《中国运煤船撞澳洲大堡礁 赔2900万美元和解》

导读:澳大利亚政府就六年多前一艘中国运煤船严重危害大堡礁事件与涉案中国公司达成和解。这家中国公司将支付2960万美元的罚款。

The Australian government has agreed a $29.6m settlement with the owners of a Chinese coal carrier that caused significant damage to the Great Barrier Reef more than six years ago.

??2960???????

The Shen Neng 1 hit a shoal in April 2010, leaking tonnes of heavy fuel oil.

????“????”?????2010?4?????????????????????????

Conservationists have described the settlement, which is less than a third of the full clean-up cost of $105m, as "woefully inadequate".

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The clean-up operation will begin mid next year.

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The 230m (750 ft) ship had ground against a coral shoal for more than a kilometre, turning coral into dust.

??????230??750??

Shenzhen Energy Transport, the firm behind the carrier, refused to accept responsibility for the damage for six years.

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They argued the reef was self-healing and the company should not have to pay the bill.

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On Monday, the two sides reached an out-of-court settlement.

9?19?????????????????????????

The settlement showed Australia would "use every available means to pursue ship owners who are negligent in causing damage to the reef", Environment Minister Josh Frydenberg said.

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The funds will allow the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to remove toxic anti-fouling paint and rubble, allowing the reef to be restored.

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However, Greenpeace Australia called the settlement "disappointing".

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"The government has said the full clean up will cost more than $105m so to settle for such a small figure is disappointing," Greenpeace’s Pacific reef campaigner Shani Tager told news agency AFP.

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