



## **GREAT KEPPEL ISLAND**

Capricorn Conservation Council welcomes the proposal to re-build an ecologically friendly resort within the existing footprint on Great Keppel Island.

CCC Coordinator Michael McCabe said, “CCC is very supportive of the proposal for Great Keppel to again become a desirable tourism destination, as long as the resort improves, rather than degrades the island and reef environment. We have been writing to government agencies for many years about the deterioration of GKI’s environment (weeds, goats, erosion) and agree on the benefits of a suitable resort proposal. This must include appropriate environmental management actions to protect marine and island habitats.”

“We do not support the construction of a marina in the GBR Marine Park and oppose the intrusion of apartments, villas and golf courses onto public land on Lot 21. The current proposal raises potential daily visitor numbers from several hundred to several thousand. This would put too much strain on the environment as well as destroy the essential character and attractiveness of the Island,” Mr McCabe said.

“Keppel Bay Islands and Reef are under pressure from recent floods and CCC supports the need for more study of our natural systems and their adaption to more extreme weather events, plus the impacts of coastal population and industrial growth. We need to proceed cautiously before we ‘love to death’ our natural environment as has happened in some other localities. Tower Holdings has to show they have genuine environmental aims and must provide much more information about the overall nature and specific locations of their proposal,” Mr McCabe said.

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