



Acid Spill Concerns

“The sulphuric acid spill into Boat Creek at Yarwun is another example of the need to exercise greater precaution with environmental control measures,” Michael McCabe, Coordinator for the Capricorn Conservation Council said today.

“Boat Creek runs into the Gladstone Harbour sea grass beds which support Dugong, shore birds, turtles and dolphins and, is an essential fish habitat. This area is already coming under enormous pressure from dredging and landfill for the LNG industry and port facilities,” Mr McCabe said.

“While early reports indicate that environmental harm may have been minimal due to high storm run-off and tidal flushing, we worry about the cumulative impacts and we may not be so lucky when the next breach occurs.”

“Industrial ‘accidents’ and severe weather events have already shown the limitations of environmental conditions to prevent harm to natural systems. We are concerned we will see more instances where controls fail or companies take short cuts, or don’t comply with the rules”.

“The promise of economic growth will seem quite hollow if we discover, too late, that we have caused permanent harm to our coastal ecosystems, including fish habitats and Australia’s food security.”
