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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Shire of Broome Council Disappointed at Not Being Advised of Delayed Release of the LNG Strategic Assessment Report

The Shire of Broome is frustrated and disappointed that the revised public release date of the Strategic Assessment Report is being mooted to be pushed back into the Christmas holiday period.

“Council was led to believe that the report will be released end of November,” said Broome Shire President Graeme Campbell.

“I announced the end of November as the public release date in good faith to members of our community at the recent Special Electors Meeting. Councillors were subsequently independently advised this isn’t the case and the report will be delayed,” said Cr Campbell.

The State had not advised of us this recent development. The State has taken on a “mushroom mentality” towards the community of Broome as the report nears release.

“We have now been informed by the Department of State Development the plan is likely to be released the week of 6 December for a public comment period of 10-12 weeks, should it receive Environmental Protection Authority endorsement.

“We have not been advised formally of the State’s community consultation intentions at this time.

“It is clear the State Government doesn’t have an understanding of how our community operates.

“The public comment period conveniently coincides with a large number of our community leaving town over the wet and this leads to cynicism from community lobby groups.

“With school holidays and the festive season during the public comment period it is unfortunate that the Government would choose to release the report at this time, albeit there are circumstances that have caused this.

“Our community is now asking the Shire to provide them with accurate information about the LNG precinct as the State Government’s information releases are considered inadequate. They will be justifiably angry with the amended release date of the report.

“Some members of our community have made it clear to us that they are frustrated by the lack of communication by the State Government. As a Council we ask the State Government and associated parties to treat the Council and our community with respect and honesty,” said Cr Campbell.

Ends

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