



3 October 2017

Malcolm Turnbull MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2060

Dear Prime Minister.

I write to add the voice of members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) to those of many other Australians of faith who counsel against new developments in the extraction and sale for burning of fossil fuels. We are convinced of the truth of the advice of experienced authorities like former senior fossil fuel industry executive Ian Dunlop who recently noted ‘that the most dangerous aspect of fossil-fuel investments made today is that their impacts do not manifest themselves for decades to come. If we wait for catastrophe to happen — as we are doing — it will be too late to act.’

In particular I refer to the proposed Carmichael coal project in Queensland together with the rail link from the Galilee basin to the coast for which the Adani Corporation is seeking a \$1 billion loan through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF).

Apart from this project failing the moral test not to exacerbate global warming, Australian Quakers submit that the whole Adani project (even in capitalist terms) is an economically irresponsible initiative. This is evident from the fact that it has to rely on the public purse as a life support system since the private banking system will not support it.

It is further a moral travesty in our opinion that the project has been given free, unlimited access to groundwater from the Great Artesian Basin until 2077, and will draw an estimated 355 billion litres of water over the projected life of the mine with likely devastating consequences in the driest continent in the world.

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Quakers strongly support the view of faith leaders who recently made representations to the Minister for the Environment and Energy that the Adani coal mine, if allowed to proceed, will hasten a climate catastrophe. The nations of the world through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement are endeavouring to stem the worldwide emission of greenhouse gases. We submit that it will be seen by others to be reckless in the extreme for wealthy Australia to allow proceeding with a venture which will eventually result in the release to the atmosphere of about 3,000 megatonnes of carbon dioxide in the first 25 years of its life.

Joining with the faith leaders who met with Mr. Frydenberg in August, we request that the Australian government revoke the environmental licence of the proposed Adani coal mines.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J.R. Jordan" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jo Jordan  
Presiding Clerk  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia

cc: Anastacia Palaszczuk, Premier of Queensland