DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL BRIEF FOR DECISION

Date

20 May 2015

To

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Minister for Training and Skills

From

Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation - Liquor, Gaming and Fair

Trading

Subject

Status of Queen's Wharf Brisbane negotiations and casino regulatory

matters

Requested by

Internally generated

Decision required by

26 May 2015 to inform the Queens Wharf recommendation panel

s.73(2) not relevant

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s.73(2)

Liquor trading nours

- 29. In regards to the special facility liquor licence, the initial bid material provided to both of the proponents indicated that the whole of the casino/IRD precinct would be covered by the terms of the licence, including the ability to sell liquor 24 hours a day. This would include not only the casino complex, but also every other licensed facility within the footprint of the broader development (e.g. restaurants, hotel bars etc).
- 30. The authority of the licence would allow for this to occur with some amendment to the existing regulatory instruments. However, it would represent a significant departure from what currently occurs, as none of the existing casino operations form part of a larger

integrated resort development. It would also appear to contradict the Government's stance on reducing trading hours for Queensland's clubs and hotels.

- 31. The licensing of an entire precinct to allow 24 hour trade in liquor is likely to create a number of enforcement and potential safety issues, as it would effectively counteract any positive effects that would otherwise be the result of reduced trading hours and associated lock-out periods imposed on all other licensed venues within the vicinity of the precinct.
- 32. In light of the above, there are two options available:
 - 1) allow premises within the integrated resort development (including the casino) to sell liquor 24 hours a day; or
 - 2) maintain the status quo by allowing 24 hour trade to occur within the casino premises itself, but not other premises within the associated IRD precinct.
- 33. It is recommended that you support option two (2), restricting 24 hour trade to the casino premises only, as currently occurs. Note that this would encompass facilities within the defined casino area, which may include restaurants, bars etc as well as the gaming floor itself.

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s.73(2)Liquor licence conditions

- 58. One proponent proposes that any variation to a condition by the OLGR or the Commissioner for Liquor and Gaming attaching to the commercial special facility licence (the liquor licence for the development) would constitute a 'trigger event', and therefore, be subject to a compensation claim.
- 59. The provisions of the *Liquor Act 1992* specifically provide that the Commissioner for Liquor and Gaming has the discretion to amend the conditions of an operator's licence. This can be undertaken at the request of the operator, or where necessary, on the

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initiative of the Commissioner in order to address an identified trading concern. It is recommended that you do **not** support the proposal

	s.73(2)	
NOTED or APPROVED / NOT APPROVED		
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Minister for Training and Skills	•	
Comments		
	. Chief of Staff	Policy Advisor
YVETTE D'ATH MP Attorney-General and Minister for Justice	Chief of Staff	, ·
YVETTE D'ATH MP Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Minister for Training and Skills	Chief of Staff / / Approved by: Name Position Phone Date:	## David Ford on: Deputy Director-General, LGF e: 3872-0926 (0412 123 156)