

Caboolture's Northeast Business park takes major step towards approval

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04 NOV 09 @ 03:27PM



Thumbs up... Jeff Smith, Madonna Lumley and Jon Sullivan, all support the NEBP project.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) for a \$628 million business, marine and residential precinct near Caboolture has been given conditional approval by Queensland Coordinator-General Colin Jensen.

Northeast Business Park Pty Ltd's proposal to develop a 769-hectare ex-pine plantation riverfront site has the potential to create up to 13,600 direct jobs and homes for 5,500 permanent residents, according to Infrastructure and Planning Minister Stirling Hinchliffe.

The site is four kilometres east of the Caboolture town centre, bounded by the Bruce Highway to the west and by the Caboolture River to the north, with about nine kilometres of direct river frontage.

Mr Hinchliffe said the proposed development would support a range of business and industry uses integrated with commercial, retail, residential, recreation and environmental areas.

"While the project includes development of 169 hectares of land, and more than 100 hectares of mixed-density residential development, it is proposed more than half of the site will be set aside as open space," he said.

Member for Murrumba Dean Wells said the proposed marina component would accommodate 911 wet berths and a dry boat storage facility will provide further accommodation for 300 to 500 boats.

Coordinator-General Colin Jensen said the existing water quality of the Caboolture River estuary was poor (rating D-), and the proposed development had potential benefits for improving it over the long-term.

He said there would be a significant benefit to the community, but the plans would be subject to a number of specific conditions to manage its design, construction and operation.

The final report will now be forwarded the Federal Environment Minister to assess matters of national environmental significance.

More to come...

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