



environs
KIMBERLEY

SAVING THE NATURE OF THE KIMBERLEY

www.environskimberley.org.au

Do **YOU** want to help
in the fight against a gas
hub on the Kimberley coast?

WRITE A LETTER TODAY!

Individual letters to politicians **CAN** make a real impact - it's well worth your time to send a letter, and to encourage your friends, family and colleagues to do so too. Letter writing is one of the best ways we have to make ourselves heard directly by decision makers!

Letter writing is a tried and true part of the political process - let's make use of it.

Federal Environment Minister Burke needs to hear from the community that we don't want this gas plant to go ahead, and that we consider HIM responsible for making sure it doesn't!



Here are some tips to write a powerful letter:

MAKE IT SHORT AND SNAPPY. i.e. try to get it on to one page.

Your letter doesn't have to be wordy, or spout lots of science facts or figures to be taken seriously. Write your letter in your own words, with a simple summary of your main concerns.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

e.g. *...I've lived in Broome for xx years/I've visited Broome x times*
...I am a small business owner/work in the tourism industry/am a teacher/nurse/doctor...

SAY WHY BROOME AND THE KIMBERLEY MATTER TO YOU.

e.g. *Broome/Kimberley is a very special place to me because:*
...it's one of the few places in the world that hasn't been industrialised
...very strong sense of place/community.
...is culturally diverse and tolerant.
...The Kimberley is one of the last large, intact natural areas in the world...



BRIEFLY OUTLINE YOUR CONCERNS.

Let the Minister know why you don't want the Kimberley industrialised, and what most concerns you about the proposed gas hub:

e.g. *...that the WA Government is forcing the project on the community.*
...I'm concerned about air pollution.
...I'm worried about what this will mean for my local community.
...I don't want Broome to become just another WA mining town/the Kimberley to become another Pilbara.

TELL THE MINISTER YOU CONSIDER HIM RESPONSIBLE.

Make it clear that you consider the Minister has a responsibility to show leadership and protect the Kimberley's environment (i.e. decisions shouldn't just be made at the state level)

e.g. *... Minister Burke, I understand that you have the final say on whether the gas proposal for James Price Point will go ahead. You must not let this happen.*

AT THE END, ASK A QUESTION SO THAT THE MINISTER HAS TO RESPOND TO YOUR LETTER.

e.g. *...Minister Burke, please tell me what action you plan to take to ensure that the Kimberley, one of the world's great natural areas, is protected? I look forward to your response.*

SEND YOUR LETTER VIA THE POST, NOT EMAIL.

Address your letter to the Honorable Tony Burke MP, Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600. The correct salutation to Minister Burke is *Dear Minister* (i.e. not Dear Mr Burke or Dear Tony). See over >>



Make yourself heard for THE **KIMBERLEY!**



Got time to write **1** letter?

please write to Tony Burke, federal Environment Minister.

Address your letter to:

The Honorable Tony Burke MP,
Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives, Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

The correct salutation to Minister Burke is *Dear Minister* (i.e. not Dear Mr Burke or Dear Tony).



Got time to write **4** letters?

please write to Tony Burke, Prime Minister Gillard, Stephen Smith MP and Senator Chris Evans

- Address and portfolio details as above for Tony Burke.
- **The Honorable Julia Gillard MP**
Prime Minister
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
The correct salutation to Prime Minister Gillard is *Dear Prime Minister* (i.e. not Dear Ms Gillard or Dear Julia)
- **Senator the Honorable Chris Evans**
Leader of Government Business in the Senate
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
Start your letter to Senator Chris Evans with *Dear Senator* (i.e. not Dear Mr Evans or Dear Chris). It's useful to write to Chris because as a WA Senator, the whole state is his electorate, and it introduces the issue to the leading Government Senator. He also has jobs within his Ministerial portfolio of Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations, so you may like to take up sustainable economic development with him too.
- **The Honorable Stephen Smith MP**
Member for Perth
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
Start your letter with Dear Mr Smith. It's useful to write to Stephen Smith because he is one of the most senior Labor figures from WA in the federal parliament, and so when Kimberley matters are discussed (e.g. within Cabinet, or informally amongst colleagues) his views may have a powerful impact. It is important for him to know that there is strong community opposition to this proposal, that there are alternative sites etc.



Got time to write **LOTS** of letters?

Here are a few more tips on who's who and how to format your letter

- Write to any Member of the House of Representatives (i.e. Lower House) via PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600. You can write to any Senator via Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600. See www.aph.gov.au for a complete lists of politicians' names and details, including portfolios if they hold any.
- WA politicians, and also politicians with a relevant portfolio (e.g. Minister for Families; Shadow Minister for the Environment; Greens' spokesperson for Rural and Regional Australia etc) might be a good place to focus on next. Adjust the content of your letter accordingly - write to them about their responsibilities as a WA politician to ensure the Kimberley is protected; write to Ministers and shadow Ministers or spokespeople on the issues that fall within that portfolio.
- If writing to a politician in their capacity as a Minister, start the letter *Dear Minister* (i.e. not Dear Kevin). If writing to your local Member of Parliament who is also a Minister/Shadow Minister, make clear you're writing to them as e.g. Joe Hockey MP, Member for North Sydney, not Joe Hockey MP, Shadow Treasurer, and appeal to him/her as your representative.
- Members of the Lower House (House of Reps) have the letters MP after their name and then their electorate (e.g. Melissa Parke MP, Member for Fremantle). Senators are e.g. Senator Bob Brown, Senator for Tasmania. Parliamentarians who are, or have been Ministers in the past have 'The Honorable' prior to their name. e.g. Senator the Honorable Penny Wong; The Honorable Simon Crean, MP. If unsure, check the www.aph.gov.au website to find out full contact details.

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