

## Anthony Zanghi

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### The catastrophe of the Queensland Government

I would like to talk about the issue of the Adani Coal mine and the fragile state of Queensland's environment. The Queensland Government has shown that they are willing to destroy the environment of Queensland by continuing to support the construction of the mine. The government claims that the coal mine will create jobs and improve the economy greatly, though at what cost?

The Queensland Government has defunded public schools and other services such as hospitals and the sacking of fire fighters, and they have given that money and much more taxpayer dollars, to the construction of the coal mine, thus destroying essential infrastructure which the people of Queensland actually need. Since the government failed to pass a law that would make it incredibly difficult for land clearing, nearly 400 000 hectares of trees are being cleared per year. This is all happening beside the Great Barrier Reef which is ever more threatened by extinction, and these clearings are increasing the amount of Crown Thorn Starfish, a parasite that eats the reef.

With the current funds that the Adani Coal mine is still receiving our generation could bear witness to the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef, which would not only be a big loss for Australia, but for the world too.

