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Subject: Application MCU2024/0015 - Gold Tower Queenton
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We are residents of Charters Towers (5 Anne Street) and we wish to support an approval application for a second large supermarket, Coles, to be developed off New Queens Road, Charters Towers. Application MCU2024/0015 – Gold Tower Queenton.

As well as being long term residents, we are a local business of 18+ years trading. Generally, we service and support the mining industry and, specifically, remote mine sites. As strong believers in using local suppliers, we, where possible, must trust our suppliers to help us maintain the service levels our clients demand. We value local business but it can be a challenge. Our reputation to service clients in a timely manner is important. Recently, we have noticed that some suppliers have not been able to provide the items our clients need. As a result, we have gone to other towns / cities to fill the gap. That money leaves town. From this comes higher prices for locals. Prices have risen making it hard to compete when the value-add can be supplied quickly from enthusiastic, out of town suppliers elsewhere.

We service clients with multiple requirements and are time poor. Having a second supermarket with better parking and clear commercial access to stores, the ability to pass on lower bulk pricing, would save time and energy. This alone, would, in turn, allow us, and others, to expand our business capacity.

We are often asked by our clients to recommend persons for employment and we try to place locals first. Being a town of 'boom and bust' over the years, Charters Towers businesses need several working miners and their families, to support one local business. We believe that the addition of another modern supermarket will go a long way to assist with bringing back town confidence and competition.

Also, respect and local pride has suffered lately. We see it with people struggling to cope. Having this new development will show that Charters Towers has the capacity to be a strong commercial hub which can support both current local business and future business investors. The town can move forward with this good innovation and be a force in North Queensland.

Further, it is important that this town grows business by giving locals a choice. This edge keeps competition alive. With more competition, people can choose who to support, thus driving down basic living costs. We are not held captive by the 'cant be bothered' people who have given up on trying to provide a service. We must support the visionaries. This is the next step to encourage employment and settlement, a safe place to raise a family. It allows people to have more discretionary income to support other local businesses. This creates more jobs and, in turn, creates a booming, healthy economic time with a community proud to see its town grow and thrive.

We support this development.

Sherry and Don Grinstead



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