

Media Release

9 August 2017

Port Hedland Industries Council supports Taskforce report recommendations

The Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC) welcomes the release of the recommendations of the *Port Hedland Dust Management Taskforce Report to Government*, and encourages all stakeholders to support the findings of the report.

A PHIC spokesperson said the Taskforce report takes a balanced approach to addressing the competing priorities of multiple stakeholders and lays the essential foundation to allow the port and the town to continue to grow.

“The Taskforce response is also good news for the more than 3000 workers directly employed at the port and their families and the thousands of other Port Hedland and WA workers and businesses who indirectly rely on the ports activities for their jobs or business.

“Industry acknowledges community concerns and is committed to working with the government and the community to ensure the long-term prosperity of Port Hedland.

“There is no disputing the value of industry to the local community, the state and the nation. The resources industry in the Pilbara is the powerhouse of economic growth for Western Australian and the Port Hedland Port is central to that.”

Statistics released in April 2017 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (formerly DMP) show that in 2016 the Pilbara region contributed \$53.9 billion towards the State’s economy, with \$52.2 billion generated from the iron ore industry.

Since the release of the Taskforce’s *2010 Port Hedland Dust Management Plan* iron ore exports have increased substantially - growing from 167 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) in 2010 to 494.6mtpa at the end of June 2017. Despite the significant increase in port activity, dust emissions remain within the recommended guidelines due to major port users implementing significant dust management measures.

PHIC remains committed to working with government to ensure stakeholders trust the monitoring data of the air quality monitoring network and will continue to work closely with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to achieve this objective.

Industry is committed to listening closely and responding to community concerns. In line with this PHIC has more recently expanded its remit and is seeking to engage more widely with the community and a range of stakeholders.

To support this initiative, PHIC has launched a more user-friendly website and is working to make scientific information more accessible. Visit our new website www.phic-hedland.com.au

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About PHIC

The Port Hedland Industries Council (PHIC) contributes to the scientific understanding of air quality in Port Hedland and promotes the sustainable co-existence of Industry and Community.

An incorporated member based organisation, PHIC works to collectively address industry issues, particularly in relation to the use of the Port Hedland Port.

PHIC provides a forum for information sharing and knowledge transfer, assists member companies manage and minimise the impacts of industry on the community and facilitates community and stakeholder engagement.

The organisation seeks to achieve its goals by focusing on developing and employing leading edge technology and by taking a committed, proactive approach to environmental protection.

PHIC was established by industry in 2009, and in line with the Port Hedland Dust and Noise Taskforce recommendations, its focus for the past few years has been on:

- Managing an integrated air quality (and noise) monitoring program in Port Hedland
- Delivering technical information to the Port Hedland community about the impacts of dust and noise.

This network provides an environmental monitoring and reporting system for Port Hedland, including access to real-time monitoring data for the community and general public via a [monitoring website](#).

As member organisation PHIC has evolved to become a single industry wide point of contact, facilitating community engagement in relation to the environment, public health and safety and industrial development.

www.phic-hedland.com.au