



ACS

Australian Coastal Society Ltd

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26 February 2015

The Hon. Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for the Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001
e-mail: environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister,

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister for the Environment and Heritage Protection, National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef. We wish you every success in this challenging position.

On behalf of the Australian Coastal Society (ACS), I would like to draw your urgent attention to the Queensland Coastal Plan that was produced by the previous Labor Government in 2011. It was released by the then Deputy Premier, The Hon. Paul Lucas MP, and Minister for the Environment and Resource Management, The Hon. Kate Jones MP. The Plan was swiftly abandoned by the Newman Government without considering the current and long term consequences of removing this plan.

ACS is of the view that the Queensland Coastal Plan is an outstanding example of a Plan which brings together policies for both coastal management and coastal planning. Its aim was to ensure that precious coastal qualities are preserved and infrastructure and livelihoods are protected from coastal hazard impacts. Queensland is the most vulnerable state in Australia to coastal hazards and deserves to have a well-articulated and comprehensive plan to meet the challenges of the future.

We compliment the then Labor Government, the officials and communities who worked so hard in bringing this plan to fruition. It was tragic when the Newman Government abandoned it. ACS strongly recommends that the new Labor Government reissues the Queensland Coastal Plan as a matter of priority.

We would be happy to discuss further with you and your colleagues the need to reintroduce this Plan.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geoffrey C. Wescott". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Associate Professor Geoffrey Wescott
President, Australian Coastal Society Ltd