



Gladstone Ports Corporation
Growth, Prosperity, Community.

Media Release

29 September 2011

Dredging operations temporarily ceased in the Western Basin

Cutter suction dredge Al Mahaar operations will be paused until Monday 3rd October.

The Al Mahaar will be moved over the weekend 500 metres further north to dredge a corridor for the sinkerline 1 extension for the forthcoming QGC berth.

The decision to temporarily reduce dredging operations today has been taken to assist in allowing water conditions to improve after the high winds and historic low Spring tides of below 0.20*.

The extreme tidal movements along with the high wind conditions have significantly increased the turbidity levels in the harbour.

A further contributing factor has been the porosity of the newly created bund wall at Fisherman's Landing.

The liner within the bund wall was designed so that dredge spoil placed against the liner would seal the bund. Until that process is complete some fine material will seep through the wall and into the Western Basin during extreme tides.

Backhoe dredging operations will not be paused during this time.

All operations are expected to resume after the weekend.

*Times and Heights of High and Low Waters in Gladstone QLD – September 2011
(<http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/tides/MAPS/gladstone.shtml#map>)

● Tuesday 20		Wednesday 21		Thursday 22		Friday 23		Saturday 24		Sunday 25		Monday 26	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0106	2.56	0254	2.50	0436	2.68	0545	3.00	0032	0.89	0118	0.58	0201	0.33
0705	1.60	0906	1.61	1032	1.40	1139	1.11	0637	3.33	0722	3.63	0806	3.90
1429	3.10	1555	3.23	1708	3.51	1805	3.81	1237	0.81	1328	0.54	1416	0.33
2058	1.75	2232	1.54	2340	1.22			1854	4.07	1939	4.25	2022	4.33

● Tuesday 27		Wednesday 28		Thursday 29		Friday 30		Saturday 1		Sunday 2		Monday 3	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0242	0.15	0322	0.07	0402	0.12	0442	0.29	0522	0.57	0012	3.29	0113	2.99
0848	4.11	0931	4.25	1015	4.29	1102	4.21	1153	4.02	0607	0.90	0705	1.22
1502	0.21	1547	0.20	1632	0.31	1720	0.55	1812	0.86	1250	3.79	1400	3.59
2104	4.32	2147	4.19	2232	3.96	2319	3.64			1914	1.15	2033	1.32

ENDS

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