



**Gladstone Ports Corporation**

*Growth, Prosperity, Community.*

**Media Release**

**11 January 2011**

**Gladstone Ports Corporation continues operations despite extensive flooding throughout Central Queensland**

The Port of Gladstone is continuing to operate despite extensive flooding throughout Central Queensland.

Gladstone Ports Corporation CEO Leo Zussino said a number of mines are operating and building stock in readiness for when the Blackwater rail line reopens.

“A helicopter inspection by rail infrastructure staff has indicated all electrical masts are intact and upright which gives a positive sign of minimal ballast damage under the lines,” Mr Zussino said.

“The Moura rail line is expected to be fully operational by this weekend.

“Boundary Hill mine is accessible and raiing coal as is Callide mine, however the coal being railed is for domestic customers at the moment.”

“Dawson Mine has coal stockpiled ready to rail but is currently waiting for the flood conditions in the mine to ease before it can load coal.

“We are hopeful the Dawson Mine will be mining as early as this weekend.”

Mr Zussino said two vessels were loaded with coal yesterday with another vessel due to begin loading today.

“Our stockpile continues to remain at an extremely low level with just under 500,000 tonne on the ground,” Mr Zussino explained.

Ten vessels remain at anchor at Fairway Buoy with a further eight vessels scheduled to arrive over the next 10 days.

Mr Zussino said the terminal’s major maintenance programme has been moved forward to ensure the port is at maximum readiness when the flood conditions ease and the Blackwater rail line reopens.

“The port is assisting with the flood relief effort by facilitating the loading and unloading of provision barges from Rosalyn Bay at the Gladstone Marina,” Mr Zussino added.

“Currently two barges per day are working through the marina.”

Meanwhile the Port of Bundaberg remains closed to commercial shipping due to the flooded Burnett River.

Port Alma also remains closed to commercial shipping due to flood conditions in the Rockhampton area.

**ENDS**

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