**Extract from CVC brief to consultants for Whiting Beach CZMP**

**4.4 Adopted Sea level Rise Planning Benchmarks**

In February 2009, the NSW Government released its draft Sea Level Rise Policy statement and invited submissions from interested parties. The primary objective of the draft Sea Level Rise Policy Statement was to minimise the social disruption, economic costs and environmental impacts resulting from long-term sea level rise. To achieve these objectives, the NSW Government indicated it would:

 promote an adaptive risk-based approach to managing sea level rise impacts

 provide guidance to local councils to support their sea level rise adaptation planning

 encourage appropriate development on land projected to be at risk from sea level rise.

 continue to provide emergency management support to coastal communities during times of floods and storms

 continue to provide updated information to the public about sea level rise and its impacts.

A significant component of the draft policy was the incorporation of adopted sea level rise planning benchmarks. These benchmarks are an increase above 1990 mean sea level of 40cm by 2050 and 90cm by 2100.

The draft sea level policy has now been withdrawn by the NSW Government.

Clarence valley Council has adopted the sea level rise benchmarks and the erosion processes study and CZMP will need to allow for sea level rise based on the forecast benchmarks.