

MEDIA RELEASE

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GLADSTONE INDUSTRY UNITES WITH A NEW APPROACH **“Fear and stress about air emissions can’t be ignored”**

MEDIA LAUNCH

Tuesday 16th December 2008

10am –12noon

Auckland Hill, Gladstone, QLD



Five of Gladstone’s key industry leaders will today launch a formal industry association which will focus on improving environmental transparency, community engagement and ultimately, industry performance.

Members of the industry association, called **Gladstone Industry Leadership Group**, aim to build an open and trusting relationship between industry and the community.

“Only by listening and responding to the community’s concerns, and working effectively with government, will we be able to partner on projects that will ultimately provide long-term benefits to the Gladstone region,” says Chairman of the Gladstone Industry Leadership Group, Mr Doug Grimmond.

“At the moment many people are concerned about impact of emissions in Gladstone. The State Government’s preliminary health study has not found any significant health risks. However, we are aware that some are still not convinced or reassured by the findings because they want to know more about our emissions.”

“This is why it is important that industry openly provides information about its environmental licenses and emissions. The community must also feel that they have the opportunity to discuss, debate or dispute that information,” says Mr Grimmond.

The community visioning project, Gladstone Region 2028 Vision, also highlighted a strong desire in the community for industry to take a leadership role.

“We heard the message loud and clear from recent stakeholder interviews that the community wanted industry to demonstrate environmental transparency, to engage more effectively with the community and to be accountable.”

“We have now committed to a rigorous community participation program. This commitment includes the development of a website providing information about our license conditions and the content, level and impact of our emissions.”

“The program will also enable the community to voice their concerns and give feedback about our performance. We will be reaching out to all of those who want to be involved, from the activists to the general community, to find out exactly how they might expect us to change” says Mr Grimmond.

Over the next three months, sustainability strategic advisers Futureye will work with Gladstone Industry Leadership Group to establish the program with stakeholder input. We invite any member of the community that wants to participate in the process to contact:

Futureye’s project manager, Caroline Baxter, on 0438 358 188 or (03) 8636 1111.

For further information or to arrange an interview with Doug Grimmond, please call:

Amy Trott, Consultant, Futureye on 0408 881 668 or 03 8636 1111 or at amyt@futureye.com

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Gladstone Industry Leadership Group Board is comprised of:

- **Doug Grimmond (Chair) – Rio Tinto Alcan Yawun Refinery**
- **Phil Campbell – Queensland Alumina Limited**
- **Brian Cooper – Boyne Smelters Limited**
- **Kevin Doyle – Cement Australia**
- **Glenn Schumacher – NRG**

Our objectives are to:

1. Promote sustainable development of industrial resources in the Gladstone region
2. Enhance health, safety & environmental performance and community wellbeing to make the Gladstone region a desirable location to live, work and raise a family
3. Enable community input and access to industrial resource planning and operations in the Gladstone region
4. Promote high standards of business ethics and sustainable work practices in industries operating in or planned for the Gladstone region
5. Increase 'corporate citizenship', including involvement in partnerships, contributing to the development of physical and community infrastructure and greater reporting and monitoring through the use of environmental and social scorecards
6. Investigate synergistic areas of common interest, especially with regard to health and safety and labour force recruitment as well as sustainable resource use and waste recovery, for the Gladstone region's industries
7. Ensure industry is responsive to emerging sustainability requirements
8. Commission research and reports on areas of interest to Members and to present relevant findings to the local community, government and other bodies to support the responsible development of industries in the Gladstone region
9. Be part of new ways of thinking and acting regionally, by participating in planning for the whole Gladstone region and through consulting with affected residents and people

Code of Conduct

Members must commit to principles of behaviour that contribute to community engagement and stakeholder support for sustainable development of industrial resources in the Gladstone region, such as:

1. Integrating sustainable development principles within the corporate decision making processes
2. Implementing effective & transparent communication with stakeholders including independently verified reporting processes
3. Implementing processes, plans and key performance indicators (KPIs) to seek continual improvement in environmental performance
4. Implementing processes, plans and key performance indicators (KPIs) to seek continual improvement in the health & safety of the workforce and the community
5. Implementing risk management strategies that are based on valid data and sound science
6. Contributing to conservation, mitigating impacts on biodiversity, and applying integrated approaches to land use planning
7. Encouraging and facilitating responsible product design, transportation, use, recycling & waste disposal
8. Contributing to the social, economic and institutional development of the local community
9. Upholding fundamental human rights and respecting cultures, customs & values in dealings with employees and the local community
10. Implementing & maintaining ethical businesses and sound systems of corporate governance