



Hon Rachel Nolan MP
Member for Ipswich



**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Transport

Our ref: MC53167

26 NOV 2010

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

I refer to a petition number 1557-10 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Ted Sorensen MP, Member for Hervey Bay on 27 October 2010 about the 200 rail car contract.

Queensland Rail Limited is currently contracted with Downer EDI Rail-Bombardier to build 64 new three-car trains. This investment of \$911 million will increase the Queensland Rail fleet by 42%. In addition to this, in October 2010, the Queensland Government awarded Downer EDI Rail-Bombardier a \$189 million contract to build a new Tilt Train and upgrade the existing two tilt trains to replace the Sunlander service between Brisbane and Cairns. The Queensland Government's investment in both these contracts will support over 800 direct and indirect jobs, plus 58 apprentices in the Wide Bay region.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring a balance is struck between value for money and supporting local industry. Queensland Rail is currently engaged in an expression of interest (EOI) process to build up to 200 new three-car train sets. As part of the EOI process, Queensland Rail will take into consideration the local industry requirements to enhance creation of a sustainable industry and employment opportunities in Queensland. It is expected that the detailed tender process will continue through 2011, with an announcement of the successful bidder by 2012.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

RACHEL NOLAN MP
Minister for Transport

Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1111
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4242
Email transport@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158