

**Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited  
Port of Airlie Marina:**

**Coordinator-General's change report no. 1  
Extension of dredging timeframe**

**August 2014**

**The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning is responsible for driving the economic development of Queensland.**

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## Background

The *Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited Port of Airlie Marina project – Coordinator-General's evaluation report for an environmental impact statement* (Coordinator-General's report) was released in December 2003, pursuant to section 35 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (SDPWO Act).

On 25 August 2014, the proponent applied to the Coordinator-General to evaluate proposed changes to the Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited Port of Airlie Marina project (Port of Airlie project), under Division 3A, section 35C of the SDPWO Act (the Act). In accordance with section 35H of the Act, the Coordinator-General has evaluated the environmental effects of these proposed changes, their effect on the project and any other related matters, and prepared this Coordinator-General's change report under section 35I of the SDPWO Act.

## Project history

The project involves, amongst other things, the construction and operation of a long distance ferry terminal, which requires dredging of an access channel and ferry terminal basin. Implementation of the ferry terminal and associated access channel was delayed due to the project's financial difficulty. The project is currently in receivership.

Cruise Whitsundays has entered into a contract with the proponent to build and operate the ferry terminal, with operations intended to commence in late September 2014.

Amendments to the environmental management plan (EMP) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) were required prior to the commencement of dredging. The amended EMP was submitted to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment (DE) on 17 March 2014. The amendments were approved on 22 May 2014.


According to the project's EPBC Act Approval 2001/298, Environmental Authority EPR00332613 and my imposed condition listed in the Coordinator-General's Report on the project, the approved 'dredging timeframe' is March to August (inclusive) each year.

Dredging commenced on 2 July 2014 and is expected to take up to 3 months to complete. The proponent determined that dredging cannot be completed by the end of the approved 'dredging timeframe' on 31 August 2014. Hence an extension of the dredging timeframe is required.

## Other relevant approvals

An extension of the dredging timeframe, from June to October 2008, was requested and approved by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) and DE in 2008. An extension was not sought from the Coordinator-General in 2008.

DEHP and DE have both approved the requested extension of the dredging timeframe in 2014.

<b>The project proponent</b>	Meridien Airlie Beach Pty Ltd (Receivers & Managers Appointed) (In Liquidation) and Meridien AB Pty Ltd (Receivers & Managers Appointed) (In Liquidation)
<b>The project</b>	Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited Port of Airlie Marina project (Port of Airlie project)
<b>Proposed changes to the project</b>	Proposed change will streamline operational phase audit processes, which will assist in the efficient delivery of Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited Port of Airlie Marina project's compliance.
<b>Decision</b>	Changes approved as outlined in Appendix 1
<b>Date of effect</b>	Pursuant to section 35J of the SDPWO Act, approved changes take effect from the date of the decision.
<b>Decision authorised by</b>	Barry Broe
<b>Position</b>	Coordinator-General
<b>Signature</b>	 <b>Date of decision</b> 29 August 2014

Pursuant to section 35K of the SDPWO Act, the Coordinator-General's report on the EIS for the project, and the Coordinator-General's change report, both have effect for the project. However, if the reports conflict, the Coordinator-General's change report prevails to the extent of any perceived inconsistency.

## Appendix 1. Changes to Whitsunday Sailing Club and Transtate Limited Port of Airlie Marina project conditions

Coordinator-General evaluation report	Coordinator-General change report
<p><b>Appendix 1, Schedule 1, Condition 4c</b></p> <p>4. c) Construction channel dredging should take place between March and August in any year to minimise impacts on seagrasses and corals and to avoid the cyclone season.</p>	<p><b>Amend Appendix 1, Schedule 1, Condition 4c</b></p> <p>4. c) Construction channel dredging should take place between March and August in any year to minimise impacts on seagrasses and corals and to avoid the cyclone season. For the year 2014, maintenance dredging may be undertaken until 30 September.</p>