

CARMICHAEL: INDIAN COMPANY'S MINE COULD FUNNEL \$3.75 BILLION INTO MACKAY ECONOMY

Adani plans gigantic mine

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INDIAN mining juggernaut Adani's mega Carmichael mine is primed to power the Mackay region for the next 90 years, pumping billions into the Central Queensland economy.

The scale and ambition of the undertaking is made clear in the environmental impact statement released by the State Government this week.

As it develops on 44,700 hectares in the northern Galilee Basin west of Moranbah, the Carmichael Coal project will pump \$78 million into the area each year.

COMPLEX | Chamber of Commerce's view

WHILE Adani's proposed mega mine is great news, Mackay Region Chamber of Commerce chairman Tim Miles said there was a lot more to think about.

"From a business community point of view, we'll always cheer for any development projects on the horizon," Mr Miles said.

The \$6.1 billion plan is to build a gigantic mine and a 189km rail line to link into current corridors already in the Bowen Basin mining area.

That will link to the Abbot Point Coal Terminal near Bo-

However, he said it was important to consider the cumulative impacts.

"What happens within the boom times... cost of living, cost of housing, cost of doing business, housing shortages.

"That's where we need to focus our attention... We need to take a holistic approach to these projects."

wen or the still-in-planning Dudgeon Point terminal to be built south of Mackay.

During construction, the project would deliver the equivalent of 378 jobs to the area and a total of 1192 full-time jobs across the state.

ADANI SIMPLY A 'CASH COW'

ADANI'S Carmichael coal mega mine will take Queensland in the wrong direction, says Greens candidate for Dawson Jonathon Dykyj.

He said economic and environmental sustainability was needed.

"The government and the companies are only looking at the short term economic

If approvals go well, Carmichael could be operating from 2016.

For its first seven years after construction ends, Adani will push the site towards hitting its target of exporting 60 million tonnes per year.

benefit," he said.

"This is not a sustainable option, not in any way, shape or form."

Mr Dykyj challenged the government to consider the renewable energy industry.

"When are they going to kick their addiction to the cash cow of coal and gas," he asked.

Once it does – and the plan is to do just that by 2020 – a further \$3.75 billion will be funnelled into the Mackay economy.

According to Adani, more than 4000 new jobs will be created in the region, with

6789 created throughout Queensland.

The race to develop the Galilee is a close one.

Adani's Indian peer GVK appears to be leading, having won state and federal approvals for its Alpha coal mine, rail and port project.

US firm AMCI is rushing its own plans with Bandanna Energy to build a \$4.2 billion coal mine in the same area but is still waiting on a new decision by the Queensland Coordinator General.

Adani chief executive officer for Australia Harsh Mishra said the company was committed to the Carmichael project.

He said it remained on schedule.