TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of residents of the Broome Shire and visitors draws to the attention of the House that the Strategic Assessment of the proposed LNG processing project at James Price Point is defective, has not adequately addressed key terms of reference, and cannot be relied on by the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment to reach a decision about the project. In summary, the proponents have failed to:

conduct a transparent assessment of alternative sites outside the Kimberley to process the Browse gas

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- achieve informed consent of the Traditional Owners, as evidenced by the legal uncertainty as to which group is the native title party
- incorporate assessments of social impacts on Indigenous people
- address the negative social impacts on the Broome community

In addition, the WA Environment Protection Authority's recommendation to the Western Australian Government to approve the project is now under legal challenge on the grounds that four members of the Board, who disqualified themselves from the decision-making process at a late stage, declaring conflicts of interest, may have influenced the final decision.

We therefore ask the House to pass a motion calling on the Federal Minister to initiate a Public Inquiry into the environmental, cultural and social impacts of the proposed Browse LNG project under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999, so that he is in a position to make a fully informed decision about this project.