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30 March 2026

To Sarah,

In accordance with condition 8 of Sea Dumping Permit no. SD2023-4053, Gladstone Port Corporation Limited (GPCL) submits to the Minister for approval, an addendum to the current Long-term Maintenance Dredging Management Plan for the Port of Bundaberg.

Please see included for the proposed addendum (Appendix 1).

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Charissa Allan, Environment Superintendent, on 0474 576 950 or via email allanc@gpcl.com.au.

Kind regards,



Colin Simpson
Safety & Environment Manager
Gladstone Ports Corporation

APPENDIX 1: Proposed Amendment to LMDMP

Within the Long-term Maintenance Dredging Management Plan for the Port of Bundaberg (LMDMP), Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited (GPC) has committed to a two (2) week pre-dredging water quality monitoring program. This monitoring is to establish a baseline water quality for the river prior to dredging commencing. This assists in determining if the dredging work is having a detrimental effect on the waterway.

The Burnett River has been in high flow conditions since 10 March 2026 and, due to dam regulation activities at the upstream Paradise Dam, it is anticipated that this will be steady state for at least another four (4) to six (6) weeks to enable the Paradise Dam to return to a safe operating level. The Burnett River and Port of Bundaberg (PoB) are experiencing elevated turbidity levels which exceed the current turbidity trigger commitments.

On this basis, GPC proposes to implement an alternative monitoring procedure for the period of 1 April to 30 May 2026 to enable urgent maintenance dredging works to be carried out at the PoB. All other maintenance dredging outside of this period will be undertaken in accordance with the existing LMDMP and PoB Maintenance Dredging Environmental Monitoring Procedure.

To confirm dredging is not impacting the water quality, an alternative monitoring strategy will be applied due to the two-week pre-dredging monitoring being ineffective. The alternative monitoring will be undertaken at two locations:

- upstream of the dredging area ("BRU", coordinates -24.787717, 152.384717) and
- adjacent to the shipping channel dredging area ("BRM", coordinates -24.755083, 152.407367).

Data will be collected using dual sub-surface multiparameter sondes measuring physicochemical parameters, including turbidity, temperature, conductivity, pH, and dissolved oxygen, at 15-minute intervals. All other monitoring activities will be carried out in accordance with the current GPC Environmental Monitoring Procedure for the PoB maintenance dredging program.

Background

The monitoring and management of dredging activities at the PoB are critical to ensuring that potential environmental impacts are effectively controlled. This involves identifying sensitive environmental receptors, assessing environmental risks, and implementing appropriate mitigation measures.

A recent major flood event has led to the substantial transport of benthic material from the Burnett River catchment into the PoB. As a result, the shipping channel and swing basin have become heavily silted,

preventing access for large vessels. Queensland Maritime Services has closed the port to large vessels until they can safely enter, berth and leave the channel. Currently, there is a Local Emergency Disaster Response in place due to the flooding of the river. The state government has declared the flooding “An Applicable Event” under the Planning Act.

A hydrographic survey conducted on 18 March 2026 confirmed that maintenance dredging is required to restore safe navigation within the Port.

The Port of Brisbane has advised GPC that the dredge Brisbane is available to commence works at the PoB on 1 April 2026. Given the recent cyclone event in Northern Queensland there is significant demand for the dredge vessel. If this opportunity is not utilised, the vessel will not be available again until at least 15 May 2026, potentially causing significant and ongoing loss of revenue for customers, the state and Australia.

The proposed dredging program will be undertaken in accordance with Sea Dumping Permit No. SD2023-4053 and does not impact on the at sea dumping arrangements.