



Gecko - Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council Assn Inc.

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The Mayor and All Councillors
City of Gold Coast.

Dear Councillors,

Re: ASF Proposal for a casino with integrated resort development and cruise terminal in the Broadwater.

Gecko understands that today you will have the responsibility of deciding if this gross overdevelopment on Wavebreak Island and in the waters of the Broadwater will continue. A number of you have already decided that it is a totally unacceptable development and inexcusable to give away such valuable public open space for the benefit of a corporation; some of you will support it regardless of the lack of facts presented to the public and Council and others of you are undecided.

Over 10,000 Gold Coaster signed a petition opposing this development, which was presented to State Government . This is surely a better gauge of public opinion than the sham community consultation undertaken by ASF Consortium.

Gecko asks that you vote against this proposal for the following reasons:-

1. The community of the Gold Coast will lose 60 hectares of much needed and **irreplaceable public open space** and the surrounding waters of the Broadwater for a casino and the commercial benefit of an overseas company.
2. The **natural environment of the Broadwater will be destroyed** by the impacts of this development and the dredging for the cruise ships.
 - We will lose the amazing marine biodiversity which included Federally listed species such as dugong, Green turtles, Humpback whales, sea horses and migratory birds for which we are responsible under International treaties; (VDM Report 2012)
 - We will lose a wonderful scenic amenity which will be replaced by a replica of Surfers Paradise;
 - We will lose those small businesses that depend on the Broadwater for their existence.
 - We will lose a recreational asset which can never be replaced worth \$818 million.

We remind you that the Urbis Economic Report of 2012, which was hidden from the public, valued the Broadwater now at \$4.16 billion.

3. The community, and we assume Council, have **never been presented with any hard facts** to back ASF's grandiose claims of feasibility or economic benefit to the city.

4. The **so-called community consultation** in October consisted of two workshops with 47 people (from a population of 600,00) who were given no additional information other than the latest artist's impressions and in which the casino was not mentioned. The previous push-poll consultation in April has been discredited by Deputy Premier Seeney and yet it is being included in the report to State Government. You may recall the Mayor promised that every Gold Coast would be consulted. Over 10,000 Gold Coasters signed a petition opposing this development.

5. The proposal by ASF can only be described as **obscenely large** with its tripling of the size of Wavebreak Island and take over of the small island to the north of Wavebreak. This is no small cruise terminal originally mooted (not mandated) by the Mayor in 2012.

6. No Councillor or State Government member has ever explained why they are considering doing business with a Consortium which includes **two companies that have been banned by the World Bank** for 8 years for fraud and corruption. The companies are China Communications Construction Company Ltd and China State Construction Engineering Corporations and the information is readily available on this website <http://web.worldbank.org/external/default/main?theSitePK=84266&contentMDK=64069844&menuPK=116730&pagePK=64148989&piPK=64148984>.

7. The impact of such a massive development on city infrastructure is unacceptable.

8. There is no reason why ASF Consortium cannot buy their own suitably zoned land for their IRD proposal rather than taking over our irreplaceable public open space which essential to a growing population.

We ask that you vote not to continue with this totally unacceptable development proposal and instead proceed with a sustainable management plan for the Broadwater following full consultation with the people of the Gold Coast who will have to live with your decision.

Yours sincerely

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