subject: FW: Yabulu update
Attachments: 2-KEEPER-2040242-Media_response_Queensland_Nickel_Yabulu_refinery_spill_risk_follow_up_Townsville_Bulletin.doc

Hi Chris,

I understand you were just talking to Emma about a response we sent to the Townsville Bulletin regarding QLD Nickel's Yabulu refinery. Attached is the response from Tuesday 5 March.

Cheers,

Megan

Megan Lutz

Principal Media Officer, Media Services

EHP | NPRSR

Phone: 07 3339 5845

Mobile: [redacted]

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Level 12, 400 George Street, Brisbane

www.ehp.qld.gov.au

www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

From: Lutz Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 5 March 2013 4:00 PM
To: Bateman, Daniel
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Yabulu update

Hi Daniel,

Please find attached a response to your follow up question on the Yabulu refinery.

Many thanks,

Megan

Megan Lutz

Principal Media Officer, Media Services

EHP | NPRSR

Phone: 07 3339 5831

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Level 12, 400 George Street, Brisbane

www.ehp.qld.gov.au

www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

From: Bateman, Daniel [mailto:daniel.bateman@news.com.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 5 March 2013 9:03 AM
To: Lutz Megan
Subject: RE: Yabulu update

G'day Megan

Thanks for the email. Can the department confirm whether or not the current water level still presents a spill risk?

Dan

Daniel Bateman | Journalist

Townsville Bulletin

198-238 Ogden Street (PO Box 587), Townsville, QLD, 4810

Phone: +61 7 4722 4433 | Mobile: +61 protection of an | Fax: +61 7 4722 4559

Email: daniel.bateman@news.com.au | Web: www.townsvillebulletin.com.au



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From: Lutz Megan [mailto:Megan.Lutz@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 4 March 2013 6:42 PM
To: Bateman, Daniel
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Yabulu update

Hi Daniel,

Sorry for the delay. Below is a response to your enquiry about the Yabulu refinery.

Please attribute the following to Rob Lawrence, Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is continuing to work with Queensland Nickel on water management at its Yabulu refinery.

Queensland Nickel has advised the department that the tailings storage facility is currently more than 1.2m below the spillway.

ENDS

Kind regards,

Megan

Megan Lutz

Principal Media Officer, Media Services

EHP | NPRSR

Phone: 07 3339 5845

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Level 12, 400 George Street, Brisbane

www.ehp.qld.gov.au

www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

From: Bateman, Daniel [mailto:daniel.bateman@news.com.au]

Sent: Monday, 4 March 2013 2:53 PM

To: media

Subject: Yabulu update

G'day,

I was hoping to find out whether the spill risk has decreased at the Yabulu nickel refinery? It was last reported as being between 3-4 per cent, as of January 1.

My deadline for this story is 6pm tonight,

Regards

Daniel

Daniel Bateman | Journalist

Townsville Bulletin


198-238 Ogden Street (PO Box 587), Townsville, QLD, 4810

Phone: +61 7 4722 4433 | Mobile: +61 protection of an i | Fax: +61 7 4722 4559

Email: daniel.bateman@news.com.au | Web: www.townsvillebulletin.com.au



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RTI DL Release

Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Yabulu refinery
For: Daniel Bateman – Townsville Bulletin
Date: Tuesday 5 March 2013

Please attribute the following to Rob Lawrence, Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Queensland Nickel has advised the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection the tailings storage dam is currently more than 1.2m below the spillway.

At this level, the dam has enough capacity to receive a significant amount of rainfall.

The department is working closely with Queensland Nickel on water management and monitoring compliance with the conditions of its Transitional Environmental Program (TEP).

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

RTI DL Release

blea

From: Wake Chris [Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2013 3:11 PM
To: 'Lukacs, George'
CC: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Butler Hamish
Subject: RE: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report
Attachments: 2-KEEPER-2040242-Media_response_Queensland_Nickel_Yabulu_refinery_spill_risk_follow_up_Townsville_Bulletin.doc

Due By: Monday, 5 December 8907 6:42 PM

Hi George,

The media response is attached.

Kind regards,
Chris

Christopher Wake
Principal Environmental Officer
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351
Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>

Pallarenda Rd Townsville, Queensland
PO Box 5318 Townsville, QLD, 4810

From: Lukacs, George [mailto:George.Lukacs@qni.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 8 March 2013 11:58 AM
To: Wake Chris
Cc: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Butler Hamish
Subject: RE: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report

Chris,

Thanks for the letter and we note the advice. QNI appreciates the understanding and can assure EHP we are striving to comply with the TEP conditions. Please note we have not been able to divert the Duckpond since January when the seepage was identified in the diversion drain. The good news is the works are now almost completed (see photo attached) and we should be able to recommence soon.

We also note the recent comments made by EHP to the media on the freeboard in the TSF and the much reduced spill risk. If possible, could you please send me the press release?

Thanks
George

George Lukacs | Director – Environment and Sustainability
QUEENSLAND NICKEL PTY LTD
Greenvale Street, Yabulu QLD 4818
P > +61 7 4720 6422 | F > +61 7 4751 1208 | M > +61 7 4751 1208 | **B(2) Disclosur**
E > George.Lukacs@qni.com.au

From: Wake Chris [mailto:Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Thursday, 7 March 2013 9:12 AM
To: Lukacs, George
Cc: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Butler Hamish
Subject: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report

Hi George,

Please find attached a scanned copy of correspondence from the department in relation to the first TEP monthly water quality report.

<<SKMBT_C45213030708270.pdf>>

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Chris

Christopher Wake

Principal Environmental Officer

Environmental Services & Regulation

Department of Environment & Heritage Protection

Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351

Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>

Pallarenda Rd Townsville, Queensland

PO Box 5318 Townsville, QLD, 4810

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Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Yabulu refinery
For: Daniel Bateman – Townsville Bulletin
Date: Tuesday 5 March 2013

Please attribute the following to Rob Lawrence, Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Queensland Nickel has advised the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection the tailings storage dam is currently more than 1.2m below the spillway.

At this level, the dam has enough capacity to receive a significant amount of rainfall.

The department is working closely with Queensland Nickel on water management and monitoring compliance with the conditions of its Transitional Environmental Program (TEP).

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

RTI DL Release

From: Wake Chris [Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:04 PM
To: Gonzo Gus
Subject: RE: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Christopher Wake
Principal Environmental Officer
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351
Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>
Pallarenda Rd Townsville, Queensland
PO Box 5318 Townsville, QLD, 4810

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has no information to suggest that there are **currently** any structural integrity issues with Queensland Nickel's tailings dam. Storage levels within the dam are presently considered to fall within acceptable risk ranges. Forward predictions indicate that further work is required at the site to adequately manage the spill risk for this coming wet season. In this regard EHP is working closely with Queensland Nickel, who are continuing to implement actions under a Transitional Environmental Program to reduce the spill risk prior to the coming wet season.

ENDS

From: Wake Chris [Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:16 PM
To: Gonzo Gus
Subject: RE: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Couple of minor changes...

Christopher Wake
Principal Environmental Officer
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351
Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>
Pallarenda Rd Townsville, Queensland
PO Box 5318 Townsville, QLD, 4810

From: Gonzo Gus
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:15 PM
To: Wake Chris
Subject: RE: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Thoughts

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has no information to suggest that there are currently any structural integrity issues with Queensland Nickel's tailings dam. Storage levels within the dam are considered to fall within acceptable risk ranges for this time of year. Queensland Nickel continue to operate under a Transitional Environmental Program. This TEP includes actions to make available additional storage prior to this coming wet season. The TEP actions are to be completed by Queensland Nickel by November 2013. The department will continue to monitor compliance with the TEP.

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 2:27 PM
To: Gonzo Gus; Wake Chris; Fegan Warwick
Subject: FW: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi urgent response required

Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma
Acting Regional Manager Mining and Compliance
Northern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
5b Sheridan Street
GPO Box 937
Cairns QLD 4870
Telephone: 07 4222 5337
Facsimile: 07 4222 5070
Email: Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au
You can visit us online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 2:26 PM
To: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid
Cc: media; Corro EHP ESR Northern
Subject: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi Ingrid,

We have just received an enquiry from The Australian seeking an update on the Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery. Questions are:

- Does the tailings dam still pose a risk?
- Are there any outstanding works the company is yet to complete?

Deadline COB today

Latest response (as at 14 Jan) is below. Is there any update to this?

Draft response: Please attribute the following to Andrew Connor, Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has approved Queensland Nickel's Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

These actions include diverting stormwater away from the tailings storage facility and constructing additional contaminated water storage capacity on site to reduce the spill risk to less than one percent by 1 November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

Thanks,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications

EHP | NPRSR

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

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Tel 07 3339 5830

www.ehp.qld.gov.au

www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

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From: Gonzo Gus [Gus.Gonzo@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 4:00 PM
To: Wake Chris
Subject: FW: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Advice?

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 4:01 PM
To: Gonzo Gus
Subject: RE: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi Gus,

What about this version?

Draft response: Please attribute the following to Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma, Acting Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) has no information to suggest any structural issues with Queensland Nickel's tailings dam and current dam storage levels are considered acceptable for this time of year.

Queensland Nickel continue to operate under a Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

Queensland Nickel are required to complete these actions by November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5830
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this message

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:52 PM
To: Gonzo Gus
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi Gus,

As discussed – response attached for your approval.

Once you are happy I will send to Ingrid for her approval (when available).

Draft response: Please attribute the following to Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma, Acting Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) has no information to suggest any structural issues with Queensland Nickel's tailings dam and current dam storage levels are considered acceptable for this time of year.

EHP has approved Queensland Nickel's Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

These actions include diverting stormwater away from the tailings storage facility and constructing additional contaminated water storage capacity on site to reduce the spill risk to less than one percent by 1 November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

Thanks,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5830
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this message

From: Gonzo Gus
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:38 PM
To: Davies Emma
Subject: FW: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian
Importance: High

Emma,
This has not been checked by Ingrid yet as she is tied up at present with a client.
I will call to discuss.,
Gus

From: Gonzo Gus
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 3:19 PM
To: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid (Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au)
Cc: Fegan Warwick; Wake Chris
Subject: FW: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian
Importance: High

Draft response. I will come down and talk with you about this one.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has no information to suggest that there are currently any structural integrity issues with Queensland Nickel's tailings dam. Storage levels within the dam are considered to fall within acceptable risk ranges for this time of year. Queensland Nickel continue to operate under a Transitional Environmental Program. This TEP includes actions to make available additional storage prior to this coming wet season. The TEP actions are to be completed by Queensland Nickel by November 2013. The department will continue to monitor compliance with the TEP.

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 2:27 PM
To: Gonzo Gus; Wake Chris; Fegan Warwick
Subject: FW: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi urgent response required

Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma
Acting Regional Manager Mining and Compliance
Northern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
5b Sheridan Street
GPO Box 937
Cairns QLD 4870
Telephone: 07 4222 5337
Facsimile: 07 4222 5070
Email: Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au
You can visit us online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 2:26 PM
To: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid
Cc: media; Corro EHP ESR Northern
Subject: Media enquiry: Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery update - The Australian

Hi Ingrid,

We have just received an enquiry from The Australian seeking an update on the Queensland Nickel Yabulu Refinery. Questions are:

- Does the tailings dam still pose a risk?
- Are there any outstanding works the company is yet to complete?

Deadline COB today

Latest response (as at 14 Jan) is below. Is there any update to this?

Draft response: Please attribute the following to Andrew Connor, Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has approved Queensland Nickel's Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

These actions include diverting stormwater away from the tailings storage facility and constructing additional contaminated water storage capacity on site to reduce the spill risk to less than one percent by 1 November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

Thanks,

Emma Davies
Media Officer | Media Services
Corporate Communications

EHP | NPRSR

media@ehp.qld.gov.au

media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane

Tel 07 3339 5830

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RTI DL Release

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid [Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 5:13 PM
To: Wake Chris; Gonzo Gus
Subject: FW: Media response - Queensland Nickel Yabulu
Attachments: KEEPER_n2174020_Media_response_-_Nickel_Yabulu_refinery_update.doc

Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma
Acting Regional Manager Mining and Compliance
Northern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
5b Sheridan Street
GPO Box 937
Cairns QLD 4870
Telephone: 07 4222 5337
Facsimile: 07 4222 5070
Email: Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au
You can visit us online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Hanson Anna
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2013 5:13 PM
To: frasera@theaustralian.com.au
Cc: media
Subject: Media response - Queensland Nickel Yabulu

Hi Andrew

Attached is a response to your questions.

Regards

Anna Hanson
Media Services
EHP | NPRSR
media@ehp.qld.gov.au
media@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Level 12 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3339 5845 | **Mobile** 0417 766 938

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Media response

Re: Queensland Nickel Yabulu refinery update

For: Andrew Fraser
The Australian
3666 7453
frasera@theaustralian.com.au

Date: 25 June 2013

Please attribute the following to Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma, Acting Executive Director, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

The Queensland Nickel's tailings dam storage levels are considered acceptable for this time of year.

Queensland Nickel continues to operate under a Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) which proposes various actions to reduce the risk of a release from the tailings storage facility.

Queensland Nickel is required to complete these actions by November 2013.

The department will continue to liaise with Queensland Nickel to monitor compliance with the TEP.

ENDS

For further media enquiries contact Media Services on (07) 3339 5831 or email media@ehp.qld.gov.au

RTI DL Release

lea

From: Gonzo Gus [Gus.Gonzo@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2013 9:12 AM
To: Wake Chris
Subject: FW: FYI - article in The Australian re Qld Nickel Yabulu

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2013 9:10 AM
To: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Gonzo Gus
Cc: media
Subject: FYI - article in The Australian re Qld Nickel Yabulu

FYI

Open your books, Palmer told

Australian, Australia by Hedley Thomas

27 Jun 2013

General News - page 6 - 380 words - ID 200739960 - Photo: No - Type: News Item - Size: 132.77cm²

CLIVE Palmer has been challenged by Queensland Premier Campbell Newman to make a "full and transparent" declaration of all his pecuniary interests amid escalating concerns over his capacity to operate his businesses.

Mr Newman, who has previously expressed concern over the operation of the tycoon's nickel refinery in Townsville and resort at Coolum, told The Australian yesterday it was time for Mr Palmer to "stop the obfuscation and temper tantrums".

Senior figures in the Liberal National Party, which counted Mr Palmer a life member and its largest single donor until a public split last year, remain worried at the potential environmental risk to the Great Barrier Reef and the cost of remediation to the refinery's tailings dam.

Mr Palmer has previously warned that Townsville residents would die in the event of the toxic dams overflowing in a north Queensland wet season.

Sources close to the refinery have said that Queensland Nickel's balance sheet, which has been under serious strain due to a low nickel price and the transfer of tens of millions of dollars for unrelated ventures including his loss-making Palmer Coolum Resort, does not have the finances to fund a dam upgrade.

Financial cutbacks have resulted in maintenance staff being told not to perform maintenance work at the ageing refinery.

Mr Newman said Mr Palmer's repeated claims of billionaire wealth would ring hollow on the election trail in his quest to be prime minister unless he showed Australians the money.

"Mr Palmer is actually in a similar position to the one I was in during the 2011-12 state election campaign," he said. "He is running for the position of prime minister from outside the parliament and Australians need to be assured he is an open book and that his personal financial dealings are beyond reproach.

"I think it's entirely appropriate that Mr Palmer completes the pecuniary interest disclosure forms required of federal parliamentarians and publishes them on his party's website. I did it when I was running for premier." Mr Palmer, who has pledged to field 150 candidates in seats across the country under his Palmer United Party banner, did not reply to the request for comment yesterday.

But in Townsville on Monday he played down concerns about the tailings dam and said a team of environmental scientists had achieved a reduction in its levels of about 20 per cent.

Emma Davies
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RTI DL Release

From: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid [Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2013 10:14 AM
To: Wake Chris; Fegan Warwick
Subject: FW: FYI - article in The Australian re Qld Nickel Yabulu

Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma
Acting Regional Manager Mining and Compliance
Northern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
5b Sheridan Street
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Email: Ingrid.FomiattiMinnesma@ehp.qld.gov.au
You can visit us online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Davies Emma
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2013 9:10 AM
To: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Gonzo Gus
Cc: media
Subject: FYI - article in The Australian re Qld Nickel Yabulu

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RTI DL Release

From: Wake Chris [Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 29 July 2013 12:09 PM
To: Milton Kerrie
Subject: FW: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report
Attachments: Additional HDPE 1.jpg

Hi Kerrie,

Here is the full version of the email.

Cheers,
C

Christopher Wake
Principal Environmental Officer
Environmental Services & Regulation
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351
Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>
Pallarenda Rd Townsville, Queensland
PO Box 5318 Townsville, QLD, 4810

From: Lukacs, George [mailto:George.Lukacs@qni.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 8 March 2013 11:58 AM
To: Wake Chris
Cc: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Butler Hamish
Subject: RE: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report

Chris,

Thanks for the letter and we note the advice. QNI appreciates the understanding and can assure EHP we are striving to comply with the TEP conditions. Please note we have not been able to divert the Duckpond since January when the seepage was identified in the diversion drain. The good news is the works are now almost completed (see photo attached) and we should be able to recommence soon.

We also note the recent comments made by EHP to the media on the freeboard in the TSF and the much reduced spill risk. If possible, could you please send me the press release?

Thanks
George

George Lukacs | Director – Environment and Sustainability
QUEENSLAND NICKEL PTY LTD
Greenvale Street, Yabulu QLD 4818
P > +61 7 4720 6422 | F > +61 7 4751 1208 | M > +61 7 4751 1208 | **B(2) Disclosur**
E > George.Lukacs@qni.com.au

From: Wake Chris [mailto:Chris.Wake@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 7 March 2013 9:12 AM
To: Lukacs, George
Cc: Fomiatti Minnesma Ingrid; Butler Hamish
Subject: Letter regarding TEP Monthly Water Quality Report

Hi George,

Please find attached a scanned copy of correspondence from the department in relation to the first TEP monthly water quality report.

<<SKMBT_C45213030708270.pdf>>

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Chris

Christopher Wake

Principal Environmental Officer

Environmental Services & Regulation

Department of Environment & Heritage Protection

Telephone (07) 4722 5371 **Facsimile** (07) 4722 5351

Email: chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au <<mailto:chris.wake@ehp.qld.gov.au>>

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RTI/DL Release

