



QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

A. B. N. 98 009 725 044

PARSONS POINT GLADSTONE QUEENSLAND 4680 AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE: 4976 2211 (Area code 07; International dialling code 61-7).

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Schools Green for the Future

Reef Guardian Schools in the region have received an injection of funding through a new partnership with Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL).

The QAL Reef Guardian Fund will provide \$10,000 for local schools to develop and implement significant environmental projects that result in sustainable outcomes for their school and greater environment.

QAL Health Safety Environment and Communities Manager Ross Greenhalgh said the fund was established to support schools to develop best practice and innovative solutions to environmental issues in their own school yard and greater community.

“The QAL fund will allow schools to develop innovative projects that contribute to the betterment of a local environment, whilst providing experiences not normally available through existing learning opportunities,” he said.

“Reef Guardian Schools may apply for funding to carry out projects such as restoration and rehabilitation projects, conservation of natural resources, environmental monitoring programs, energy management, water use and storm water management, litter reduction, waste avoidance and minimisation, recycling initiatives or developing school grounds and other areas for resources and learning.”

QAL has a well established record of developing partnerships with local schools that promote education excellence and links between education and industry. The Reef Guardian Fund compliments the existing Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Reef Guardian Schools program, which encourages schools to commit to the protection and conservation of the world heritage listed Great Barrier Reef.

Applications for the QAL Reef Guardian Fund close on Friday 30 March 2007 for projects commencing in term two and/or three.

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For further information, contact: **Mellissa Case**
Community Relations
Queensland Alumina Limited
Ph: +61 7 4976 2448
Email: casem@qal.com.au
www.qal.com.au