

13 February 2012

Mr John Scarce
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Shire Island Regional Council
PO Box 7532
Cairns 4870
Queensland

Torres Strait Regional Authority support for RDAF Torres Strait Coastal Protection Program submission.

Dear John,

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) is pleased to offer its full support to the Torres Strait Island Regional Council's (TSIRC) submission to RDAF for \$5 million for major coastal works activities on Boigu and Saibai Islands as part of the broader Torres Strait Coastal Protection Project.

TSRA and TSIRC have worked in very close partnership through the Torres Strait Coastal Management Committee to secure a detailed understanding of coastal and climate change processes, impacts and mitigation options for six low lying islands communities in the Torres Strait.

There is broad support for this project from the community level through to all levels of government. A Private Members Motion in 2011 highlighted the complete support of the lower house to progress investment in this issue. Addressing the issue of coastal inundation is of regional significance and impacts on environmental, economic, social and strategic (border area) issues. There has been significant community consultation in the development of a coastal management plan, which has been underpinned by robust research.

Both TSRA and TSIRC have already committed extensive resources to addressing these issues, and the opportunity to secure much needed funds through the Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) process to progress coastal protection works is welcomed.

The RDAF funding for the Saibai and Boigu activities, together with works in train under the Major Infrastructure Program funding, will assist in seeing this suite of critical project activities come to fruition. The Queensland State Government has clearly indicated this is a high priority and that it will contribute to the Torres Strait Coastal Protection Project.

On behalf of the communities whose wellbeing, vitality and viability are at risk from coastal and climate change impacts, the TSRA is pleased to support this application and partner with TSIRC in the delivery of the Torres Strait Coastal Protection Project.



TSRA
www.tsra.gov.au

For information on the potential for broader Australian Government involvement contact
s47F Director, Torres Strait Policy, FaHCSIA, s47F or

s47F

s47F

s47F Yours/Sincerely,

Wayhe See Kee
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Regional Authority