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MEDIA RELEASE

Douglas Shire Sustainability Group (DSSG) has written to key Daintree stakeholder groups seeking feedback on the two discussion papers we released last week – a 30 years conservation land use strategy for the Daintree Coast and a proposal to improve electricity options for residents and businesses in return for a conservation outcome.

DSSG President, Didge McDonald, said the two documents are founded on recognising the Daintree Coast is a global environmental treasure and its conservation and presentation are critical to the region's tourism industry.

The two discussion papers have been prepared by the DSSG with input from Daintree Coast Environment Network (DCEN), a Daintree local resident's environment group which advises DSSG.

The electricity supply paper was presented to the State Government Daintree Electricity Supply Reference Group on Thursday 12th September. The land use strategy was presented to the Daintree Joint Management Group which has agreed to prepare a Daintree Futures Plan - a vision for the future of the Daintree Coast

"We are looking for feedback from all sectors on how to improve these two papers," Mr McDonald said. "The Douglas Shire Council and the Queensland state government will no doubt seek their own feedback on these and many other issues confronting the Daintree Coast.

"We encourage all sectors and interest groups to submit their own policies with constructive alternatives or options.

Letters seeking feedback have been sent to Daintree Marketing Group, Tourism Port Douglas Daintree, Douglas Chamber of Commerce, Douglas Shire Council, and Jabalbina. Mr McDonald said if other groups are interested, they should contact DSSG by phone or email.

We believe both papers are realistic, practical, non-coercive, do not involve further regulation and are designed to ensure conservation, residential, cultural and business needs are all accommodated.

Links to the two documents:

http://www.dssg.org.au/fileadmin/content/new/DSSG-DCEN_Power_Supply_Policy_Position_FINAL.pdf

http://www.dssg.org.au/fileadmin/content/new/Daintree_Coast_30_year_Strategy_Land_Use_FINAL.pdf

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Attachment: Letter to Daintree Marketing Group, TPDD, Chamber of Commerce, Council, Jabalbina, DSC