



Lindeman Great Barrier Reef Resort Project – Economic Benefits Fact Sheet

Economic Benefits Fact Sheet

The proposed redevelopment and expansion of the Lindeman Island Resort is expected to provide large positive economic benefits. In summary, the key economic benefits of the project include:

- (a) Restoring a currently closed key tourism accommodation facility to operational status;
- (b) Assisting the Region to attain its goal of almost doubling visitor expenditure (as included in the State's DestinationQ Blueprint) through the reopening and expansion of a key tourism facility;
- (c) Adding \$480m during construction to the Mackay Region's Gross Regional Product over a three and a half year period;
- (d) Generating total employment during construction of 1,750 person years (FTE) in the Mackay Region. Due to the expected three and a half year construction period, this translates to an average of 490 persons (FTE) over this period;
- (e) Adding \$140m (gross) or \$100m (net) during operations to the Mackay Region's annual Gross Regional Product, where "gross" assumes that all visitors would not have otherwise stayed elsewhere in the Region and "net" assumes that 30% of visitors would have stayed elsewhere in the Region;
- (f) Generating total employment during operations of 800 (gross) and 560 (net) (FTE) persons in the Mackay Region, where "gross" assumes that all visitors would not have otherwise stayed elsewhere in the Region and "net" assumes that 30% of visitors would have stayed elsewhere in the Region;
- (g) Generating a Net Present Value to the community of between \$69m and \$237m, indicating that from an economic viability viewpoint the project should proceed;
- (h) Generating a positive impact upon the local marine transport operators through the need for a significant increase in visitors being transported between Lindeman Island and the mainland; and
- (i) Generating a positive lift in backpacker visitors to the Mackay and Whitsunday Region, as an increase in operational staff stimulates this market, which is an important source of operational labour.

The region's high unemployment levels at present and expected over the next few years will prevent the resort construction or operational phases from placing undue price pressures on the region's labour market, which had occurred during the recent mining boom. The high quality of the proposed resort facilities and expected growth of the tourism market will also ensure that it will mostly target a new market for Mackay and the Whitsundays, thus limiting the extent to which the proposed resort facility would simply take trade from existing Mackay and Whitsunday tourism operations.