

Letter to the Editor

5 June 2003

RE : Bluewater canal Estate

CAFNEC was not surprised to read in Saturdays (May 30) paper the claim by developers of the Bluewater Canal Estate that they have no fall back position if their application to dredge is not approved. It is unfortunate the developers do not have a fall back position, as this may place unreasonable pressure on the State Government to progress the application! CAFNEC is not opposed to the development for the sake of it – we have far better things to do with our limited time and resources. There are serious environmental and amenity issues associated with the Earl Hill development and it is our role as the Peak Regional Conservation Organisation in the Far North to raise these issues.

CAFNEC was also not surprised that the author of the article did not bother to approach us for comment despite the fact that we are stated in the article to be “the main opponent” to the development -the Cairns Post is not known for its balanced reporting with regard to environmental issues. CAFNEC was not invited to the ratepayers meeting held at Smithfield last week. The evening was obviously not intended to be a public information session, but rather a spin session. CAFNEC has received letters and calls from concerned residents in the area who adamantly oppose the impacts this development will bring – I suppose they will also be written off as uninformed luddite feral greenies - how dare they put protection of a marine park ahead of a private marina?

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