



Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Member for Stretton



**Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade**

20 AUG 2009

MC4031
ME/09/1670

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 1184-08, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly and sponsored by Ms Carolyn Male MP, Member for Pine Rivers on 16 June 2009, concerning mining on the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve.

Mining and exploration activities in Queensland are administered by Queensland Mines and Energy of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*.

In Queensland, any eligible person may make an application over available land for the grant of a mining lease. The process for obtaining the grant of a mining lease involves a detailed assessment of the application, including public notification and an opportunity for persons affected by the application to object to the grant of the lease. Objections to the grant of a mining lease are referred to the Land Court for determination.

The grant of a mining lease is also dependant on the issuing of a relevant Environmental Authority by the Department of Environment and Resource Management under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The process for the issue of an Environmental Authority involves a detailed assessment of the application, provides for public consultation and includes opportunity for objection to the issue of the authority. Objections to the issue of an Environmental Authority are also referred to the Land Court for determination.

Level 17
61 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3225 1861
Facsimile +61 7 3225 1828
Email nrmet@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Mr Luke Croton, Regional Director, Northern, Statewide Services Division of Queensland Mines and Energy on telephone 4760 7434.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Robertson', with several horizontal lines extending to the right.

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP