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HD Adani may build own terminals

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INFRASTRUCTURE: Indian mining giant Adani Group could sell its \$2 billion Abbot Point coal port in north Queensland, but retain the right to build two more terminals at the site for its own use, according to an industry analyst.

The **company** has called on investment banks for proposals for the port, including a **sale**, partial **sale** or refinancing.

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Adani owns not only the Abbot Point port, 25km northwest of Bowen on Queensland's north coast, but also the Carmichael coalmine in Queensland's Galilee Basin, as well as the railway to transport **coal** to port, bound for India and **China**.

The company has plans to expand the port from its existing two terminals, a move that would increase current annual coal shipping capacity from 50 million tonnes to 70 million tonnes.

While approval has been granted for the expansion, Adani was still awaiting approval to conduct dredging for the port from the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Adani has previously said it does not comment on speculation.

However, one scenario could be that Adani sold off the existing port, now used by customers including BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and Glencore Xstrata. It could then build the expansion, which it would keep to export its own **coal**.

This would effectively create Abbot Point 1 and Abbot Point 2, a source said. Among potential buyers could be Canadian private **equity** giant Brookfield and other infrastructure players that have previously competed for Australian ports recently placed on the market. However, the level of interest would depend upon the strength of the "take or pay" grant that would guarantee the income, given the weakening **coal** export conditions, according to a source.

co adappt : Administrative Appeals Tribunal | adexns : Adani Enterprises Ltd

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