

The Hon Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

The recent release by the Australian Heritage Council of its preliminary assessment of the natural and cultural heritage values of the Kimberley is a positive step forward in protecting this unique part of Australia. The area under assessment covers almost 20 million hectares of spectacular and unspoiled land and sea environments.

I congratulate your Government on the foresight in initiating this assessment and hope that it will contribute to the conservation of one of the world's most intact cultural and natural landscapes.

However, I remain very concerned about plans for a huge industrial gas site at James Price Point, on the pristine coast just north of Broome. The site would require up to 2,500 hectares of woodland to be cleared, including rare remnant rainforests, large scale dredging and blasting of coral reefs, a breakwater up to 7km long, and up to 1500 LNG tanker movements per year.

James Price Point is home to Australia's own Flatback turtles and Snubfin dolphins, as well as Humpback whales and their calves, amazing coral systems, seagrass meadows and monsoon vine thickets. It is internationally recognised as one of the least impacted coastlines - outside of the polar regions - in the world.

This is no place for such a large, destructive and polluting industrial project – especially when other options exist.

I want your Government to:

- Rule out any LNG industrial gas site at James Price Point or anywhere on the Kimberley coast;
- Explore alternative options for the development of the Browse Basin gas field, including floating LNG technology and/or piping the resource to existing heavy industry infrastructure in the Pilbara;
- Ensure that Indigenous people of the Kimberley receive the education, health and employment services that all Australians are entitled to. These services must not be dependent upon industrial developments that compromise the long-term health of the environment and the natural and cultural resources of Aboriginal lands;
- Create large, science-based, marine sanctuaries as part of the current Commonwealth North-West marine planning process;
- Ensure much more stringent regulation of the oil and gas sector off the Kimberley coast so there is never again a repeat of the Montara drilling rig disaster.

Thank you for your consideration of this correspondence. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Name

Address

Email

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